



# THE FEDERATION

of COMMUNITY SOCIAL SERVICES of BC

## FCSSBC Youth Education Bursary 2026 Application Form

Application Deadline – Monday, May 11th

### Bursary Value, Timeline, and Focus

The Federation of Community Social Services of BC (FCSSBC) Youth Education Bursaries assist young people in and from care with the financial costs of tuition, books, and supplies for academic training or academic upgrading. This bursary is available to a maximum of \$2,000 per academic year (two semesters). Please note:

- Bursary award monies are given directly to the academic institution for deposit into the student's account.
- Bursary funds awarded must be used within 18 months (for recipients in 2026, funds must be used by the January semester of 2028).
- You can apply for the bursary more than once.
- Your education plans must relate to a career in the field of Human and Social Services.

The funds awarded are raised through fundraising efforts and thus the total amount we have to give varies from year to year. The number of bursaries awarded each year, and the monetary value of awards will vary. The Bursary Selection Committee appreciates the work, time, and effort that applicants put into their applications each year, and works to recognize as many students as possible in a meaningful way through the fund.

It is ok and totally encouraged to have help in completing this application. Have someone proof-read your essay and double check that you answered all of the questions before you send it in. If you don't have someone you could ask for help, email [info@fcssbc.ca](mailto:info@fcssbc.ca) and we can connect you to one of our awesome youth-serving member organizations in your community. You may want to share your essay with your references so they have a good idea about what your goals are.

## Bursary Eligibility

Before you apply, make sure you are eligible. Bursary eligibility requirements are:

- You are currently in care or you are a former youth in care in the province of BC. This includes being under a continuing custody order (CCO); temporary custody order (TCO, Voluntary Agreement or Special Needs Agreement); or a Youth Agreement under British Columbia's Child, Family and Community Services Act.
- You are a Canadian Citizen or a Permanent Resident.
- You are 30 years old or younger in the year of your application.
- You are currently attending or planning to enroll in a post-secondary academic program provided by an institution/organization/company in Canada.
- Your education plans relate to a career in the field of Human and Social Services. Examples include: Social Work, Counselling, Child & Youth Care, Psychology, Community, Family & Child Studies, Gerontology & Social Work, Mental Health & Addictions, Law, Sociology, and Health Care.
- Questions about whether your area of study qualifies? Please contact [info@fcssbc.ca](mailto:info@fcssbc.ca).

**Please remember that only completed applications will be considered and reviewed by the selection committee. If confirmation of acceptance to the school of your choice is not available by the deadline, please identify the date that the institution will confirm acceptance.**

### Application Deadline: Monday, May 11th, 2026

Applications must be received at The Federation office by May 11th, 2026 or date stamped no later than May 11th, 2026 if mailed via Canada Post. Drop off, email, or mail your application to:

#### The Federation of Community Social Services of BC Bursary Selection Committee

#102-739 Kings Road

Victoria, BC V8T 1W4

Phone: 250-480-7387 Fax: 250-480-7396

Email: [info@fcssbc.ca](mailto:info@fcssbc.ca)

## Application Checklist

Before sending in your application, please make sure you have enclosed/attached the following:

- Application Form (Parts 1-7, five pages total)
- Essay question response (Part 8 or provide your essay on additional pages)
- Transcripts and/or confirmation of acceptance (or the reasons why they were not included)
- Two completed Reference Forms (provided on pages 9 & 10)

## Part 1: Personal Information

We need to know who you are and how to contact you if you are awarded a bursary.

Please complete all questions to the best of your ability.

Legal Name:

Preferred Name:

*If different from your legal name*

Date of Birth:

Age:

Preferred Pronoun:  she/her  he/him  they/them  other:

Social Insurance Number:  *(Required by the Canada Revenue Agency)*

Current Grade in School:

Current Address:

City:

Province:

Postal Code:

Phone (Home):

Phone (Cell):

Email Address:

Address While in School:

*If different from your above address*

City:

Postal Code:

If you receive a bursary, would you be willing to write a short letter at the end of the school year telling us how your studies are going? We would use this information to help encourage other youth to apply for the bursary, and people to donate to the bursary. We would not share your name or any identifying information. Saying 'no' will not affect your chances of getting a bursary.

YES  NO

## Part 2: Care Status Information

We need to know a bit about your history with MCFD.

Please identify your most recent status with the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD)

Continuing Care Order:   
CCO or Permanent Ward

From (Year):

To (Year):

OR

Temporary Care Order:   
TCO, Voluntary Care Agreement, Special Needs Agreement, or Youth Agreement

From (Year):

To (Year):

REMINDER - Bursary eligibility requirements:

- You are currently in care or you are a former youth-in-care in the province of BC. This includes youth under a continuing custody order (CCO); temporary custody order (TCO, Voluntary Agreement or Special Needs Agreement); or a Youth Agreement under British Columbia's Child, Family, and Community Services Act.

## Part 3: Social Worker Information

In order to verify your care status, we may need to follow up with your current and/or last social worker.

Social Worker Name:   
The name of your most recent Social Worker or Delegated Agency Worker

Their Organization:

Their Phone Number:

Email Address:

Street Address:

City:

Postal Code:

## Part 4: Your Education History

We need to know what education you have completed so far.

**Most Recent Level of Education Completed:**

*(e.g. grade 12, 1st-year university, etc.)*

**School:**

*Name of the school/education institution where your most recent level of education was completed*

**City:**

**Province:**

**Current School:**

*If you are currently attending a different school than the one listed above (e.g. community college)*

**City:**

**Province:**

## Part 5: Educational Status

We need to know if you are currently a student or not.

Remember: This bursary is to help you prepare for a career in human and social services. If you aren't sure that your area of study is considered human or social services please email [info@fcssbc.ca](mailto:info@fcssbc.ca). **Please submit a copy of your most recent transcript with your application.** (Transcript must include your student number if the transcript is from a post-secondary institution.)

- I am a current student.** Please submit a copy of your most recent transcript. (Transcript must include your student number.)
- I am waiting to begin my studies.** Please submit a copy of your *Letter of Acceptance* from the educational institution you will be attending.
- I have not yet been accepted into my program of study.** Please indicate the date by which you will be informed of your acceptance. You will need to submit a copy of your *Letter of Acceptance* as soon as you receive it.

**I will know whether I am accepted or not by (date):**

### Part 5: Educational Institutions

We need to know where you are planning on doing your studies.

*Please list the educational institutions that you have applied to or are currently attending.*

**Name of School:**

**Currently Attending:**       **Have Applied To:**

**Student Number:**   
*If you have your student number*

**Date of Application:**

**Intended Program of Study:**

**Date of Acceptance:**       **Full-time Program:**

**Program Length:**       **Part-time Program:**   
*In number of years, semesters, or hours*

**Time Until Completion:**   
*The number of years, semesters, or hours still remaining until completion*

*Please list the educational institutions that you have applied to or are currently attending.*

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*In number of years, semesters, or hours*

**Time Until Completion:**   
*The number of years, semesters, or hours still remaining until completion*

## Part 6: Other Funding Sources

We want to make sure you are aware of other funding sources available to you.

There are other sources of financial support for young people in care. We want to make sure you know about all of your options! Applying for and/or receiving other funds will not affect your chances of receiving a bursary from us.

### Have you applied for the Youth Educational Assistance Fund (YEOF)?

- |                                                      |                                                      |
|------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I have received funds. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I have applied.        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No, I'm not eligible.       | <input type="checkbox"/> No, I didn't know about it. |

### Have you applied for the Dream Fund through the Federation of BC Youth in Care Networks?

- |                                                      |                                                      |
|------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I have received funds. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I have applied.        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No, I'm not eligible.       | <input type="checkbox"/> No, I didn't know about it. |

### Have you applied for educational funds through the Agreements with Young Adults Program?

- |                                                      |                                                      |
|------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I have received funds. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I have applied.        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No, I'm not eligible.       | <input type="checkbox"/> No, I didn't know about it. |

### Are you eligible for a tuition waiver through your university/college?

- |                                                      |                                                      |
|------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I have received funds. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I have applied.        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No, I'm not eligible.       | <input type="checkbox"/> No, I didn't know about it. |

## Part 7: Student Finances

We need to understand your financial needs when awarding bursaries.

Is the post-secondary program you require funding for at a recognized Canadian public post-secondary institution? If you are unsure, consult the list on the Government of Canada's website at:  
<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/programs/designated-schools.html>

Yes  No

If you answered "no" above, what is the total cost for the upcoming school year that you will owe directly to the institution/company/organization? (e.g., tuition, fees, books)

## Part 8: Essay Portion

We want to know about your educational goals and aspirations for the future.

Thanks for completing the application form. Now we'd be honoured to learn more about who you are. Please share only what you are comfortable sharing, and none of what you share will be published. What are your educational goals? Why have you decided to pursue a career in the social services? How has your life history (achievements, successes, challenges, and/or obstacles) impacted your goals and future aspirations? Feel free to use separate pages for your essay.

**Word limit: 750 words in essay format.**

**REFERENCE FORM**

Please have this form completed by one of your two references. Submit this form with your application.

Applicant Name:

Reference Name:

Reference Address:

City:

Postal Code:

Phone (Work):

Phone (Other):

Email Address:

Can The Federation contact you with follow-up questions?  YES  NO

How long have you known the applicant?

How do you know the applicant?

What would you say are the applicant's top five strengths?

Have you spoken with the applicant about career goals? What excites you about their goals?

Do you know of anything that may impact the applicant's ability to complete their studies?

Do you have any other comments?

**REFERENCE FORM**

*Please have this form completed by one of your two references. Submit this form with your application.*

Applicant Name:

Reference Name:

Reference Address:

City:

Postal Code:

Phone (Work):

Phone (Other):

Email Address:

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