

Health Profession Education Bursary

Purpose and Rationale:

The purpose of the Bursary is to support Yukon students in attaining health profession education.

Canadian studies have indicated that it is people from rural and remote areas that are most likely to return to practice in those areas. On the basis of these studies, it is anticipated that some people who receive the Yukon Health Profession Education Bursary support will return to provide health care service in the Yukon.

Intention:

The intention of the program is to target bursary support as follows:

- Professions within the public health care system,
- Professions that have been hard to recruit in the Yukon in recent years and
- Professions for which education programs are not offered in the Yukon or for which students must leave their home community.

The list of professional areas that will be considered priority areas are:

- Pharmacy
- Physiotherapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Dental Therapy
- Speech/language pathology and audiology
- Medical laboratory
- Medical radiology
- Dietetics/nutrition
- Licensed Practical Nursing

Other areas of professional study will be considered if the bursaries are not awarded to people studying in the priority areas.

Funding available:

The Yukon Health Profession Education bursary is available to a maximum of four new students per year.

The maximum amount available will be \$5,000/year to a maximum of four years of health profession education.

Membership of bursary committee:

- Director, Patient Services, WGH, or person delegated by Director
- Director, Continuing Care, HSS or person delegated by Director
- Director, Insured Health and Hearing Services, or delegate
- Manager, Health Programs, CYFN, or person delegated by Manager

- Two representatives of priority professional groups, drawn from names submitted by professional organizations in Yukon

Eligibility Criteria:

Applicants are required to provide the following information in order to be eligible to receive the bursary:

- Proof of Canadian citizenship or landed immigrant status maintained throughout the period of the bursary.
- Proof of current or previous residency in the Yukon of at least three consecutive years within the last five years
- Copy of letter of acceptance into an approved health profession education program in Canada. This can be conditional pending final acceptance.

Selection:

From those applicants who are eligible to receive the bursary, a maximum of four new students each year will be approved according to the ability to meet one or more of the following selection criteria:

- Demonstrated interest and/or commitment in health care services as indicated through personal, employment, education or volunteer history (references with contact information are required).
- Demonstrated interest in working in Yukon on completion of health profession education.
- Preference will be given to those applicants with the least amount of financial support from other funding agencies.
- Yukon First Nation citizen.

Terms of Bursary

Once a person qualifies to receive the bursary, s/he may continue receiving it for a maximum of four years of health profession education, provided that the student maintains academic achievement standards required by the program.

A person who has been selected to receive the bursary and who subsequently interrupts academic studies will be permitted to continue receiving the bursary upon re-enrollment provided that the person continues to meet eligibility criteria and academic achievement standards.

Students undertaking education on a part-time basis are eligible to apply for the bursary. The amount of the bursary will be prorated according to the number of courses being taken in relation to a full-time course load or the number of credits being taken in relation to credits for full-time students.

It is the responsibility of the part-time student to provide the information on course load and credits in relation to a full-time course load. The guide for payment of bursary shall be an amount of \$500 per course per semester.

Students who are awarded a full-time bursary and reduce their course load to part-time during an academic year will continue to receive the full-time bursary amount for that year. They will be required to provide supporting evidence of their intentions for full- or part-time studies for the subsequent year. The bursary amount in subsequent years will be prorated according to the student's course load.

Method of payment

Payment will be made directly to the student.

Once approved for a bursary, a student will be paid in full at the beginning of the academic year. Payment for the second and subsequent years of study will be made after the student submits proof of successful completion of the previous year of study and of enrollment in the next sequential year of study.

Application

June 30th – complete applications must be received by this date. **In 2006 only, applications will be received until September 8.**

Applications shall include personal information including:

- full name
- address
- telephone and email contact information
- residency information
- information on funding available to the applicant from any other agency to assist with education costs, including the name of each agency and the amount received or expected from that source.

Copies of documents to meet eligibility criteria are required. (e.g. birth certificate or citizenship certificate to demonstrate Canadian citizenship).

Proof of Yukon residency for three consecutive years of the past five years. Proof can be demonstrated through items such as Yukon Health Insurance Service records, employer's note, school principal's note.

A letter indicating interest in and/or commitment to health care services through personal, employment, education or volunteer history are required as part of the application package. This letter should include reference names and contact information that can be used to verify experience.

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Complete applications with copies of all required documents, shall be sent or delivered to the following address **on or before June 30th: (September 8 in 2006 only)**

Health Profession Education Bursary
c/o Health Human Resource Coordinator
Department of Health and Social Services (H-1)
307 Black Street
Whitehorse, Yukon
Y1A 3H8

Bursary Committee

The bursary committee is formed for the purpose of selecting suitable candidates for receiving the bursary. The bursary committee shall also make decisions with respect to administration of the bursary for any matters not covered in the policy.

The committee shall choose a Chair from among their members.

Secretariat support will be provided from within Health and Social Services. The Secretariat provides administrative support but does not participate in committee decision-making.

Decisions

The Bursary Committee will make their decisions by no later than **August 15. (September 30 in 2006 only.)**

All applicants shall be notified in writing once the decision has been made. Applicants who are denied funding in one year may reapply in any subsequent year, and will be subject to the same eligibility/selection criteria.

Decisions by the Bursary Committee are final. There is no appeal process.

Approved: August 3, 2006