



Guide Book 2024-2025

First Nations, Metis & Inuit

Awards

Bursaries

Scholarships



Updated as of Oct 10, 2024

Foreword



Greetings and warm regards,

There are many opportunities available to Indigenous youth. As you continue with your future endeavours, please seek out scholarships and opportunities that will celebrate you.

Pursuing further learning can open so many doors and possibilities and there can be financial challenges. Exploring scholarships and opportunities can ease the financial burden and also be a time to recognize your heritage, culture, resiliency and potential

Many scholarships are specific for Indigenous students to acknowledge the perspective and continuations you bring. By applying for these scholarships, you are not only investing in your future but also honouring the past and paving the way for future generations.

Attached you will find a guide to many opportunities within our division, your band, and in Canada. This is one place to start and know the opportunities continue to rise. Remember to apply for all of them. Every institution in Canada has thousands of dollars each year in scholarships/awards because no one applies.

Use this book as a guide. Ask for guidance, ask questions, and seek support from mentors, teachers, and community leaders.

Be incredibly proud of the work you have already done to get you to where you are now. Your journey is yours and is an inspiration. Embrace these opportunities and know that your future is filled with possibilities.



Warm regards,

Erin Tisdale

Direction of Indigenous
Learning and Reconciliation

Noreen Saddleback

Chandra Cooke

Student Success Coach

Overview



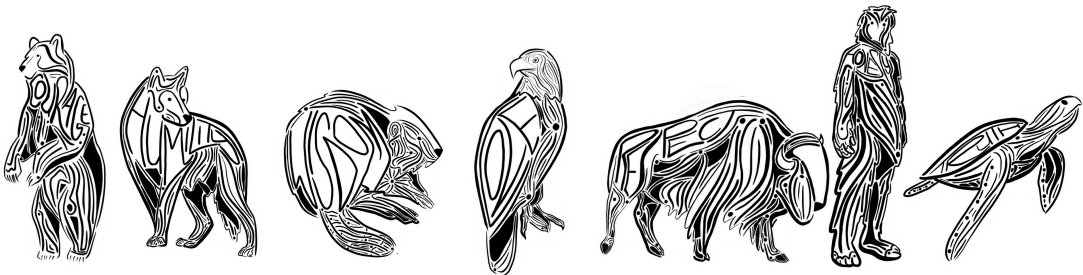
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Overview

Wolf Creek Public Schools is committed to collaboration with parents/guardians, students, staff, interagency partners, First Nations community members, Métis and Inuit organizations, and stakeholders to develop strategies, resources, programs and initiatives that support student success in and out of school.

Please use this book as a guide, and know there are many more opportunities. We are always happy to help and walk alongside you on this journey.



What is the difference?

Award

- **What it is:** Recognition for a student's achievements. It may or may not include money.
- **How you get it:** Based on various criteria, such as academic excellence, community service, leadership, or specific accomplishments.
- **Who it's for:** Students who have achieved something notable or excelled in a particular area.

Bursary

- **What it is:** Money given to students to help pay for their education.
- **How you get it:** Based on financial need. This means it's given to students who may not be able to afford school without extra help.
- **Who it's for:** Students who need financial assistance to pay for their education.

Scholarship

- **What it is:** Money given to students to help pay for their education.
- **How you get it:** Usually based on merit, like good grades, talents, or achievements in sports, arts, or other areas.
- **Who it's for:** Students who have demonstrated excellence in a specific area.

Tips



Applying for scholarships and bursaries can be an essential step in your educational journey, offering you the financial support needed to achieve your academic goals. This process may seem daunting initially, but you can navigate it successfully with careful planning, organization, and a positive mindset. The following tips are designed to guide you through each stage of your application, helping you present yourself as a strong candidate you are. Remember, every application is an opportunity, and your hard work and dedication will pay off.

- 01 Ask!!!**
If you have questions ask! We are here to help and it is better to ask
- 02 Stay Organized**
Begin looking at these opportunities early. This gives you lots of time to complete applications. Keep track of deadlines, required documents and application procedures.
- 03 READ**
Read the entire application and ensure you have everything ready for it.
- 04 Letters of Recommendation**
Select a minimum of two people who could write letters for you. (teachers, coaches, community leaders). Provide them time to write a thoughtful & detailed letter.
- 05 Essay**
Write a compelling personal statement or essay that highlights your achievements, goals and unique qualities that make you a strong candidate. Personalize it to each scholarship, ensure to highlight your heritage.
- 06 Review**
Proofread and edit your application to ensure there are no spelling mistakes and everything has been completed. Consider asking a teacher, mentor or family member to review your application as well
- 07 Stay Positive**
Maintain your good grades, and stay positive. The scholarship application process is a valuable journey that requires dedication and effort. Keep a positive attitude, remain determined, and view each application as a step closer to your goals. Remember, every effort counts, and persistence pays off. Stay motivated and confident in your abilities!

Important Dates & Deadlines

- Use this as a guide for important dates and deadlines
- Note additional dates can arise. Ensure you check university sites for other deadlines.

September

Free Registration

NorQuest College - All Year
RDP - All Year
U of A - Oct 1 - 9
Mount Royal - Oct 1-7

October

- Advancing Futures **Deadline: October 1, 2024**, for studies starting in winter 2025.
- Metis Nation of Alberta Scholarship Award **Deadline October 31, 2024**
 - Art L'Hirondelle, Delia Gray, Pearl Calahasen, Gary Pruden, Ernest Poitras, Tom Ghostkeeper

Open House

U of A - Saturday, October 19, 9-3 @ The Butterdome
Mount Royal - Saturday, Oct 21
U of C, RDP, NAIT - Saturday, October 26

November

- Indspire: Building Brighter Futures: Bursaries, Scholarships and Awards for Post Secondary **Deadline: November 1, February 1, August 1**

Open House

Grant MacEwan - Saturday, November 2

December

Important Dates & Deadlines

January

- Alberta Blue Cross Entrance Scholarship for Indigenous Students **Deadline: January 15, 2025**
- CPA Indigenous Scholarships **Deadline: January 31, 2025**
 - Alex Tutschek FCPA, FCA Award for Indigenous Student Post-Secondary Achievement and Alex Tutschek FCPA, FCA Award for Indigenous Student High School Achievement

Exams
Diploma

February

- Indspire: Building Brighter Futures: Bursaries, Scholarships and Awards for Post Secondary **Deadline: November 1, February 1, August 1**
- Honouring Spirit: Indigenous Student Awards (teacher nomination) **Deadline: February 8, 2025**

March

- Indspire: Ted Rogers Scholarship Fund for Indigenous Students **Deadline: March 1, 2025**
- John Hasselfield Endowment Foundation **Deadline: March 2025**
- Shannen's Dream Scholarship **Deadline: March 31, 2025**
- Belcourt Brosseau Metis Awards (BBMA) **Deadline: March 31, 2025**

April

- Apeetogosan (Metis) Development Inc: The Rebecca Kelln Metis Bursary Fund **Deadline: April 30, 2025**
-

Important Dates & Deadlines

May

- Rupersland Institute Metis Post-Secondary Education Funding Requirements Opens Application **Deadline: May 1, 2025**
- TransCanada Indigenous Legacy Scholarship **Deadline: May 5, 2025**
- Passing all classes to participate in commencement **Deadline: May 15, 2025**

Application Deadline

U of A TYP Application Deadline: May 1, 2025

June

- Advancing Futures **Deadline: June 1, 2025**, for studies starting in fall 2025
- NADC First Nation, Metis and Inuit Bursary **Deadline: June 1, 2025** for studies beginning in Fall 2025
- Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training Board (Family of Scholarships) **Deadline: June 30, 2025**

Exams Diploma

July

- Indspire Scholarships & Bursaries: Petro-Canada Award for Indigenous Students **Deadline: July 1, 2025**
- Indspire: Horatio Alger Indigenous Achievement Scholarship **Deadline: July 1, 2025**

August

- Indspire: Building Brighter Futures: Bursaries, Scholarships and Awards for Post Secondary **Deadline: November 1, February 1, August 1**
- ATCo Indigenous Education Awards Program **Deadline: August 15, 2025**
 - Merit Awards, Bursaries, Scholarships

Band Funding



SAMSON CREE NATION



ERMINESKIN CREE NATION



LOUIS BULL TRIBE



MONTANA BAND

Band Funding

1. How do I apply for post-secondary funding from my band?

If you are a Band member of a First Nation, you may be eligible for federal funding, administered through your Band office, to help you pay for your education. Find out when the deadline of the application is and what paper work needs to be completed.

2. What if I have never contacted my band? What if is not nearby?

Check out the next page for contact information for Bands in Maskwacsis. If your band is not close by, you can apply often by contacting your band and receiving the application or through the ISC regional office in Edmonton or by email.

3. What documents will I need?

Status card, acceptance letter, high school transcripts, funding application form, and other documents may also be needed. Cost of tuition, books and other fees may need be provided and a schedule.

4. How do I know I am approved?

Often, there are several steps, so this can take a few weeks. Follow up with your Band office if you have not heard back.

5. What is covered?

Eligible costs covered by the program can include tuition, books, travel support, and living allowances. Funding is limited

6. What is typically not covered?

Non-educational expenses, optional fees, late fees, non-essential supplies, utilities, personal items.

7. What if I have non Status?

Check out other funding sources, see more in the following pages.

8. What if I am Metis?

Check out alternate sources for funding, including Rupersland, Metis Nation Post-Secondary Education Strategy and more included in the following pages.

Band Funding



Contacts

Samson Cree Nation

Nipishkopahk Education Authority

Trevor Swampy

trevorswampy@scnea.com

Doris Saskatchewan

780-585-2211

Kurt Lightning

Ermineskin Cree Nation

Phone: 780-585-4006

Application procedures and applications available on the website

<https://ermineskin.ca/post-secondary/>

Louis Bull Tribe

Charity Nepoose 780-585-3978

FB page - Kisipatnahk education - Members ONLY

Montana First Nation

780-585-3744

Clania Potts - Director ext 230

Dawn Strongman - Assistant ext 253

info@montanafirstnation.com

Metis Funding



01 Rupersland Institute

Provided educational financial support for post=secondary education, apprenticeship programs, certificate courses

02 Metis Nation of Alberta

Scholarships include Ernest Poitras, Pearl Calahasen, Gray Pruden, Tom Ghostkeeper, Delia Gray, Art L'Hirondelle (All due October 31)
Due October 31

03 Belcourt Brosseau Metis Awards

Provided educational financial support for post=secondary education, apprenticeship programs, certificate courses

Deadline: March 31

04 First Nation, Metis, and Inuit Bursary

From February 1 to June 1 and June 5 to November 15, you can apply for the complete year of study that starts in the fall. Must agree to live and work in northern Alberta for one year of full-time employment in return for each year of bursary support received.

05 Metis Scholar Award

Deadline: March 31

06 Rebecca Kelln Metis Bursary

Deadline: April 30

Scholarships & Bursaries



01 TD Scholarship for Indigenous People

The scholarship program is tailored specifically for Indigenous Peoples and managed by AFOA Canada. TD understands the unique challenges and systemic barrier. That's why they have worked closely with TD to customize a scholarship to meet the needs of students from the Indigenous community.

Deadline: October 13

02 Alberta Blue Cross Entrance Scholarship

The \$1,500 awards are based on scholastic achievement, financial need and community involvement. Scholarship recipients are selected by an external committee with expertise in academia and Indigenous education.

They award 9 scholarships each year to Indigenous students enrolled in an accredited post-secondary institution.

Deadline: September 1 opens and closes January 15

03 Ted Rogers Scholarship Fund

The Ted Rogers Entrance Scholarship is aimed at students entering school, full-time to pursue a first bachelor's degree or first diploma program or first trades program at a Canadian university, college or trades school

Deadline February 15

04 Sam Bull Memorial Scholarship

Each applicant will be considered using such criteria as strong academic performance, chosen area of study in relation to First Nation community development and future career aspirations (law or social sciences).

Deadline: February 15

05 RBC Future Launch Scholarship

The RBC Future Launch Scholarship for Indigenous Youth will award 20 scholarships annually valued up to \$10,000 each per year (up to 4 years) to First Nations, Inuit and Métis students across Canada demonstrating strong academic performance and community involvement.

Deadline: February 22

Scholarships & Bursaries



06 ATCO Pipelines & Gas Indigenous Education Awards

Merit Awards (\$750) – for students completing Grades 10 – 12

Bursaries (\$1200) – for students enrolled in trade/community technical college diploma or certificate program

Scholarships (\$1800) – for students enrolled in degree or graduate programs

Bridging Awards (\$1000) – for students registered in an upgrading program (Adult Basic Education) or University Preparation program

Deadline: March 2024

07 Indigenous Language Teacher Bursary

Eligible applicants can receive money to complete an accredited First Nations, Métis and Inuit language, culture or teaching development course.

08 Alberta Foundation of Arts Project Funding

This funding provides up to \$18,000 to support the development of an individual Indigenous artist, arts administrators, or an ensemble of artists in Alberta by providing funding for a specific cultural or artistic project.

Deadline: March 1 and September 1

09 Advancing Futures Bursary

Funding and supports are available for young adults who have been in care, as they pursue post-secondary studies and transition into adulthood.

Deadline: June 1 for upcoming academic year (September to August)

10 Indspire Scholarships and Bursaries

There is one application for all of Indspire's bursaries and scholarships (with a few exceptions that you'll see below). You only need to complete the application once to be considered for all applicable bursaries and scholarships. Indspire has provided over \$217 million in financial support through more than 66,000 bursaries, scholarships and awards to First Nations, Inuit and Métis students

Deadline: February 1, August 1 & November 1

PSC Scholarships

*Check out the application package in the office



01 Indigenous Culture and Community Scholarship

Presented to a deserving FNMI graduating student from Ponoka Secondary Campus who is active within their Indigenous culture and community. The recipient for this award will be decided by PSC Staff and an Elder within the Wolf Creek School Division.

Award: \$500.00 Award and Certificate

02 Peace Hills Insurance Award

Presented to a graduating student who is a Samson Cree Nation Band Member. A student who has made an outstanding contribution to PSC through his/her involvement, leadership, and attitude and pursuing post-secondary education. The recipient for this award will be decided by PSC Staff.

Award: \$500.00 Award and Certificate

03 Ruth Shead Memorial Scholarship

For Indigenous, Metis and Inuit students in the Wolf Creek School Division. This award honours Ruth Shead, who attended residential school in Manitoba. Proof of full-time registration and attendance in a post-secondary program must be provided. Student applicants can be sent to denise@thewilliamsgroup.ca. Review the Wolf Creek website for more information.

Separate application available on the Wolf Creek website

Deadline: April 30 Award: \$500.00 Award and Certificate

04 Shannon Bryan Memorial Scholarship

For Indigenous and Metis women 16 years or older who wish to pursue further education. This award honours Shannon Bryan, hailing from a long line of Indigenous solid women who faced life's obstacles head-on, and having four sisters, it is only fitting that her scholarship is for Indigenous women striving to find their path in the world they wish to create. Student applicants can be sent to denise@thewilliamsgroup.ca.

Separate application available on the Wolf Creek website

Deadline: May 30

*Ensure to take the Grad Scholarship Package from the office to see all of the other scholarships available!

Additional Opportunities

01

Verna J Kirkness Education Foundation



The VJKF Program offers Indigenous high school students in grades 11 and 12 an opportunity to spend one week conducting STEM research at a Canadian university.

The goal is to increase the number of Indigenous students graduating from pure and applied science, engineering, and mathematics programs in Canada.

Dates: Usually in May-June

Deadline: December (Keep posted on information for this coming year)

02

Shad Canada



ShadProgram ShadCampuses ShadNetwork ShadSupporters ShadPlan

Two programs. One application.
Apply for Shad2025
on campus or anywhere



Selection process in place. Limited spots available. Applications close on Dec 1st 11:59 p.m. (BT)

To request application accommodations such as needing application material in an alternate format for students with disabilities or students in

GRADE 10 AND 11 MÉTIS STUDENTS:



Sign up for SHAD Canada and spend a month on **a University Campus** with **hands-on courses on STEAM** (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) and



Shad Canada has an amazing opportunity for Grade 10-11 Metis students interested in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics). With this program, you spend a month on a university campus, taking hands-on courses. The location is to be announced, and it runs June 29-July 25.

Deadline: December 1

Summer Programs & Opportunities

01 OYEP



A national network of land-based education, training and work opportunities for high school aged Indigenous youth. OYEP is a six-week work experience providing training and education in a supportive space that replicates various work environments.

The program takes an inclusive approach to Indigenous education, recruitment, retention and provides a safe and predictable learning environment that can be tailored to meet the needs of local communities and partners.

OYEP collaborates with local Indigenous communities and consults with Elders to ensure youth feel culturally and spiritually supported in the workplace.

Dates:

Deadline:

02 Bold Eagle



Are you an Indigenous person living in western Canada or north-western Ontario? Interested in a challenging summer experience that delivers hands-on skills development, encourages teamwork, provides physical fitness training and promotes cultural awareness?

If so, Bold Eagle is the program for you! This unique summer training program combines Indigenous culture and teachings with military training, that will help you develop valuable skills such as self-confidence, self-discipline, teamwork, time management, respect and fitness.

The six-week program is conducted from early July to late August each year. During this time, you are enrolled as a member of the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF). Upon completion of the program, you can choose to remain in the CAF (as a Regular Force member, a Reserve Force member or a Canadian Ranger) or to be released from service.

Earn: approx \$4200

Dates: TBD, usually July and into August

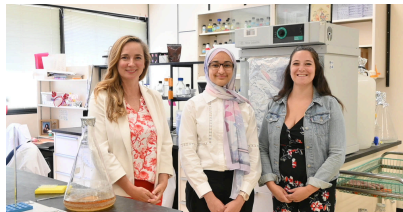
Deadline: April 30 *This application process takes a long time, start early

Summer Programs & Opportunities



03

High School youth Researcher Summer Program (HYRS), University of Alberta



The Alberta Innovates High School Youth Researcher Summer Program (HYRS) offers paid, six week summer research experiences for Grade 11 students in health and medical sciences, including priority areas in digital or data driven health research, commercialization, and health system transformation.

The objectives of the HYRS program are to:

1. Increase awareness and interest in research & innovation (R&I) careers - particularly at the intersection of health and emerging technologies
2. Create opportunities for emerging talent to acquire experience and connections in Alberta's health R&I ecosystem.
3. Increase the competitiveness of Alberta as a destination for R&I talent.
4. Leverage partner relationships to advance Digital Health Innovation in Alberta.

In addition to gaining first-hand research experience, HYRS students also participate in a range of skill development and career exploration activities. This program is ideal for students who have an interest in science and health, and are looking to explore careers in health research and innovation.

Dates: July 3-August 14

Deadline: March 15

04

Computing Science High School Internship Program, U of A



The Computing Science High School Internship Program (HIP) is a great way to learn about computing, make new friends and earn money. Plus you'll have a great job to include on your resume.

This is an internship program running in July and August. You can apply for up to 6 weeks. You will be considered even if you can only participate for a few weeks due to travel or summer school commitments during July/August.

Dates: July 2-Aug 9

Deadline: March 21 - April 30

Essay Tips & Tricks



Other supporting documents

- 01** Resume: Highlights your employment, volunteer work, extracurricular activities and awards.
- 02** Records: High school transcripts are often needed, documentation that shows that you meet specific criteria for the scholarship. This could include proof of heritage or letters of acceptance.
- 03** Financial information: For need-based scholarships, you may need to provide financial details.
- 04** Essay: Person statements or essays provide insight into your experience, goals and why you deserve the scholarship. See tips below.

Tips



Step 1
Start Early & Plan

Give yourself plenty of time to brainstorm, write and revise your essay. Starting early reduces stress and allows for thorough editing. Make sure you review scholarship due dates



Step 2
Be Authentic & Highlight your culture

Share your personal story, emphasizing your Indigenous heritage and how it has shaped your identity and goals. Authenticity and reflection make your essay stand out.



Step 3
Align with the Scholarship's Mission

Research the scholarship provider's values and tailor your essay to show how your aspirations align with their mission. This demonstrates your fit for the scholarship.



Step 4
Seek Feedback & Proofread

Have mentors, teachers, or family members review your essay for constructive feedback. Proofread meticulously to ensure it's free of errors and polished.



Step 5
Highlight Community Involvement & Perseverance

Showcase your involvement in your community and your plans to give back. Don't be discouraged, keep applying and refining your essays. Ensure to add a thank you at the end of your essay.

Community Involvement



Use this to track your community involvement, it will help for applications

<p style="text-align: center;">General</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awards Night • Drama Productions • Leadership • Grad • Peer Tutoring • Clubs (homework, games, beading, yearbook, Reach) 	<p style="text-align: center;">Cultural Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drumming • Dancing • Beading • Helping with events
<p style="text-align: center;">School Awards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student of the Month • Broncs Athlete Award 	<p style="text-align: center;">Volunteer Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Babysitting • Prep rallys
<p style="text-align: center;">Teams</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volleyball • Basketball • Badminton • Plays • Track & Field 	<p style="text-align: right;">18</p>



Wolf Creek Public Schools
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Breasting Success for All Learners



Contact Us

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