

Q-When will I know if I have received financial assistance? NAAF will post successful award recipients on the NAAF website (www.naaf.ca) 1 or 2 weeks after each Jury session by program (Fine Arts, Health Careers or Post Secondary Education). All applicants (successful and unsuccessful) will be advised by letter of the results of the application process. Letters and cheques will be mailed in the following timeframes.

- Fine Arts & Cultural Projects - By the end of July
- Health Careers - By the end of August
- Post Secondary Education – By the end of August

Q-What if I have applied to college or university, but haven't been accepted? Can I still apply for financial support? Yes you can still apply. Juries make awards conditional on proof of admission or continuing enrolment.

Q-Can I apply to NAAF even if I receive band, territorial organization funding, if I'm working, or if I have a spouse that is working? Yes as long as financial need is demonstrated in the financial section of the application form.

Q-What are undergraduate studies and graduate studies?

Undergraduate studies include general degrees of 3 or 4 years such as Bachelor of Arts (BA) and Bachelor of Science (BSc), etc. Graduate studies include degrees at the Masters or Doctoral levels.

Bursary Application Deadlines

Fine Arts Bursary Award Program - **May 1 annually**

Aboriginal Health Careers Program - **June 1 annually**

Post-Secondary Education Awards Program - **June 1 annually**

To be accepted for Jury consideration applications, must be fully completed as stated on the application form and must be postmarked on or before the deadline date. Please note that the bursary and scholarship funding awarded to applicants must be used in the year for which it is requested.

Contact NAAF Staff

Please contact Rachel Hill at rhill@naaf.ca, 1.800.329.9780, OR 519-445-3020, if you have questions or need help.

NATIONAL ABORIGINAL ACHIEVEMENT FOUNDATION



Education Program

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Visit our website at www.naaf.ca to learn more about NAAF and its other initiatives.

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Goal

The National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation (NAAF) was founded in 1985 with a goal to radically improve the quality of life for all First Nations (status and non-status), Inuit and Métis, by providing them with bursary and scholarship awards to help them obtain knowledge, skills, education and training needed to move forward to fully participate in the Canadian economy.

Program Areas

- **Fine Arts Bursary Awards Program** – Post Secondary studies, personal development, training with a professional or at a non-accredited arts organization, in fields such as visual, performing, media, theatre, production, graphic and literary arts
- **Post-Secondary Education Bursary Awards Program** - Study in business, science, law, engineering, technical studies, computer science, education, social work and social sciences
- **Aboriginal Health Careers Bursary & Scholarship Program** - Studies in medicine, nursing, dentistry, physiotherapy, pharmacy, lab research, lab technology, dietetics, nutrition, health administration, public health policy and other health fields.
- **Oil & Gas Aboriginal Trades & Technology Bursary Awards Program** – Study in oil & gas trades & technology fields in Alberta colleges, universities & institutes. Check the NAAF website for more information.

Noteworthy Facts & Figures

- From 1988 to 2007, NAAF has allocated over \$27.5 million to over 7,000 recipients across all program areas.

For 2007-2008

- NAAF awarded \$3.2 million to 907 recipients.
- Program Areas: 40% recipients were in Health Careers; 39% in Post Secondary Education, 14% in Cultural Projects and 7% in Fine Arts.

Entry Requirements

- Must be a Canadian resident who is either First Nations (status or non-status), Inuit or Métis.
- Must be enrolled as a full-time student at the post-secondary level in a program of study that is a minimum of two academic years at an accredited university, college or CEGEP and pursuing a certificate, diploma or degree.

There is an exception made for one-year upgrading or certification programs such as Nurse Practitioner after a Bachelor of Science in Nursing OR one year Bachelor of Education after the completion of a Bachelor Degree OR other specialization certificates of one year if the applicant has an existing diploma or degree.

- Studies in appropriate fields as outlined in the application forms.

What Do You Want to Know About NAAF's Bursary Awards?

Q-What type of financial assistance does NAAF offer? NAAF provides financial awards in the four program areas.

Q-How do I apply? 1. Choose the NAAF program that best suits your field of study (Fine Arts OR Health Careers OR Post Secondary Education). 2. Go to the NAAF website and print a current application form. If you are unable to access the website, contact NAAF Education staff for an application form.

Q-How much will I receive? There are no set bursary amounts. Juries review each application individually. Amounts awarded take into consideration the number of applications received, the amount of funds available and the applicant's financial need.

Q-Who will decide if I am successful? Juries of First Nations, Inuit or Métis professionals decide. They base their decisions on several criteria:

- financial need and contribution;
- connection and involvement to First Nations, Inuit, Métis community at home or at the institute of study;
- commitment and suitability to field of study; and
- grades and academic performance.