



Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools

# INDIGENOUS SCHOLARSHIP GUIDE

FEBRUARY 3, 2020

FNMIE UNIT

## Overview

The purpose of this guide is to provide First Nations, Métis & Inuit students with valuable information to support their journey towards post-secondary education. Students are encouraged to work alongside their school guidance counselors, Aboriginal Student Achievement Coordinators, or any other school staff, to facilitate the process of attaining scholarships or bursaries. All of the provided information is as up-to-date as possible. However, it is suggested to click the link and confirm all deadlines and requirements, as some websites may not have the most current and up to date information.

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### What is a Scholarship?

Academic and non-academic awards (funding or sponsorships) that provide a financial prize or assistance that is typically used towards a tuition payments, registrations or to cover resources that support the student's success in their post-secondary endeavors. Scholarship applications vary, and often require different things such as transcripts, letters of reference, or proof of identity (Métis or Indian Status cards).

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### What is a Bursary?

A bursary is help with the financial need of attending post-secondary schooling, the financial prize might go towards, but is not limited to, school supplies needed for post-sec (I.e. computer, textbooks, bus pass). Bursaries vary, and often require different things such as transcripts, letters of reference or proof of identity (Métis or Indian status card).

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### Terminology

Many scholarship and bursary applications will ask for information regarding your ancestry. The term 'Aboriginal' is an umbrella word that includes Métis, Inuit & First Nations peoples. The term 'Indigenous' is used for a similar purpose, as it too encompasses a variety of Aboriginal groups. Indigenous is used broadly for peoples who have a long standing inherent right and connection to the land. Below the terminology is explained in more detail:

#### **Métis**

Self-identifies as Métis, is distinct from other Aboriginal peoples, is of historic Métis Nation ancestry, and is accepted by the Métis Nation

#### **First Nations**

Status Indian – registered under the Indian Act, eligible for or has a status card

Non-Status Indian – identifies as a First Nations person, but is not eligible for a status card (may however, still be a member of a First Nations band)

#### **Inuit**

Traditional homeland in the Arctic, or Northern Canada

### **Proof of Identity barriers that may arise**

Some students, because of special circumstances such as not having a Métis card or Indian Status card, being raised with adoptive families, being raised in care of a Provincial Ministry, alienation from their parent(s), or not having the correct proof of Indigenous Identity, may require more assistance than others. For example, in some instances, students that do not have a Métis status card, may require a long form birth certificate to prove their connection with their Indigenous parent. In these circumstances, we anticipate that there may possibly be more work to do in order to complete the full application, but the efforts are worthwhile. Many students may not have the social supports or the technological resources to complete the applications, thus making your support even more important.

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### Applying for Band Funding

First Nations students can apply for funding for post-secondary through their specific First Nation. Inquiries should be made to the band office of the student's First Nation community. Each band has a limited amount of funding to allocate each year, so it is suggested to become familiar with the funding application process for respective First Nation communities.

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### How to Register & Apply for Indian Status

Please speak to your parents/guardian or guidance counsellor for help on beginning this process. Often, community organizations such as the Saskatoon Indian & Métis Friendship Centre and the White Buffalo Youth Lodge host onsite application days so can be helpful to check with them. The following government website provides an overview of the steps and documentation you need:

<https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1100100032421/1572461539061>

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### How to Register & Apply for a Métis Citizenship Card

Please speak to your parents/guardian or guidance counsellor for help on beginning this process. The following website provides an application for Métis Citizenship with the Métis Nation. Information from the Central Urban Métis Federation Inc. (CUMFI) is also included:

<https://metisnationsk.com/citizenship/>

[https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/fa5b16\\_3bf0fc3a60894b6a8cf9b4ed1dce9e88.pdf](https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/fa5b16_3bf0fc3a60894b6a8cf9b4ed1dce9e88.pdf)

## Local/Provincial Aboriginal Scholarships & Bursaries

**Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools Bursaries** – Spirit Award (no post-secondary requirement, overcoming adversity), Academic award (overall academic excellence). Please contact your guidance counsellor for the application form.

**Saskatchewan Indian & Métis Friendship Center** – This is an older application, but can be used. A new one will be sent to guidance counsellors if it is updated.

[http://www.simfc.ca/ckfinder/userfiles/files/2013\\_SIMFC\\_ApplicationForm\\_NGRN.pdf](http://www.simfc.ca/ckfinder/userfiles/files/2013_SIMFC_ApplicationForm_NGRN.pdf)

**Sasktel Indigenous Youth Awards of Excellence**

<https://www.sasktel.com/about-us/corporate-social-responsibility/indigenous-youth-awards-of-excellence-site>

**Gabriel Dumont Institute** offers the SUNTEP (Bachelor of Education) program, GDC (a two-year Arts and Science program) and funding opportunities for other diploma or degree programs for Métis students.

<https://gdins.org/student-services/scholarships-bursaries/>

**University of Saskatchewan**

<https://artsandscience.usask.ca/indigenous/awards.php>

<https://admissions.usask.ca/money/scholarships.php>

**St. Thomas Moore**

<https://stmcollege.ca/student-awards.php>

**First Nations University of Canada (FNUC)**

<http://fnuniv.ca/scholarships>

**Saskatchewan Polytechnic**

<http://saskpolytech.ca/student-services/support/indigenous/index.aspx>

**Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies (SIIT)**

<https://siit.ca/money/>

**Saskatchewan Indian & Gaming Authority (SIGA)**

<https://siga.ca/corporate-social-responsibility/scholarship/>

**Saskatoon Tribal Council (STC)**

<https://www.sktc.sk.ca/programs-services/education/>

**Government of Saskatchewan**

<https://www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/education-and-learning/scholarships-bursaries-grants/scholarships>

## National/Canadian Indigenous Scholarships & Bursaries

Most Canadian universities have services and opportunities targeted for Indigenous students such as Indigenous student advisors, transition programs, Indigenous student centers, Elders, and much more.

<http://www.universitystudy.ca/plan-for-university/scholarships-grants-and-bursaries-for-canadian-students/>

### **Indspire**

<http://indspire.ca/for-students/bursaries-scholarships/>

### **Indigenous Bursaries Search Tool**

<http://www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/eng/1351185180120/1351685455328>

### **Scholarships Canada**

<http://www.scholarshipscanada.com/>

### **Yconic - Student Awards (account creation needed)**

[https://yconic.com/?redirect\\_from=studentawards](https://yconic.com/?redirect_from=studentawards)

### **Royal Bank of Canada (RBC)**

<https://goto-apply.ca/rbc/>

### **First Nations Technical Institute**

<https://fnti.net/scholarships-c409>

## Help With Employment & Job Training

Many organizations have representative workforce staff working within their human resource departments. These individuals are a great resource to tap into when exploring future options.

**Gabriel Dumont Institute** Training and Employment has employment counsellors whom will support Métis youth 15-30 with job search and preparation.

<https://gdins.org/career-and-employment/>

**Saskatoon Tribal Council** has employment counsellors whom will support First Nations youth 15-30 with job search and preparation.

<http://www.sktc.sk.ca/programs-services/employment-skills-training/urban-labour-force-development/>

<http://www.sktc.sk.ca/programs-services/employment-skills-training/stc-career-centre/>

**Saskatchewan's Aboriginal Apprenticeship Initiative**

<http://saskapprenticeship.ca/workers/aboriginal-apprenticeship/>

**Canada Focus: Youth Employment Strategy**

<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/funding/career-focus.html>

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Special Thanks

**Tanya Becker**

School Counsellor

St. Joseph High School

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Bibliography

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<https://indigenousfoundations.arts.ubc.ca/terminology/>

<https://www.ictinc.ca/blog/indigenous-peoples-terminology-guidelines-for-usage>

<http://www.scholarshipscanada.com/News/ArticleProfile.aspx?SectionID=8&ID=2974>