



Dream Fund

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The Dream Fund is an education fund that was established in 1999 by young people involved with the Federation of BC Youth in Care Networks (FBCYICN) in response to funding cuts that greatly impacted the ability of young people in and from care to pursue their educational and vocational goals.

As young people in and from care experience a host of barriers that make dealing with increasing tuition rates and costly living expenses extremely difficult, it is important that accessible support services and programs exist to aid in the transition from care to independence. Many of these young people have little or no family support, inadequate financial assistance and limited access to educational and professional resources. While the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) has developed two funds for young people in and from care who wish to pursue post-secondary education (such as the Youth Educational Assistance Fund (YEAF) and Agreements with Young Adults (AYA)), many young people do not meet all of the requirements needed to attain these funds.

In an attempt to meet some of this need and to alleviate some of the financial burden associated with post-secondary education, upgrading and training, the FBCYICN created the Dream Fund, two distinct bursaries that assist with costs associated with educational, career and personal development. Applicants are those young people in and from both permanent and temporary care who have been significantly impacted by their involvement with the child welfare system.

Reach for Success is a bursary created through donations to offer financial assistance to those who want to pursue educational, personal or career development goals. This bursary assists young people in and from care with the financial costs associated with workshops, tutoring, attendance at conferences, or participation in other skill building activities that require a registration or tuition fee. Applicants can apply for up to \$500 once per year.

Education Achievement Bursary is an award that was established by a donation from the Pacific Children's Shelter Society for young people in and from care who wish to pursue their education at the post-secondary level. This bursary assists young people who have been or are currently on continuing or temporary care orders with the financial costs of tuition, books and supplies who are planning to attend, or are already attending, a designated post-secondary academic institution*. This bursary is worth up to \$2,500 per academic year (two semesters).

Application forms can be downloaded from our website or picked up in person at our office.

The complete application package must be submitted in person or by mail by the appropriate deadline.

* Check the Student Aid BC website for a list of designated schools www.aved.gov.bc.ca/sfas-bin/phcgi?PH_APP=SFASAPPE&PH_QKC=phw_des_sch101.QKC&PH_HTML=phw_des_sch101.HTM

Private registered and accredited post-secondary institutes are also eligible: www.pctia.bc.ca

If you are interested in learning more about or donating to the Dream Fund, or applying for one of the bursaries, please visit our website at www.fbcyicn.ca or contact:

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