

Children's Aid Foundation of Canada Scholarship Most Asked Questions

1. I received a scholarship last year. Do I need to reapply?

Yes! Every applicant must submit a new application every year. You will need to submit a new application before the application deadline of **Monday, March 13th, 2023**.

2. I'm not sure if I'll be attending school next year. Should I apply?

Yes! If there is any possibility – **APPLY!** – If you don't end up going to school, it will not impact your chances or receiving an award in the future, you only need to let us know. The Foundation knows it's very early in the year and you may still be making plans and or haven't applied to schools yet. That's okay! Fill in the application as best you can about the schools you have or will be applying to. We will be contacting you later in the spring for an update.

3. My marks are not very high, is it worth my while applying?

Yes! Children's Aid Foundation of Canada scholarships are based on a combination of academic achievement, financial need, persistence, personal contribution, and your narrative responses. Your best bet is to answer the questions as completely and thoughtfully as possible so that we can make an informed decision.

4. What is a Confirmation of Care letter, and do I need to submit one?

A confirmation of care letter is a letter you can obtain from the child welfare office you are associated with that is on agency letterhead and confirms your status and the dates that you were in care. If you've never received supports from the Children's Aid Foundation of Canada (and please note, we are a different organization than the Children's Aid Society) before, we will need a confirmation of care letter to confirm your eligibility. We will advise when one is needed.

*Worker Reference Forms are no longer a requirement of the Foundation Scholarship. If you have had them done for past applications, or have received Foundation supports like scholarships, bursaries, Covid Youth supports, for example, you do not need to provide a Confirmation of Care letter.

5. What is an academic transcript and where can I get one?

A transcript is a record of your entire academic history in any one school – all of the classes and the grades you received, organized for each year, in one document. It is different from a report card, which only shows the classes and grades from your current year.

- If you have just graduated high school, or will be in the spring, contact your school's office, or speak to a teacher or guidance counsellor. If you have applied for College of

University already, you submitted a transcript – you can log back into the application site to save a copy to send to us.

- If you're already in college or university, you can either submit an **unofficial transcript** found through your school's online student portal (recommended, and free) or you can order an **official transcript** from your school's registrar's office or online student portal.

6. If I send my transcript now, it won't show my final marks for this semester. Should I wait to send it?

No! We cannot review an application that does not include a recent transcript. Your application will be assessed using your marks to date. If the Foundation doesn't receive a transcript by the document deadline on **March 23rd, 2023**, your application can't be considered for a scholarship. Any student who submits a complete application before the deadline may also provide their updated final marks at the end of the semester if they wish.

7. I was awarded a scholarship last year but didn't attend school. Do I need to reapply?

Yes! We ask all students to reapply each year. If you received a notification that you were awarded a scholarship last year, but then did not attend school, your award would have been reallocated to another student.

8. Is this money the same as provincial student loans?

No! The Children's Aid Foundation of Canada is an independent, non-governmental organization that raises funds from individuals, corporations and other foundations. If you receive a scholarship or bursary from the Children's Aid Foundation of Canada, you will not be required to pay it back. A provincial student loan, such as the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) is run by the provincial government, and you will be required to pay back at least some of this funding. Other provincial governments have comparable programs. To access this funding, you will need to apply through the website of your provincial government, or through the Financial Aid office at your school.

9. What's a recognized post-secondary institution?

In order to receive a Children's Aid Foundation of Canada scholarship, you must be attending a post-secondary school that has been recognized and authorized by the provincial or territorial government. This includes public universities and colleges, and some registered private career colleges. If you are unsure of whether your program will qualify, contact the Foundation at grants@cafdn.org.

10. I was a ward of an agency outside of Toronto. Can I apply for a Children's Aid Foundation of Canada scholarship?

Yes! The Children's Aid Foundation of Canada accepts applications from across Canada from applicants meeting the eligibility criteria. If you are receiving or have applied for other awards, please make note of this on your Children's Aid Foundation of Canada scholarship application.

11. Is a Worker's Reference necessary?

No! A reference from your worker will no longer be required to apply for a Foundation Scholarship. If you have not received supports from the Children's Aid Foundation of Canada before, a confirmation of care letter to confirm your eligibility will be required. We will advise when one is needed.

12. I am unable to submit my application, what should I do?

The most common reason is that you have not filled in all required fields. Please check through your application to make sure you have completed all of the fields marked with a red asterisk (*). If you are still having difficulty, please send a detailed e-mail to grants@cafdn.org, including a detailed description of your problem and the error message you are receiving, and we will respond when possible.

13. When will I hear the results of my application?

Awards are announced in July. Before the awards are finalized, the Foundation will contact you to confirm that you are still planning on attending school in the fall, so please let us know if your e-mail address changes. If we cannot get in touch with you, your award may be reallocated to another student.

14. Will the Foundation provide money for college or university application fees?

Maybe. In certain instances, we may be able to help. Please contact grants@cafdn.org to ask.

15. If I'm granted a scholarship or bursary when will I receive payment?

If you are selected to receive a scholarship, the Foundation will send you a letter of agreement which indicates when your payments will be issued and which documents you'll need to submit in order to receive them. The Foundation will provide your scholarship in two payments, the first payment the beginning of your first semester (September, or January depending on which semester you will be starting), after you submit your documents. The second payment will be made around the beginning of your second semester (usually early January), after you submit your online progress report and your proof of registration in second semester (eg. your timetable or tuition deposit receipt).

16. Can I receive a bursary and a scholarship at the same time?

No! Sorry, an applicant can only receive one of either a scholarship or a bursary during any academic year. The maximum bursary or scholarship funding that any one applicant can receive during the academic year is \$5000.

Don't see the answer you need? Still have questions? Please contact

grants@cafdn.org