

Scholarships, Bursaries, and Awards for Northern Post-Secondary Students

Northern Compass is not a funding organization. However we have compiled information about existing funding sources relevant for Northerners. There are some tips on the next page for completing applications for funding.

If you need help filling out an application form, or you want to chat through this information, you can email NorthernCompass@nya.ca or call 1-866-212-2307.

Main Sources of Funding

Resource	About	Links	Deadlines
NWT Student Financial Assistance (SFA)	SFA offers financial assistance to NWT residents attending PSE fulltime or parttime. You must apply for SFA each year to continue to receive funding.	https://www.ece.gov.nt.ca/en/services/student-financial-assistance	June 30 for programs starting between August 1 to September 30, October 31 for programs starting in January. You do not have to be accepted into a program before you apply.
Financial Assistance for Nunavut Students (FANS)	Nunavut residents can receive FANS if they are pursuing post-secondary education in a full-time program.	http://www.gov.nu.ca/sites/default/files/fans_application_form.pdf	July 15 for Fall semester (starting between August 15 and October 1) November 15 for Winter semester (January) March 1 for Spring semester (April 15– May 31) You do not need to wait until you are accepted at an institution to start your application.
University and College Entrance Preparation Program (UCEPP)	For upgrading programs/ university and college entrance preparation programs, open to First Nations students	https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1100100033688/1531936422341	Contact your local band office or ISC regional office
Indspire Bursaries, Scholarships, and Awards for Post-Secondary Education	Financial support for Indigenous students in full and part time studies in college, university, skilled trades, apprenticeships, and technology programs.	https://indspire.ca/programs/students/bursaries-scholarships/	August 1, November 1, February 1. You only need to complete the application once to be considered for all applicable bursaries, scholarships, and awards.
NYA Bursary	Open to NYA Alumni. Bursaries are \$500 per year and you can apply every year that you are in school.	https://nya.ca/bursary/	Available in December, on a first come, first served basis.
School-Specific funding	Most schools /colleges / universities have their own scholarships, grants, or bursaries		Try web searching your school's name and "scholarships" or "bursary". There might also be a phone number you can call to ask for information on financial assistance.
Local funding	Reach out to your own Band/First Nation or Regional Inuit Organization		Try and do this as soon as you think you might want to go to school. Funding might be limited or have their own deadlines.

Other sources of Funding

- Indigenous Bursaries Search Tool, a searchable list of bursaries, scholarships, and incentives across Canada: <https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1351185180120/1351685455328>
- Scholarships and Awards for Nunavut students: <https://www.gov.nu.ca/education/information/student-funding>
- Scholarships and Bursaries for NWT students: <https://www.ece.gov.nt.ca/en/services/student-financial-assistance/scholarships-and-bursaries>

- RBC Aboriginal Student Awards Program:
http://www.rbc.com/careers/RBC_ASAP_Printable_Application_English.pdf
- Husky Energy Scholarships for Aboriginal Students:
<http://www.huskyenergy.com/socialresponsibility/aboriginalaffairs/educationawards.asp>
- TD Scholarships for Community Leadership: <https://www.tdcanadatrust.com/products-services/banking/student-life/scholarship-for-community-leadership/index.jsp>
- KPMG Indigenous Student Awards: <https://home.kpmg/ca/en/home/industries/government-public-sector/indigenous-client-services/kpmg-indigenous-student-awards.html>
- Native Women's Association of Canada Helen Bassett Commemorative Student Award:
<https://www.nwac.ca/resource/helen-bassett-commemorative-student-award/>
- Yellowknife Community Foundation Scholarships: <https://www.ykcf.ca/home/scholarships/>
- Union of Northern Workers, Josie Gould Memorial Scholarship: <http://www.unw.ca/josie-gould-memorial-scholarship>. (if your parent(s) work for the GWNT)
- Aurora College links to scholarships <https://www.auroracollege.nt.ca/current-students/scholarships-and-bursaries/>
- Government of Nunavut Sport and Recreation Scholarship: <https://www.gov.nu.ca/community-and-government-services/news/sport-and-recreation-scholarship-program-0>
- Diavik Diamond Mines Inc. Scholarship for Aurora College students:
<https://www.auroracollege.nt.ca/scholarship/diavik-diamond-mine/>

Tips for Applying for Funding, Bursaries, and Scholarships

- ❑ **Start early!** It takes much longer to apply than it takes to just fill out the forms. You might need to get copies of other forms or letters; you might need to write an essay or submit transcripts or other documents. Even if applications have not opened, it is a good idea to look at the requirements early, prepare all the documents, and mark the opening date on your phone or a calendar. Try to submit all full applications at least 1 week before the deadline.

How early should you start? Here is an example

Starting school in September? Start looking at funding as early as February.

Starting school in January? Start looking as soon as September the year before.

- ❑ **Read through the funding application forms** to get an idea of what things you might need to know/fill out. For example, you need a valid bank account for FANS.
- ❑ **Ask for help.** If you get stuck or need help filling out a form or application – ask for help. Try to ask for help a while before the deadline since the people who could help you might be busy on short notice. If you aren't sure who to ask, you can always email NorthernCompass@nya.ca or call Northern Youth Abroad at 1-866-212-2307.
- ❑ **Do your best.** If you don't know how to fill out a question on a form, write what you think it might be or leave it blank. Sending in a form with missing parts is better than not sending one in, or sending it in late.
- ❑ **Keep copies.** Start a file somewhere (google drive, on your computer, Dropbox, etc) with copies of things you will need to attach to your applications. These include: copies of your ID, Status card, Acceptance Letters, Confirmation of Enrolment forms, and Letters of Support. This will save you a lot of time in the future!
- ❑ **Give others enough time.** If your application requires Letters of Support, ask for these early to give advance notice to the people you are asking to write them. Keep these letters on file to use again in the future with minor edits.
- ❑ **Apply for everything!** Apply for any awards you think you might qualify for. Even if you aren't sure, apply anyways.
- ❑ **Reach out to other students.** See what other northerners have done for funding – they might have tips or tricks for getting the most of funding.