



The Children's Foundation

Helping One Child at a Time

Most Asked Questions

Scholarship Most Asked Questions

I received TCF funding last year. Do I need to reapply?

Yes! Every applicant must submit a new application every year. You will need to submit a new application before the application deadline of June 30th. Multi-year award recipients must also submit a multi-year application.

I am not sure if I will be attending school next year. Should I apply?

Yes! If there is any possibility – **APPLY!** – If you do not end up going to school, it will not impact your chances of receiving an award in the future, you only need to let us know. The Foundation knows it is very early in the year and you may still be making plans and or have not applied to schools yet. That is okay! Fill in the application as best you can about the schools you have or will be applying to. We will be contacting you later in the spring for an update.

My marks are not very high, is it worth my while applying?

Yes! The Children's Foundation scholarships are based on a combination of academic achievement, financial need, individual attributes, personal contribution, and potential for success in your chosen field. Your best bet is to answer the questions as completely and thoughtfully as possible so that the Awards Committee can make an informed decision.

What is an academic transcript and where can I get one?

A transcript is a record of your entire academic history in any one school – all the classes and the grades you received, organized for each year, in one document. It is different from a report card, which only shows the classes and grades from your current year.

- If you have just graduated high school, or will be in the spring, contact your school's office, or speak to a teacher or guidance counselor
- If you are already in college or university, you can either submit an **unofficial transcript** found through your school's online student portal (recommended, and free) or you can order an **official transcript** from your school's registrar's office or online student portal

If I send my transcript now, it will not show my final marks for this semester. Should I wait to order it?

No! The Award Committee cannot review an application that does not include a recent transcript. Your application will be assessed using your marks to date. If the Foundation does not receive a transcript by the document deadline on June 30th, your application will not be considered. Any student who submits a complete application before the deadline may also provide their updated final marks at the end of the semester if they wish.

I was awarded a scholarship last year but did not attend school. Do I need to reapply?

Yes! We ask all students to reapply each year. If you received a notification that you were awarded a scholarship last year, but then did not attend school, your award would have been reallocated to another student.

Is this money the same as provincial student loans?

No! The Children's Foundation is an independent, non-governmental organization that raises funds from individuals, corporations, and other foundations. If you receive a scholarship or bursary from The Children's Foundation, you will not be required to pay it back. The Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) is run by the provincial government, and you will be required to pay back at least some of this funding. Other provincial



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governments have comparable programs. To access this funding, you will need to apply through the website of your provincial government, or through the Financial Aid office at your school.

What is a recognized post-secondary institution?

To receive a Children's Foundation scholarship, you must be attending a post-secondary school that has been recognized and authorized by the provincial or territorial government. This includes public universities and colleges, and some registered private career colleges. If you are unsure of whether your program will qualify, contact the Foundation at tcf@highlandshorescas.com or 613-962-9292.

I was a ward of an agency outside of Hastings, Northumberland, or Prince Edward County but I now reside in one of those areas. Can I apply for a Children's Foundation scholarship?

Yes! The Children's Foundation accepts applications from any applicants meeting the eligibility criteria. If you are receiving or have applied for other awards, please make note of this on your Children's Foundation scholarship application.

I am no longer in touch with my most recent social worker. Is a reference necessary?

If you do not have a worker or a relationship with anyone at your child welfare agency who can fill out a reference for you, do not worry. There is an alternative. Contact The Children's Foundation for instructions.

I am unable to submit my application, what should I do?

The most common reason is that you have not filled in all required fields. Please check through your application to make sure you have completed all the fields marked as **required**. If you are still having difficulty, please send a detailed e-mail to TCF@highlandshorescas.com including a detailed description of your problem and the error message you are receiving, and we will respond when possible.

How are the applications scored, and who scores them?

Scholarship applications are reviewed by The Children's Foundation staff to ensure that applicants meet the eligibility criteria, but the applications are scored by our Awards Committee. This Awards Committee is made up of 5-10 friends of the Foundation, including Board members, youth committee representative, a foster parent representative, and community members. Scholarship applications are scored on Individual Attributes (eg. personal and academic challenges and progress), Academic Achievement (eg. high grades and/or significant gains despite individual limitations), Personal Contribution (eg. strengths and coping skills demonstrated in personal life and commitments outside of school), Potential for Success (eg. whether goals are clear and realistic) and financial need.

When will I hear the results of my application?

Awards are announced in July. Before the awards are finalized, the Foundation will contact you to confirm that you are still planning on attending school in the fall, so please let us know if your e-mail address changes. If we cannot get in touch with you, your award may be reallocated to another student.

I have not heard the results of my application and my school is requesting payment of fees. What should I do?

Foundation funds are to assist with the cost of your post-secondary education, but even the largest award will likely not cover your full expenses. If you do not have the funds available to pay your tuition you need to apply for



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your provincial student assistance program (eg. Ontario Student Assistance Program). Once you have been approved for Student Assistance, your school will allow you to pay a small deferral fee until your loan comes through. If you have been approved for an award, the Foundation may be able to advance up to \$500 for this purpose if you provide documentation. It can take up to 20 business days for the Foundation to process requests for payment, so please contact us well in advance if you need to make special arrangements.

Will the Foundation provide money for college or university application fees?

The Children's Foundation usually provides funds only once students are enrolled in school. Proof of enrollment is required prior to payment (payment is direct to the school).

If I am granted a scholarship or bursary, when will I receive payment?

If you are selected to receive a scholarship, the Foundation will send you a letter of agreement that indicates when your payments will be issued, and which documents you will need to submit to receive them. The Foundation will provide your scholarship in two payments:

The first payment will be made around the beginning of your first semester (September, or January depending on which semester you will be starting) after you submit your signed letter of agreement, your proof of registration in the first semester (eg. your timetable or tuition deposit receipt), and a thank you letter to your donor. The second payment will be made around the beginning of your second semester (usually early January), after you submit your online progress report and your proof of registration in the second semester (eg. your timetable or tuition deposit receipt).

Can I receive a bursary and a scholarship at the same time?

Yes! An applicant can receive a bursary and scholarship during any academic year. The maximum bursary or scholarship funding that any one applicant can receive during the academic year is \$5500. Separate applications must be submitted for both bursary and scholarship to be considered for both.