

ABORIGINAL STUDENTS AWARD

This award was established to provide a financial award for studies in all academic areas of post-secondary education. The purpose of this award is to meet the increasing needs of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis students for financial support in pursuing post-secondary education, and to assist them in the pursuit of excellence in every discipline.

- DONOR:** Nickle Family Foundation
- WHERE TENABLE:** Calgary Board of Education and Calgary Catholic School District
- FIELD OF STUDY:** Unrestricted
- VALUE:** \$1,000
- NUMBER:** Two
- ELIGIBILITY:** Open to First Nations, Métis, and Inuit (FNMI) students registered in grade 12 who are completing the requirements of a high school diploma and plan on pursuing post-secondary studies. Applicants must have demonstrated academic progress and a high rate of attendance at school-sponsored activities within the local community and at community sponsored cultural awareness events including, but not limited to, events that focus on FNMI cultures. Preference given to applicants with financial need.
- Applicants are required to submit an original essay describing learning or impact received from a meaningful FNMI cultural experience or a mentorship relationship that has positively impacted the applicant's life today and for the future. The essay should also highlight financial circumstances affecting the student's ability to pursue post-secondary education. The essay must be no more than 500 words in length (one page, typed or printed).
- Applicants are required to submit at least one letter of reference, demonstrating the applicants' community involvement and leadership qualities. Letters may be provided from a school official, employer, or a community leader or Band official.
- Selection will be based on the academics, the essay, and the letter of reference.
- APPLY:** Applicants should complete the EducationMatters **General Application for Awards**. Complete application packages should be submitted to the CBE or CSSD Aboriginal Team or the Scholarship Officer at EducationMatters.
- SELECTION & PAYMENT:** Recipients are selected in May by the CBE & CSSD Aboriginal Team and a representative of EducationMatters. To claim the award, within 2 years (24 months) of notification of award, the recipient must be registered in an eligible program of post-secondary study in Canada of at least one year's duration, *or* an eligible skilled trades or apprenticeship program. Payments are made to the post-secondary institution. Awards will be presented at the Aboriginal Graduation ceremonies in May or June.
- DEADLINE:** Normally **April 30** to the **CBE Aboriginal Team office, Kingsland School, 7430 5 St SW, Calgary, AB T2V 1B1** (email kpealey@cbe.ab.ca or fax 403-777-8976), **CSSD Aboriginal Team office, 1000 5 Ave SW, Calgary, AB T2P 4T9** (fax 403-298-1483), OR to the Scholarship Officer at EducationMatters.