

AWARDS INTRODUCTION

WHY DO ORGANIZATIONS OFFER AWARDS?

The Government of British Columbia, individuals, clubs, lodges, companies, and other groups in the Nechako Lakes District are proud of the graduates of our school system. They wish to recognize deserving students who plan to continue their education after Grade 12. Recognition of student accomplishment in the form of awards not only confers honour on students but also brings them financial rewards that help offset expenses when continuing their education.

WHAT TYPES OF AWARDS ARE OFFERED?

Two types of awards are available: **BURSARIES** and **SCHOLARSHIPS**.

BURSARIES are given to deserving students with satisfactory academic standing who require financial assistance, and who meet other conditions specified within this booklet.

SCHOLARSHIPS are awarded mainly for outstanding academic achievement. Normally, scholarships are not dependent on other factors such as financial need or social activity. Some organizations, however, do specify these as secondary criteria.

HOW EXTENSIVE IS THE FUNDING OF AWARDS?

This year, more than **80** organizations are sponsoring awards. They have donated approximately **\$65,000**; and it is anticipated that more than **100** students from School District No. 91 will receive awards.

The costs of post-secondary education rise each year. Students who attend an educational institution away from home can expect to spend \$10,000 or more each year. Note the following estimates of some of the costs:

Tuition and other fees:	\$ 2,000 - \$ 3,000
Books and supplies:	\$ 800 - \$ 1,000
Accommodation and food:	\$ 4,000 - \$ 5,000
Transportation, recreation, miscellaneous:	\$ 1,500 - \$ 2,000

Successful applicants will certainly appreciate the contributions towards these expenses offered through the awards.

WHICH AWARDS SHOULD I APPLY FOR?

It is important to carefully read the description of each award so that the eligibility criteria, application procedures, deadlines, and special considerations are clear. **Students are encouraged to apply for ALL awards for which they may be eligible.** It is a sound rule of thumb that for every award for which you might be eligible, every year hundreds of thousands of dollars go unclaimed in North America simply because students do not apply.

When applying for a number of scholarships and bursaries, check off only the awards for which you are eligible and carefully verify that you do in fact qualify for the award(s). In your letter of application, be certain that the content of the letter directly relates to the award(s) being applied for.

AM I ELIGIBLE FOR AN AWARD?

1. Students graduating from grade 12 in School District No. 91 this current school year are eligible to apply.
2. It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that he/she is eligible for those awards. Eligibility can be determined by carefully reading the description of each award and by directing questions to counselors.
3. Students may be considered only for awards for which they have applied. Even if they meet all the qualifications for an award, they may not be considered eligible for it unless they have indicated interest in specific bursaries and scholarships.
4. For most awards, standing in Grades 11 and 12 is used in the final selection of the recipient.
5. Students applying for bursaries should normally have no less than a C+ average. For scholarships, students should normally have no less than a B average.
6. All students with better than average grades are encouraged to apply for the awards described in this book.
7. SPECIAL CONSIDERATION
8. Full-time enrollment at a post-secondary institution may be mandatory to receive these financial awards.

BC GRADUATION PROGRAM – GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The BC Certificate of Graduation or “Dogwood Diploma” is awarded to students who successfully complete the provincial graduation requirements. Students require a minimum of **80 credits** to graduate.

*NOTE: See [Chapter 4: Graduation Requirements](#) in the *BC Graduation Program Handbook of Procedures*.

Required Courses	Credits
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 52 credits are required from the following:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Language Arts 10○ Language Arts 11○ Language Arts 12○ Social Studies 10○ Social Studies 11 or 12○ Mathematics 10○ Mathematics 11 or 12○ Science 10○ Science 11 or 12○ Career-Life Education○ Career-Life Connections○ Physical and Health Education 10○ Arts Education 10, 11 or 12 and/or Applied Design, Skills, and Technologies 10, 11 or 12○ Indigenous-focused	4
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• At least 16 credits must be at the Grade 12 level, including a required Language Arts 12 course and the Career-Life Connections course.	4
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• At least 28 credits must be elective course credits.	4
Provincial Graduation Assessments	
In addition, students must also complete three Provincial Graduation Assessments:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grade 10 Numeracy Assessment• Grade 10 Literacy Assessment• Grade 12 Literacy Assessment	