

building
brighter futures
Bursaries and Scholarship Awards

Spring 2014 Application

Mail completed forms to:

Indspire
Post-secondary Education Department
Box 5, Suite 100 - 50 Generations Drive,
Ohsweken, Ontario
NOA 1M0

FAX & EMAIL COPIES ARE NOT ACCEPTED

Dear Student,

Indspire understands the opportunities and challenges students encounter when thinking about and going to school, whether it be in high school, leaving your community to attend a post-secondary institution, or deciding that you want to further your education after graduation. A post-secondary education opens so many doors and opportunities. National statistics tell us that Indigenous youth are the fastest growing demographic! Large corporate companies, small businesses, governments, and private sector organizations are looking to skilled Indigenous workers to fill positions that will open up as Canada's aging population goes into retirement. Will you have what it takes to succeed?

Indspire's *Building Brighter Futures* Bursary and Scholarship programs help alleviate some of the financial stress students may experience. Through *Building Brighter Futures* Bursary and Scholarship programs, Indspire has provided over \$54 million to more than 16,000 Indigenous post-secondary students. Indigenous students, enrolled full-time in a post-secondary institution are eligible to apply (for more information visit www.indspire.ca).

The *Building Brighter Futures* programs are divided into seven areas of study, and may include certificate to graduate levels. Students who are sponsored by a First Nations' Band, Tribal Council, Metis or Inuit organization are eligible and encouraged to apply.

If you have any questions or need clarification, we're here to help! You may contact us at 1.855.INDSPIRE or email us directly at education@indspire.ca

Sincerely,
Chris Paci, Director, Post-secondary Program
Rachel Hill, Bursary and Scholarship Officer
Suzanne Bradley, Bursary and Scholarship Officer
Valerie Hill, Post-secondary Education Administrative Support

Application Procedure:

Step one

The revised application can be downloaded and printed from the indspire.ca website under the “Building Brighter Futures” tab. Fill out all relevant information to the best of your ability.

Step two

Simply check off the Building Brighter Futures bursary and scholarship program to which you wish to apply. Application deadlines vary. If an application deadline falls on a weekend, the Friday before the application deadline will be the due date. For example, June 1st falls on a Saturday this year, therefore the completed application would be due on Friday May 31st.

	Name	Eligible fields of study	Type(s) of program	Application deadline
FA	Fine Arts 1. Graduate and Undergraduate	Post-secondary studies, in fields such as visual, performing, media, theatre, production, graphic and literary arts.	Full-time certificate or diploma programs, undergraduate and graduate degree programs from an accredited post-secondary institution. Study outside of Canada is considered only at the graduate level.	May 1 st
PSE	Post-secondary Education Students who apply to this program may also be considered for a FAAY post-secondary award.	Business, science, law, engineering, computer studies, education, social work, social sciences, and technical studies.	Full-time 1 yr. certificate or diploma programs, undergraduate and graduate degree programs from an accredited post-secondary institution. Study outside of Canada is considered only at the graduate level.	June 1 st November 1 st
HC	Health Careers	Studies in health care careers such as; medicine, nursing, dentistry, physiotherapy, pharmacy, clinical psychology, laboratory research and veterinarian medicine.	Full-time certificate programs, undergraduate, professional and graduate degree programs of at least two academic years at an accredited Canadian post-secondary institution. Study outside of Canada is considered only at the graduate level. (Masters and PhD only). <i>Medical, Dentistry, Optometry are not considered graduate programs.</i>	June 1 st November 1 st
LSAP	Legal Studies for Aboriginal People Pre-Law Bursary	The LSAP bursary is available to Non Status First Nation and Métis students <u>only</u> who are enrolled in a pre law program at an accredited Canadian post-secondary institution.	Pre-law summer programs only. A bursary award of \$1,000 and \$2500 tuition payable to the post-secondary institution.	May 15th
OGTT	Oil, Gas, Trades and Technology <input type="checkbox"/> General <input type="checkbox"/> Apprenticeship <input type="checkbox"/> Incentive For students studying in Alberta, British Columbia and Ontario.	Studying in trades such as; Electrician, Gasfitter, Heavy Duty Mechanic, Heavy Equipment Operator, Heavy Equipment Technician, Instrument Technician, Insulator, Machinist, Mechanic, Millwright, Pipe Fitter-Construction, Process Operator, Valve Technician, and Welder	General education diploma, applied diploma or certificate programs in oil and gas, trades and technology fields, academic upgrading or preparation, pre-trades training, apprenticeship education programs, and pre-employment training	April 30 th (General) November 30 th (General) Open All year (Apprenticeship and Incentive)
OFIC	Ontario Federation of Indian Friendship Centers	Post-secondary studies or training and development, can be less than 2 years.	Mature Aboriginal women with dependent children residing and going to school in urban setting in the province of Ontario. One \$10,000.00 award or two \$5,000.00 awards	May 1st
FAAY	Foundation for the Advancement of Aboriginal Youth - Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business	Open to students in Grade 9 up to graduate post-secondary level.	High school students in grades 9 – 12 and age range of 13 – 19. Applicants may apply to the FAAY Stay in School Incentive Award. Students attending post-secondary need to apply to Indspire’s Post-secondary Education application.	November 1st

Section 1 – Personal and contact information

All personal and contact information is CONFIDENTIAL. If you receive an award, your personal and contact information is shared with the donor or sponsor and may be used to promote the programs to the public. Please ensure that all current information is included, such as your address, telephone and email address. If you have any address changes, please notify us as soon as possible to update our records.

Once you receive an award you will be asked to submit a thank you letter to the donor or supporter, acknowledging receipt of the award. The donor or sponsor may be interested in hearing about what you are studying and the kind of career you wish to pursue once you complete your studies. Donor and supporters are often looking to recruit graduates; your personal and contact information is only shared with them, no one else. We also require your Social Insurance Number and this is primarily for taxation purposes if you receive an award. You will also be issued a T4A at the end of February for the applicable taxation year.

Section 2 – Declaration and consent

In this section, you verify that you understand the required documents that are needed to be submitted in order for your application to be sent for Jury review. If all mandatory documents are not sent with your application, your application will not be considered for Jury review.

Mandatory application documents:

- One current Indspire Building Brighter Futures Bursary and Scholarship Application form, fully completed and signed.
- Proof of First Nation (status or non-status), Inuit or Métis status.
- Letter of Introduction (minimum 1000 words and maximum 1,500 words, Section 7 of this application form)
- Marks (official or unofficial) from your most recent academic program. Your recent marks include your grades from the last semester or term of your academic program OR from a program you completed before starting the current program in which you are enrolled. **Applications submitted without grades or marks will not be assessed.**
- Recent, clear color electronic photograph – of head and shoulders in jpg., eps, tiff format minimum 300 dpi, this can be emailed to education@indspire.ca
- Work Sample – *for Fine Arts applicants only. See Section 8, page 8 of the application form.*
- Employer Recommendation Form – **OGTT Apprenticeship applicants only.** Letter of Recommendation Form – **OGTT General applicants only.**
- Current Resume – **OGTT applicants only.**

Documents required before an award is released:

- Original Official Transcript - stamped and signed by the Registrar's Office from my most recent academic program. **Faxed, scanned or photocopies are not acceptable.**
- Proof of Enrollment – for the program that you have applied for.

Your signature confirms that:

Please read carefully.

- ✓ YOU will be enrolled in full time studies for the program that you have applied for.
- ✓ YOU have read and fully understand the guidelines that govern the application and Jury process, and have provided answer to all questions which apply to you.
- ✓ YOU certify that all information contained on this form is true and correct. YOU understand that any false statements intentionally given on this application, by email or telephone will disqualify your application and will affect your ability to access future funding.
- ✓ YOU hereby give your consent to Indspire to release your contact information to Indspire's sponsor(s), including your name, telephone number, email, or mailing address, so that they may contact you personally.
- ✓ YOU hereby give your consent to Indspire to use, publish your name, photo and relevant information on Indspire's website, in Indspire's brochures for promotion, marketing, advertising or in sponsor communications.
- ✓ YOU acknowledge that if your application package does not include all the required documents your application will be deemed ineligible.
- ✓ YOU recognize that it is your responsibility to ensure that all supporting documents are postdated and/or received by the Indspire office by the deadline.

SECTION 3 – INDIGENOUS AFFLIATION

Indspire's Building Brighter Futures Bursary and Scholarship programs are intended for Indigenous students attending full time post-secondary studies who are recognized as either status or non-status First Nation, Inuit or Métis as recognized by the government of Canada.

Note: The term "Indian" is considered outdated by many people, for the purposes of this application we use the term "First Nation" to identify status or non-status "Indian".

Status First Nation

All applicants who declare they are "Status First Nation" must provide a front and back photo-copy of their "Certificate of Indian Status" as issued by the Government of Canada or through their perspective Bands. Alternatively, an official letter (on First Nation letterhead, dated, signed) from the First Nation Band office can be provided that identifies that person is a registered band member of that First Nation.

Non-Status First Nation

Applicants who declare they are "non-status First Nation" must provide a front and back photo-copy of their parent(s) or grandparent(s) "Certificate of Indian Status" with a long form birth certificate(s) or baptismal certificate(s) clearly showing the relationship to the person identified on the "Certificate of Indian Status" card.

Applicants who are members of a Non-status First Nation must provide a letter from their registry office stating that the federal government has designated and recognizes their nation as a Non-status First Nation.

Métis

Métis applicants must submit a photocopy of the front and back of the valid Métis card issued to them by their Métis organization that is recognized by the provincial/territorial and or federal government and or surrounding Indigenous communities. Applicants age 18 and over must have their own Métis card. In the case where an applicant is awaiting issuance of their own Métis card, they can submit a photocopy of the card issued to parents along with the long-form birth certificate(s) or baptism certificate(s) that clearly shows the relationship to person on the Métis card. An official letter (on organization letterhead, dated, signed) from the Métis organization can be provided that identifies that person on the card is a registered member in good standing with that Métis organization. Documentation must also be provided to show that the applicant has made an application to become a member of their Métis organization.

Inuit

Applicants who declare their status as "Inuit" must provide a front and back photo-copy of their Inuit Beneficiary Card or letter from a recognized Inuit territorial organization.

Section 4 - Education

Please fill in all fields to the best of your ability. Certain questions may be just for “Fine Arts” or “FAAY” applicants, so please read carefully.

In the “Education” section where you are asked to list your last three academic institutions you may also want to ensure that when you submit your most recent grades that this matches up with the name of the last academic institution you identified.

Section 5 – Determining Financial Need

There are many financial factors that need to be considered while attending post-secondary studies full time. Even if you work, use your savings, and are a funded or sponsored student, this doesn't always mean all your financial needs are met.

Indspire encourages all students to make a financial contribution towards the costs of their education. Even if you work part time or you applied for a student loan or line of credit, this clearly shows your dedication and determination to achieving your academic goals.

Section 6 – Budget

One of the most important sections of your application. Please fill in all fields to the best of your ability. In order to qualify for an award you must demonstrate financial need, your expenses exceed your income.

When your application is received and screened, the budget portion is checked for errors. You may receive an email or telephone call if information in your budget is incomplete or unclear.

Once the budget portion is checked and your budget demonstrates financial need, this amount will be used to help determine the amount of the award. If your budget does not demonstrate financial need your application will be deemed ineligible and it will not be considered at Jury.

Section 7 – Letter Of Introduction

Your letter of introduction is your opportunity to tell the Jury all about you! It is very important that you demonstrate your contribution and involvement to your Indigenous community, in the past, present and future. Be sure to elaborate and provide details and/or examples of how you contribute and are involved in your and the surrounding Indigenous communities.

Your letter of introduction is assessed by a jury member, so remember they do not know anything about you, so you have to provide the details!

The questions are to be used as a guide, write in essay form and answer questions with more than one word or sentence.

Your letter of introduction should be typed, double spaced and preferably a size 11 font and is a minimum of 1000 words. Do not exceed the 1500 word limit and do not exceed three type written pages.

Indigenous Veteran

The last section on Indigenous veterans is used to help us match awards with donors. If your application is successful and you receive an award, and if you have identified that you are an Indigenous veteran there is the possibility that you will be matched with a donor who supports Indigenous veterans.

SELECTION OF AWARDS

Jury Composition: Applications are reviewed by a Jury of Indigenous and non-Indigenous (status & non-status) professionals from across Canada. Jury members change for every review. All decisions of the Jury are final. there is no appeal process.

Assessment Criteria: When assessing applications, the Jury uses the following criteria.

- Demonstrated financial need and contribution to education costs (the budget section of your application).
- Evidence of involvement and contribution to First Nations, Inuit or Métis community.
- Evidence of suitability and commitment to field of study (found in your letter of introduction and grades).
- Demonstrated academic merit and performance.

To be successful in receiving an award, applicants must achieve a minimum score.