



AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

FOOTHILLS COMPOSITE HIGH SCHOOL/
ALBERTA HIGH SCHOOL OF FINE ARTS



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PART ONE: GENERAL INFO

AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS FCHS/AHSFA

This handbook has been created to support students in applying for scholarships and awards. The accuracy of the information has been vetted, but changes do occur on a regular basis. Foothills Composite High School denies responsibility or liability to any person who may be adversely affected by unintentional / unavoidable errors and changes.

This handbook has been designed to be helpful, but it not a complete listing of all the scholarships that are available. Students are encouraged to do their own research for other scholarships.

There are **MILLIONS** of dollars and hundreds of scholarships that are available to students. To be successful, most scholarships students will be competing with other students. However, students can be awarded **FREE** money just by applying,

TIME... Applying for scholarships takes time. The rewards can be incredibly profitable, and students do not always need top grades to be successful. Ensuring that time is scheduled into a busy life agenda to focus on applying for scholarships is crucial.

WHEN should students start to look at scholarships? Most scholarships are awarded to students in their grade 12 year – BUT starting to explore different scholarships in grade 11 to prepare for grade 12 is recommended.

Selection Criteria: Varies greatly for specific scholarships. The following criteria is usually emphasized in one or more of the following items:

- **Academic Achievement:** The grades students achieve in school are important and will be considered. They do not need to be exceptionally high. Most scholarships will specify a minimum average in selected courses.
- **Financial Need:** Being able to demonstrate that a student needs financial need within their family or circumstances will qualify students for many awards. Usually providing confidential information is required.
- **Citizenship:** Students may be asked to describe the activities they have been involved in that help make their school and/or community a better place. (e.g. Sports, music, fine arts, volunteering, church, committees.)
- **Leadership:** In what ways has a student demonstrated leadership abilities?

Definitions

Scholarship: Award given primarily based on academic achievement.

Bursary: Award given primarily based on financial need. Satisfactory academic achievement may also be required. The criteria may include community work, athletics memberships, disabilities, or cultural background.

Award: A prize, earned through a variety of criteria. It could be a financial award, trophy, or medal.

Nomination: Many awards require students to be nominated by their school, a teacher, a coach, or instructor. Where nominations are required for the FCHS/AHSFA Scholarships, there is a Scholarship School Committee who meets and determines the nominee(s).

Reference Letter: Many applications require that students include letters of reference from qualified individuals who know them and can vouch for specific qualities that meet the scholarship criteria. ** Provide at least weeks' notice to all teaching/counselling staff and community members.

Essay: Many applications require that students submit an original essay on a particular topic, often related to the criteria of the award.

Post-secondary Programs: Most programs taken after high school will qualify a student for money awarded. (Universities, colleges, Technical Institutes, Training Programs, Apprenticeship Programs, Upgrading Programs.)

Award Sponsors: Who provides the award? They are usually sponsored by the Government, Private and Corporate Sponsors, Foothills School Division, and Post-Secondary Institutes. Parents may also have access to certain scholarships that their employers may offer.

Transcripts & MyPass

Transcripts: Many scholarships and awards will require student to attach a transcript of their high school grades to their application. Students may obtain their "unofficial" transcripts (also known as their DAR –Detailed Academic Report) from their MyPass account.

DAR.: Known as a **Detailed Academic Report**. This is an "**Unofficial**" **Transcript** that can be downloaded as a PDF from a student's individual MyPass account.

Official Transcripts: Official Government of Alberta transcripts can be ordered through MyPass that cost \$10 each (ordered on-line).

MyPass Account: Is a self-service website that students NEED to have in order to access important education documents **FOREVER**. (diploma exam marks, high school transcripts, view and print DAR's, view progress towards credits needed to graduate)

Set up FREE MyPass account through link or send Academic Counsellor an e-mail.

<https://public.education.alberta.ca/PASl/mypass/welcome>

PART TWO: TIPS WHEN APPLYING

TIPS WHEN APPLYING FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

Consider the following when applying for a scholarship:

- **Review** the scholarship application forms for the criteria and information requested.
- **Consider** organizing different applications applying to by category: Academic Merit, Leadership Experience, Extracurricular Commitments, Personal Strengths, or Financial Need.
- **Give** only the information that is required by the application. Use all the space provide, but do not use extra pages (often are discarded).
- **Answer** questions completely and honestly. Do not fill out form with unrelated information. Accuracy is priority.
- **Use** dynamic and appropriate language that is clear, assertive, and succinct.
- **Check** for spelling and grammatical errors. Errors can result in an instant loss of creditably.
- **Arrange** for final marks to be included if they are required.
- **Be sure** to know when and to whom the completed Application form should be returned.
- **Sign** Application.
- **Remember** to send a THANK-YOU LETTER if student is the successful recipient.

TIPS FOR STUDENTS SEEKING LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

1. Confirm with referee(s) that they are comfortable in providing a letter of reference.
2. Give the referee(s) all the pertinent information regarding the scholarship.
3. Give the referee(s) a written list of accomplishments from which they may choose to improve the reference. **** USE Reference Guide Sheet** in Resource section.
4. Indicate to referee(s) who the letter should be addressed to.
5. **DO NOT ASK FOR A REFERENCE LETTER TO BE READY THE SAME DAY OR NEXT.** Give the referee time to do the job well –two weeks if possible.

SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY TIPS

The purpose of a scholarship essay is to present a solid case for why a student's background, activities, leadership, or other skills (including research on a particular topic) are deserving of scholarship funding.

Essays should demonstrate evidence of solid writing skills and knowledge of the subject or theme.

Scholarships essays vary in subject, however most of them require a recounting of a personal experience. **The most important aspect of a scholarship essay is the subject matter.**

To begin planning subject ideas, students should consider the following points:

- **What** are your major accomplishments (and why do you consider them accomplishments)?
- **Does** any attribute, quality, or skill distinguish you from everyone else? How did you develop this attribute?
- **Consider** your favourite books, movies, works of art? Have these influence your life in a meaningful way? Why are they your favourite?
- **What** was the most difficult time in your life and why? How did your perspective on life change because of the difficulty?
- **Have** you ever struggled mightily for something and succeeded? What made you successful?
- **Have** you ever struggled mightily for something and failed? How did you respond?
- **Of** anything in the world, what would you most like to be doing right now? Where would you be? Who would you most like to be with? These questions should help you realize what you love most.
- **Have** you experienced a moment of epiphany as if your eyes were opened to something you were previously blind to?
- **What** is your strongest, most unwavering personality trait? Do you maintain strong beliefs or adhere to a philosophy? How would your friends characterize you?
- **What** have you done outside of the classroom that demonstrates qualities sought after by universities? Of these, which means the most to you?
- **What** are the most important extracurricular or community activities? What made you join these activities? What made you continue to contribute to them?
- **What** are your dreams of the future?
- **When** you look back on your life in thirty years, what would it take for you to consider your life successful?
- **What** people, things and accomplishments do you need?
- **How** does this scholarship fit into your plans for the future?

PART THREE: SCHOLARSHIP RESOURCES

WHERE TO START?

FCHS/AHSFA SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

- Go to the FCHS/AHSFA Scholarship Handbook for **local school and community** scholarships and awards to explore eligibility and criteria.
- Deadlines are listed (usually in May)
- Scan QR Code to **FCHS Scholarship Handbook**:



POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTES

- Every post-secondary institute offers a scholarship and awards program for their students.
- Prestigious scholarships, in substantial amounts of money, are also offered to encourage highly qualified applicants with exceptional academic potential to enrol at their institute.
- Go to Post-Secondary School's website and type "**Scholarship**" in the search bar,
- Login into post-secondary student portal (with student ID) and submit application.
- **PAY ATTENTION TO DEADLINES!** Often financial awards are due early (December).

ALIS

- The **Alberta Learning Innovation Services (ALIS)** website is a MUST to explore!
- Many funding options are available to help post-secondary education a reality.
- The [Paying for Post-Secondary School](#) section on ALIS will help students calculate what their education will cost and how to pay for it.
- Provides options for funding post-secondary education using savings and earnings scholarships and bursaries, loans, and grants.



STUDENT GOVERNMENT LOANS

- Both the Federal & Provincial Governments provide student loans for post-secondary
- Students must be Canadian Citizens or permanent residents and need to apply through the province that considers them a resident.
- Government student loads are intended to be supplemental to student and family resources and are awarded based on financial need.
- **Province of Alberta loans:** <https://studentaid/alberta.ca/>
- **Government of Canada Loans:**
<https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/education.html>

SCHOLARSHIP CHART

- One-Stop Shop! Document that is compiled of Scholarships and Awards that have been shared or sent to the FCHS Academic Counsellors.
- Found on FCHS/AHSFA website.



ALEXANDER RUTHERFORD SCHOLARSHIP

- Students may earn a **maximum of \$2500** towards their post-secondary education if the eligibility criteria are met. Awards are as follows.
- \$ 300 (75% to 79.9%) or \$ 400 (80% or higher) for Grade 10.
- \$ 500 (75% to 79.9%) or \$ 800 (80% or higher) for Grade 11.
- \$ 700 (75% to 79.9%) or \$ 1300 (80% or higher) for Grade 12.
- A social insurance number is needed to apply for the Rutherford Scholarship.
- Students must apply through **“Student Aid Alberta.”**
- *** Please see attached detailed Chart below.

REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM (RAP) SCHOLARSHIPS

- Apprenticeship and Industry Training provides more than 1900 scholarships to apprentices each year to assist them in completing their apprenticeship education programs.
- The following website has the information on scholarships for Apprentices and Occupational Trainees:
- www.tradesecrets.org

SCHOLARSHIP CANADA



- Get instantly matched to Scholarships!
- <https://www.scholarshipscanada.com/>

UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE & ADMISSION AWARDS

- Many universities give entrance awards for students entering their institution for the first time.
- The criteria is usually students entering the institution for the first time directly out of high school or entering after taking time off from high school.
- Some institutions will include entering with less than certain.
- Students who wish to get these Entrance Awards generally must also demonstrate:
 - **Academic Excellence:** based on Grade 11 & 12 marks with a minimum average component usually of 80%
 - **Scholastic Distinction:** based on Grade 10, 11 & 12 marks with a minimum average usually of 95%.
 - **Leadership:** based on outstanding leadership and Grade 11 & 12 marks with a minimum average usually of 80%.
 - **Athletics:** based on excellence in athletics. Alberta residency and usually minimum average of 80% in Grade 12.

AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES

- Due dates for American University applications vary: Due as early as mid-October for early admission and late December for regular acceptance.
- All American Universities require students (applying for admission) to write some form of standardized tests.
- Students are encouraged to go to <http://collegeboard.org/> for more information on studying in the United States.
- The PSAT is offered to grade 11 & 12 students as a practice opportunity for the **SAT**.
 - It is not a requirement to write the PSAT, but students will have the option of having the score submitted to universities.
 - The results of the PSAT will not ensure or hinder the applicant's post-secondary entrance.
- There are schools in Calgary that offer the PSAT (sometimes they will allow students from other schools to write with their students).



HELPFUL WEB SITES

Alberta Government Website: Links to Post-Secondary Institutes, Student Loans & Scholarships	https://studentaid.alberta.ca/scholarships/
University Study – Plan & Search it ALL!	https://www.universitystudy.ca/canadian-universities/
Scholarship Canada *Create Profile	www.scholarshipcanada.com
Student Awards/Yconic * Create Profile	https://yconic.com/
Student Scholarships * Creat Profile	www.studentscholarships.org
Scholar Tree * Create Profile	https://scholartree.ca/
School Finder (search based on school or field of study)	www.schoolfinder.com
Academic Invest (can search based on degree or area of interest)	www.academicinvest.com
MyPass (AB Gov.) * Create Profile	https://public.education.alberta.ca/PAS/mypass/welcome
Association of University & Colleges of Canada (Good for International Students)	https://www.univcan.ca/
Can – Learn Interactive	Tools.canlearn.ca/cslgs-scpse/cln/index/indexId-eng.do
Campus Virtual Tours: Explore Post-Secondary Schools	https://www.campustour.ca/
Indspire Indigenous Awards	https://indspire.ca/
Maclean's Magazine Rankings	www.macleans.ca/oncampus
Social Insurance Number	Canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/sin/aply.html
One-STOP Career Counsellor	https://www.highschoolcareercounsellor.ca/



Falcon Student Form for Applying for Scholarships/Awards/Bursaries

Please complete this form before requesting a Reference Letter from an FCHS Staff Member.

Deliver this form to a staff member at least two weeks in advance of the application deadline.

Your Full Name:	
Current Grade:	
Contact Number:	
Teacher Name:	

Amount of time the teacher has known you:	
Award/Scholarship(s) you are applying for:	
What post-secondary plans do you have?	
Personal Character Attributes:	
Please describe your extracurricular activities in school and/or community:	
Accomplishments you are proud of:	
Provide evidence of your Collaboration Skills:	
Provide evidence of your Communication Skills:	
Provide evidence of your Innovativeness:	

Deadline for Reference Letter:	
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Alexander Rutherford Scholarship

The Alexander Rutherford Scholarship is offered to students who are residents of Alberta. It is based solely on student achievement. Students apply at the end of their Grade 12 year.

Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Average of 75.0% to 79.9% in five courses - \$300 * • Average of 80% or higher in five courses - \$400 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Average of 75.0% to 79.9% in five courses - \$500 * • Average of 80% or higher in five courses - \$800 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Average of 75.0% to 79.9% in five courses - \$700 * • Average of 80% or higher in five courses - \$1300
<p>Average is calculated from 5 designated <u>courses</u> *Option/Career and Technology Studies (CTS) may also be considered</p>		
<p>One of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English 10 -1, 10 -2 • Français 10-1 or 10-2 	<p>One of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English 20 -1, 20 -2 • Français 20 -1 or 20 -2 	<p>One of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English 30- 1, 30-2 • Français 30 -1 or 30 -2
<p>At least two of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mathematics 10C • Science 10 • Social Studies 10 -1 or 10 -2 • A language other than one used above at the Grade 10 Level. 	<p>At least two of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mathematics 20 -1 or 20 -2 • Chemistry 20 • Physics 20 • Science 20 • Biology 20 • Social Studies 20 -1 or 20 -2 • A language other than one used above at the Grade 11 Level. 	<p>At least two of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mathematics 30 -1, 30 -2 or 31 • Science 30 • Social Studies 30 -1 or 30 -2 • Biology 30 • Chemistry 30 • Physics 30 • A language other than one used above at the <u>Grade</u> 12 Level.
<p>Any two courses with minimum three credit value at Grade 10 (1000 or 4000 series) including those listed above and combined option and introductory CTS courses.</p>	<p>Any two courses with minimum three credit value at Grade 11 (2000 or 5000 series) including those listed above and combined option and intermediate CTS courses.</p>	<p>Any two courses with minimum five credit value at Grade 12 (3000, 6000 or 9000 series) including those listed above and combined option and advanced CTS courses.</p>

For more detailed info on this scholarship visit:

www.studentaid.alberta.ca/scholarships/

