

**2026
School
District #81
Guide to
Scholarships
and Bursaries**



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Upload all PDF documents on the Google Form by 3:30 p.m. May 8, 2026
No late applications will be accepted.



Fort Nelson Secondary School

School District No. 81 (Fort Nelson)

PHONE: (250) 774-6958 || Website: www.sd81bc.ca/fnss || BOX 90, Fort Nelson, BC, V0C 1R0

March 9, 2026

To graduating students, parents and guardians:

The School District #81 Guide to Scholarships and Bursaries provides information on a variety of sources of financial awards for students in our School District who are entering post-secondary institutions: colleges, universities, and trade institutes. While it contains much of what is available from our community, it is not possible to list the scholarships, bursaries and awards which come from private donors, foundations, industries, associations, organizations, and government agencies.

Students should check with their employers, parents' employers, coaches, and associations for pertinent awards information. They should research financial assistance & programs on the websites of the post-secondary institution they plan to attend.

The content of the handbook is subject to change. To keep the information as complete and current as possible, students and teachers are asked to help by providing any scholarship, bursary, or award information that they receive to the School District Scholarship Coordinator. If you or your business would like to start an award, please also contact the Scholarship Coordinator.

Students in serious financial need should inquire about student loans, tuition assistance, bursary funds, and work-study programs. The website of each individual post-secondary institution has complete information. Students should contact their post-secondary institution of choice for specific information and in particular, ask about entrance awards.

Apply for as many scholarships as possible, but choose the scholarships and bursaries for which you are realistically eligible. Be prepared to spend time and effort; successful scholarship applications are the result of care, good supporting documents, and attention to detail. Remember that scholarships are won in competition with other students.

Students must have a valid Canadian Social Insurance Number for income tax purposes. Awards in excess of \$500 are considered taxable by Revenue Canada. Applications for a Social Insurance Number may be made in person at any Service Canada Centre or on line at [Social Insurance Number Application \(SIN\) - Government of Canada](#).

Students, I wish you luck. Please use the checklist at the end of the guide to make sure you meet all of the criteria.

Sincerely,

Kerri Larson
 School District #81 Scholarship Coordinator
scholarships@sd81.bc.ca

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SECTION 1 - AN OVERVIEW OF SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES

1. The Internet

The internet is a wealth of information about out of district scholarships. Some sites are listed below that you may wish to investigate. Also, remember to check the sites of any post-secondary institutions which you may attend.

- **Student Aid BC**
- **Yconic**
- **Scholarships Canada**
- **Government of Canada Student Aid**
- **Irving K Barber BC Scholarship Society**
- **BC Government Scholarships, Grants, Bursaries and Awards**
- **Scholar Tree**
- **Universities Canada Programs and Scholarships**
- **BC School Sports Scholarships**
- **The website for the school you are planning to go to**



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SECTION 2- SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES

An Overview

There are two main categories of awards offered to the students of School District #81. They are:

A. School District #81 Scholarships and Bursaries

Any graduating student in School District #81 may apply for district awards. This includes students attending FNSS and Toad River School.

I – SD #81 Scholarships and Bursaries – Selected by Donor

See pages 11-15

II – SD #81 Scholarships and Bursaries – Selected by School District Committee

See pages 16-21

B. District/Authority Awards

Awarded to students who demonstrate excellence and outstanding achievement in any of the following areas.

- **(APLSK) Applied Design, Skills, and Technologies** (e.g., Business, Technology, Home Economics, Media Arts, Tourism)
- **(COMSERV) Community Service (Volunteer Activity)**, which includes awareness of local, global, and cultural issues
- **(FINE) Fine Arts** (e.g., Dance, Drama, Music, Visual Arts)
- **(INDLC) Indigenous Languages and Culture**, demonstrated at school or in the community
- **(LNG) Languages from the Languages Curriculum or External Assessments**, including AP and IB courses
- **(PHYSAC) Physical Activity (and Health)** (e.g., Athletics, Dance, Gymnastics)
- **(TRADES) Technical and Trades Training** (e.g., Coding, Culinary Arts, Mechanics, Robotics, Woodwork)

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A. SCHOOL DISTRICT #81 SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES

Eligibility

To be eligible applicants must meet all graduation requirements, as outlined by the Ministry of Education. The student must be registered as a student at FNSS or Toad River School, and must not have previously graduated in another province, or received a Dogwood in B.C. In addition, it is the requirement of some awards that the recipient is a Canadian Citizen.

I Scholarship Selected by the Donor

For these awards, students follow the application package expectations as outlined on pages 11-15. Upload your application packages by the deadline. The applications will then be forwarded to the donor for their review. The recipients of these awards are selected by the donor based on their individual criteria. Be sure to check what the donor requires for attachments if any.

II Scholarships Selected by the School District #81 Selection Committee

For these awards, students follow the application package expectations as outlined on pages 16-21. Upload your application packages by the deadline. Copies of the applicants will then be forwarded to the selection committee for their review. The recipients of these awards are chosen by the selection committee.

Selection Committee

The selection committee for these awards will include representation from

- School Board Office
- School District Administration
- FNSS Administration
- FNSS non grade 12 parent
- FNSS teacher
- School District Scholarship Coordinator.

The selection meeting takes place in June, based on term three marks (Q3). If there are significant changes to marks (i.e., failing final grades) changes may be made.

Recipients will receive a letter outlining how to redeem or receive their scholarship during the graduation ceremonies. **Keep the letter you receive at the graduation ceremonies.**

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How to Put Together Your Application Package

This is the work that is required of you to apply for each award.

Set aside time to put together this package to the best of your ability.

Once you have all of the components together, I suggest that you keep a file of your package for future use at post-secondary school.

- **You will upload all items, as PDFs, using the Google form found on the [FNSS Scholarship Website](https://www.sd81.bc.ca/fnss/scholarships/) (<https://www.sd81.bc.ca/fnss/scholarships/>).**

Scholarship Essay/Personal Statement

- If you had CLC with me, you should have one started in your Google Drive.

Using business letter format, write a four paragraph letter about your goals, achievements, and community/school involvement. This introduces you to the donors and the committee.

Box #####
Fort Nelson, BC V0C 1R0
Email address

Your mailing address goes here

Not your school email

May 1, 2025

Date you submit

Re: Write the name of the scholarship

(Be sure to change each time)

To (Write the salutation listed for the scholarship here),

(Be sure to change each time)

In this paragraph, state your education and career goals. Include your current grade point average, where are you going to school, and what you are taking, and be sure to state what your current status is: applied, accepted, wait listed, taking a gap year, etc.

In this paragraph, choose one or two community activities you have listed on your scholarship resume and discuss your role(s) and what you learned along the way specifically from your involvement.

In this paragraph, choose one or two school activities you have listed on your scholarship resume and discuss your role(s) and what you learned along the way specifically from your involvement.

This last paragraph is for additional information you wish the donor to have about you. Also, be sure to address any criteria that are specifically asked for but that you have not addressed in the letter so far.

Close by thanking the donor for their consideration.
Sincerely,

Closing

*Space for your signature
Be sure to sign each letter.
Your full name*

Your Name

**Upload all PDF documents on the Google Form by 3:30 p.m. May 8, 2026
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2) Scholarship Resume

- Complete a Scholarship Resume to include with your applications. It can be more than two pages, in fact, it may be 5-7 depending on your experiences. Add rows to each table as needed.
- If you had CLC with me, you should have one started in your Google Drive.
- Can also be uploaded from the [FNSS Scholarship Website \(https://www.sd81.bc.ca/fnss/scholarships/\)](https://www.sd81.bc.ca/fnss/scholarships/).
- References should not be family members.
 - One must be an SD 81 Employee and the other must be a non SD 81 employee who lives in the community.
 - They should be people you worked with or for in school, volunteer and/or employment situations.
 - Ask them ahead of time to be your references

Scholarship Resume Template

Your Name

Box ##, Fort Nelson, BC, VOC 1R0 • 250 - ### - #### • Your email address

Education

2020 - Present Fort Nelson Secondary School

Post-Secondary Goal

What is your plan? (Institution, program, start date, status of application/acceptance)

School Volunteer Experience

Organization/ Person in Charge	Position	Responsibilities	Dates

Community Volunteer Experience

Organization/ Person in Charge	Position	Responsibilities	Dates

Work Experience/Employment

Organization/ Person in Charge	Position	Responsibilities	Dates

Extra-Curricular Involvement

Activity/Team/Club	Role	Date

Recognition, Awards and Certificates

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Award & Organization	Explanation	Date

Interests:

Reference

Name	Position	Phone Number

3) Letters of Reference

- All awards require two letters of reference or recommendation:
 1. One from a School District #81 Employee
 2. One from a Local Community Member (**cannot** be an SD #81 employee).
- Letters of reference often form an important part of a donor's or the committee's decision. It is important, therefore, to give careful consideration to your choice.
- Choose people who are familiar with your achievements in school, athletics, student government, community service, employment, and other extracurricular activities.
- **School District Employee** – ask adults who know you well: teachers, education assistants, vice-principals, and principals.
- **Community Members** - ask adults who live in the community and know you well, but **who are not members of your family or SD #81 employees**: coaches, employers, ministers, and neighbours are all possibilities.
- Be sure to tell your referees specifically what you need and give them plenty of time because writing a good letter of reference requires time, effort, and thought.
- Ask the referee to use their respective letterhead if they have any.
- Fill out the form titled “About Me – a List of Ideas for Referees” detailing your experiences and skills. This form will give your referee essential information about you to use in a letter of reference. (See page 9 or [FNSS Scholarship Website- https://www.sd81.bc.ca/fnss/scholarships/](https://www.sd81.bc.ca/fnss/scholarships/)).

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4) About Me – a List of Ideas for Referees

Name: _____

Thank you for agreeing to write a letter of reference for me. This letter of reference will be included in my scholarship application package that will be submitted to both award donors and the SD #81 Scholarship Selection Committee. I have filled this chart with my accomplishments, skills, and plans for post-secondary school; I hope that you will include these in your letter of reference about me.

<u>PLANS FOR POST-SECONDARY SCHOOL</u> <i>(institution, program, start date, acceptance)</i>
<u>ACADEMIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS</u> <i>(list results for grades 10, 11, 12)</i>
<u>SCHOOL ACTIVITIES</u> <i>(list sports, clubs, committees and positions held)</i>
<u>COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES</u> <i>list groups, associations, fundraisers, that you have been a part of</i>
<u>EMPLOYMENT</u> <i>list dates, employer and position</i>
<u>DREAMS</u>

Upload all PDF documents on the Google Form by 3:30 p.m. May 8, 2026
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6) Academic Transcripts

- Academic Transcripts are records of the courses that you have taken and the mark you earned.
 - Email Ms. Larson at scholarships@sd81.bc.ca to let her know that you would like your Q3 marks and they will be emailed to you in PDF format
 - Upload the PDF to the Google Form on the FNSS Scholarship Website
- ***Only one academic transcript needs to be uploaded.***

Commonly Asked Questions

How do I turn in my scholarship application package?

You will upload all documents, as PDFs, using the Google Form found on the [FNSS Scholarships Website](https://www.sd81.bc.ca/fnss/scholarships) (<https://www.sd81.bc.ca/fnss/scholarships>).

Are scholarships & bursaries only for students who plan to go to university?

There are many awards in this booklet for students going into trades and students who plan to attend post-secondary institutions other than universities.

Do you have to be an “A” student to win any awards?

While academic achievement is important for most, there is also a wide range of criteria listed for most of the awards.

What if I am taking a gap year, can I still apply?

Yes, but read the criteria for each award carefully, some awards allow for a gap year and others do not.

Scholarship and Bursary Redemption

When you win a scholarship you will be given a letter at grad explaining how to redeem the money. Some donors will give you the money at grad, while others give it at the outset of your first semester of post-secondary school, and still, others want to see you complete the first semester and be registered in the second semester. Donors determine when recipients receive their money. **This is why it is essential that you make other financial arrangements for your 1st semester of post-secondary school.**

1. Keep the letter you receive at the graduation ceremonies.
2. At the respective time email a copy of proof of enrollment & a transcript showing marks, along with your phone number, email address and current mailing address to:

Kerri Larson scholarships@sd81.bc.ca

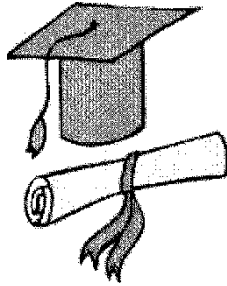
3. Some awards require you to also provide your Social Insurance Number. If this is necessary I will request that you send it directly to the person requiring it. You will not receive payment until you have sent them this information.

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SD#81 SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES **AWARDS SELECTED BY THE DONOR**

How to Apply

- Read through the entire booklet.
- Decide to apply for as many awards for which you fit the criteria.
- Check list of uploads for donor selected awards.
 - Personal Essay/Scholarship Letter for each award applied for
 - tailor each letter to the award specifically
 - be sure any extra required documents are included
 - Scholarship Resume
 - School District Employee Reference Letter
 - Community Member Reference Letter
 - Q3 Transcript



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BUMPER TO BUMPER BURSARY**(Selected by Donor)**

High achievement in Industrial/Technical Education courses in Grades 11 and 12. Good work habits. Registered in a school Career Prep/Secondary Apprenticeship Program, planning to pursue Post-Sec. studies. Special consideration given to graduates entering automotive mechanics. Awarded upon completion of the first year of trades training or entry into the apprenticeship program. Gap year students will be considered.

Salutation: To Graham Prouse
 DONOR: Bumper to Bumper
 VALUE: \$1500.00 in tools

CITY FURNITURE & APPLIANCES SCHOLARSHIP**(Selected by Donor)**

University and trade school.

Salutation: To Jas Kandola
 DONOR: City Furniture & Appliances
 VALUE: \$1000.00 (2)

CHRIS COUTINHO FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP**(Selected by Donor)**

Maintains a B+ average through grade 11 and 12. Maintains a high level of work effort in all classes. Has been actively involved in extra-curricular activities. Has been one of the school's top citizens. Has been actively involved in volunteer activities within the community. Plans to enrol in university, trades school, college, apprenticeship program or other approved program. Must be a Canadian citizen. References will be contacted.

Salutation: To George Watson and Chris Coutinho
 DONOR: Chris Coutinho
 VALUE: \$2000 and a one year mentoring opportunity with Chris

DOWN TO EARTH HEALTH SHOP SCHOLARSHIP**(Selected by Donor)**

Must be entering an accredited school in the natural health field, nutrition, environmental science or renewable resources. Canadian citizen. Good academic standing and healthy lifestyle.

Salutation: To Kym Gillett
 DONOR: Kym Gillett
 VALUE: \$1000.00

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FORT NELSON FIREFIGHTERS UNION LOCAL 2782 SCHOLARSHIP (Selected by Donor)

Entering into an Emergency Services field, ex. Fire, Medical, and Law Enforcement. Should have regular attendance in school. The student does not have to be a top academic student. Must have volunteered in the community. Current members of Local 2782 IAFF children will have first choice depending on their career choice. If no applicants are entering into Emergency Services, the award will go to a student with financial need.

Salutation: To Frank Peach
 DONOR: Fort Nelson Firefighters Union Local 2782
 VALUE: \$500

FORT NELSON MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION BURSARY (Selected by Donor)

Entering a sports or recreation post-secondary program. Has involvement in sports and recreation activities in Fort Nelson. If no applicants are pursuing sports or recreation, it will be awarded to the most qualified applicant. Preference will be given to an applicant with a hockey background.

Salutation: To S.D. #81 Scholarship Selection Committee
 DONOR: Fort Nelson Minor Hockey
 VALUE: \$500 (2)

FORT NELSON PETROLEUM ASSOCIATION BURSARY (Selected by Donor)

Preference will be given to a student entering a post-secondary petroleum related program (e.g. engineering, instrumentation, etc.) Preference will be given to a relative of a Petroleum Association member. Preference will be given to a Canadian citizen. Where no eligible applicant applies, the scholarship will then be awarded to an FNSS student entering a post-secondary trade program based on academic performance and need as determined by the scholarship committee.

Salutation: To Rob Lee
 DONOR: Fort Nelson Petroleum Association
 VALUE: \$1000.00

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GREG GERWING MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**(Selected by Donor)**

To be awarded to an FNSS student entering post-secondary education who demonstrates a working knowledge of, and love for, the outdoors, and displays determination and perseverance towards their career goals. Must have been accepted and will be attending post secondary school in the fall of their graduating year.

The selection will be based on an essay written by the student describing their working knowledge and love of the outdoors and how they have demonstrated perseverance toward their career goals.

Salutation: To Lorraine Gerwing
 DONOR: Lorraine Gerwing, Travis Gerwing & Shallen Gerwing Johnson
 VALUE: \$1000

THE RYAN KERR MEMORIAL BURSARY

Awarded to a student who has shown a passion for helping others through community volunteerism, volunteering with youth through sports or other activities. Has demonstrated determination and perseverance leading towards their career but does not have to be the top academic student.

Preference may be given to students with connections to the IAFF local 2782.

Career path towards Emergency Services or Trades. If no one is going into these fields, the bursary will be awarded to the next qualified candidate. Must be a Canadian citizen.

Salutation: To Frank Peach
 DONOR: Fort Nelson Firefighters Union Local 2782
 VALUE: \$500

NORTHEASTERN B.C. WILDLIFE SCHOLARSHIP**(Selected by Donor)**

A graduating student entering an accredited post-secondary institution for the purpose of studying wildlife management/resource management, environmental studies, or related fields. Not necessarily a student with the highest academic average. Available to both FNSS and Toad River students. Students taking a gap year will be considered.

Salutation: To Audrey Wells
 DONOR: Northeastern B.C. Wildlife
 VALUE: \$2500.00

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SALUS SAFETY SOLUTIONS SCHOLARSHIP FUND**(Selected by Donor)**

Awarded to an all around student pursuing university training. Has demonstrated determination and perseverance leading towards their career goal. This driven and focused student should be involved in the community and is expected to have shown leadership in and outside of the school. If two equally qualified recipients the award may be split between them.

Salutation: To Ms. Chastity Bentham
DONOR: Chastity Benham
VALUE: \$1500.00

DAVE SUTHERLAND SCHOLARSHIP**(Selected by Donor)**

The scholarship is offered to a well-rounded, successful student, but does not have to be the top academic student. The successful candidate will have demonstrated a genuine aptitude for some aspect of Technology Education in high school shop classes (wood/metal/mechanics).

The individual must write a short explanation as to how they will use the funds to be a lifelong learner with a passion for their chosen field either as an avocation or a specific trade certification. Money is to be used to further education and training or to buy tools, etcetera.

Salutation: To Dave Sutherland
DONOR: Dave Sutherland
VALUE: \$1000.00

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SD#81 SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES
AWARDS SELECTED BY SD#81 SCHOLARSHIP
SELECTION COMMITTEE

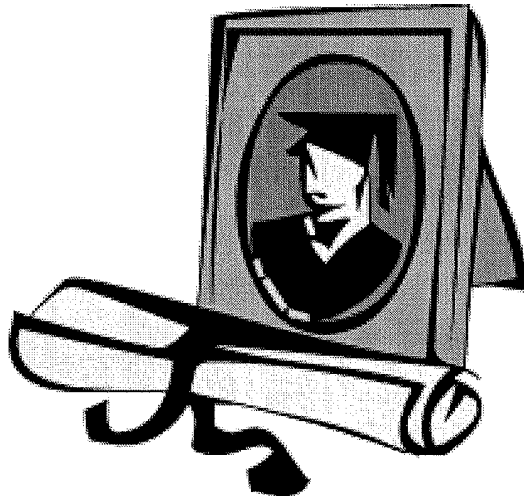
How to Apply

- Read through the entire booklet.
- Decide to apply for as many awards for which you fit the criteria.
- Check list of uploads for committee selected awards.
 - Personal Essay/Scholarship Letter
 - A list of all committee chosen awards being applied for
 - Scholarship Resume
 - School District Employee Reference Letter
 - Community Member Reference Letter
 - Q3 Transcript

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BPOE ELKS OF FORT NELSON BURSARY

Priority of award criteria: 1. demonstrates leadership, citizenship and volunteerism; 2. financial need; 3. Canadian citizen. Financial need: assess by value of scholarships awarded. If there are two equally qualified students, the student with the lesser value of scholarships awarded shall be given preference for the full \$1,000 award.

Salutation: To S.D. #81 Scholarship Selection Committee
 DONOR: BPOE Elks Lodge of Fort Nelson
 VALUE: \$1000.00

MARK BRETON MEMORIAL BURSARY

Preference is given to a student going into education, recreation, physical education, leisure studies, or kinesiology. Applicant should show an ability to make positive academic and personal choices no matter the circumstances they face. Should be active in sports.

Salutation: To S.D. #81 Scholarship Selection Committee
 DONOR: Fran Breton
 VALUE: \$500.00

CUPE LOCAL 2167 BURSARY

Preference given first to students who are CUPE members, next to students who are children of local CUPE. Good academic standing. CUPE career oriented post-secondary program. If no members or children of local members apply, then the scholarship will not be available.

Salutation: To S.D. #81 Scholarship Selection Committee
 DONOR: CUPE Local 2167
 VALUE: \$500 (2)

DR. KASSA MEMORIAL ANNUAL HEALTH SCHOLARSHIP

Has applied and been accepted to post-secondary health related program (science, medicine, nursing, pharmacy, radiology). Demonstration of positive community involvement. A positive role model in school and in the community. High academic achievement, sufficient to being accepted into the field of study within two years.

Salutation: To S.D. #81 Scholarship Selection Committee
 DONOR: Dr. Kassa's family
 VALUE: \$2000.00

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DR. MOSTERT ANNUAL HEALTH SCHOLARSHIP

Has applied and been accepted to post-secondary health related program (science, medicine, nursing, pharmacy, radiology). Demonstration of positive community involvement. A positive role model in school and in the community. High academic achievement, sufficient to being accepted into the field of study within two years.

Salutation: To S.D. #81 Scholarship Selection Committee
 DONOR: Dr. Mostert
 VALUE: \$2000.00

FORT NELSON DISTRICT ADMINISTRATORS' ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP

Minimum B average in Grade 11 and 12. Preference will be given to a student who has applied to and received conditional acceptance from a post-secondary institution into any recognized program.

Salutation: To S.D. #81 Scholarship Selection Committee
 DONOR: Fort Nelson Administrators' Association
 VALUE: \$500

FORT NELSON DISTRICT TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to a graduating student entering an education program. If no student signifies this intent, it will be awarded to a student going on to any post-secondary program. Effective communication skills, leadership in the school setting, and good grades. Must be enrolled in a full-time program as outlined by the institution chosen by the student.

Salutation: To S.D. #81 Scholarship Selection Committee
 DONOR: Fort Nelson District Teachers' Association
 VALUE: \$1500

FORT NELSON YETI LEGACY SCHOLARSHIPS

Two scholarships to be awarded to one male and one female graduate student who have achieved high academic standing while being involved in both high school and community sports during their high school career. These students must be entering a recognized trade school, college, or university upon graduation. Must be a Canadian citizen.

Salutation: To S.D. #81 Scholarship Selection Committee
 DONOR: Fort Nelson Yeti
 VALUE: \$500 x 2

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THE JEAN GARDNER, CPA, MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP SPONSORED BY MNP

To be awarded to a student entering into a business program, preferably someone going into the accounting field.

Salutation: To S.D. #81 Scholarship Selection Committee
DONOR: MNP
VALUE: \$1000

NRRM ADMINISTRATIVE BURSARY

Awarded to a student who has applied and been accepted to a post-secondary program of study leading to employment in an administrative or finance-oriented occupation which would lend itself to employment in a municipally related profession or career such as administration, human resources, civil engineering & planning, finance, recreation or economic development. Consideration will be given to demonstrated academic achievements and personal aptitude and attitude.

Salutation: To S.D. #81 Scholarship Selection Committee
DONOR: Northern Rockies Regional District
VALUE: \$1000

NRRM MANAGEMENT GROUP SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to a student with good academic standing, who has applied and been accepted to a post-secondary program with a focus on government or administration. Priority will be given to children/grandchildren of the NRRM Management Group.

Salutation: To S.D. #81 Scholarship Selection Committee
DONOR: Town of Fort Nelson
VALUE: \$1000

NRRM TECHNICAL TRAINING BURSARY

Awarded to a student who has applied and been accepted to a post-secondary program of study leading to employment in a technical and/or trades-oriented occupation which would lend itself to employment in a municipally related profession or career such as public works, recreation, engineering & planning, airport operations or emergency services. Consideration will be given to demonstrated academic achievements and personal aptitude and attitude.

Salutation: To S.D. #81 Scholarship Selection Committee
DONOR: Northern Rockies Regional District
VALUE: \$1000

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ROTARY CLUB OF FORT NELSON BURSARY

The Rotary Club of Fort Nelson seeks to recognize and support students who embody the core values of Rotary, particularly Service Above Self. Scholarship recipients will demonstrate a proven dedication to community involvement, volunteerism, and a strong desire to give back. Enrollment in a recognized post-secondary program aligned with personal and professional growth.

Salutation: To S.D. #81 Scholarship Selection Committee
 DONOR: Rotary Club of Fort Nelson
 VALUE: \$1500

SECURE ENERGY SCHOLARSHIPS

Awarded to students pursuing any post-secondary education and who have a financial need. The students must demonstrate determination and perseverance leading to their career but do not have to be the top academic student.

Salutation: To S.D. #81 Scholarship Selection Committee
 DONOR: Secure Energy
 VALUE: \$500 (x3)

JIM THOMSON BURSARY

Entering an NLC non-university transfer program. If no students are attending NLC, the award goes to a student enrolling in another college or technical school. Good academic standing, citizenship, and financial need. Must be a Canadian citizen.

Salutation: To S.D. #81 Scholarship Selection Committee
 DONOR: Mr. Jim Thomson
 VALUE: \$250

U-CAN DRIVE SCHOOL OF DRIVING INDIGENOUS STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP

This award is available to any Indigenous student who is graduating from SD 81 and is pursuing further education in college, university or trade school. Preference will be given to a student who has demonstrated community service such as participation in sports, music or arts related activities. Must be a Canadian citizen.

The individual must write a brief essay describing their future career plans.

Salutation: To Harminder S. Dhillon
 DONOR: Harminder S. Dhillon
 VALUE: \$500.00

**Upload all PDF documents on the Google Form by 3:30 p.m. May 8, 2026
No late applications will be accepted.**

U-CAN DRIVE SCHOOL OF DRIVING PUBLIC SERVICE SCHOLARSHIP

This award is available to any student who is graduating from SD 81 and is pursuing further training as a Fire Fighter, RCMP or in government service. Preference will be given to a student who has demonstrated community service such as participation in sports, music or arts related activities. Must be a Canadian citizen.

The individual must write a brief essay describing their future career plans.

Salutation: To Harminder S. Dhillon
DONOR: Harminder S. Dhillon
VALUE: \$500.00

U-CAN DRIVE SCHOOL OF DRIVING TRADES SCHOLARSHIP

This award is available to any student who is graduating from SD 81 and is pursuing further education in trades, including certification as a professional driver. Preference will be given to a student who has demonstrated community service such as participation in sports, music or arts related activities. Must be a Canadian citizen.

The individual must write a brief essay describing their future career plans.

Salutation: To Harminder S. Dhillon
DONOR: Harminder S. Dhillon
VALUE: \$500.00

U-CAN DRIVE SCHOOL OF DRIVING UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP

This award is available to any student who is graduating from SD 81 and is pursuing further education in medicine, engineering, education or any other university professional degree.. Preference will be given to a student who has demonstrated community service such as participation in sports, music or arts related activities. Must be a Canadian citizen.

The individual must write a brief essay describing their future career plans.

Salutation: To Harminder S. Dhillon
DONOR: Harminder S. Dhillon
VALUE: \$500.00

**Upload all PDF documents on the Google Form by 3:30 p.m. May 8, 2026
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UNIFOR LOCAL 862 BURSARY

Son or daughter of UNIFOR Local 862 member. If no member's child applies they will be given to a student going into Power Engineering or a Red Seal Trade.

Salutation: To S.D. #81 Scholarship Selection Committee
 DONOR: Unifor Local 862 members
 VALUE: \$1000 (2)

WESTERN INSPIRATIONAL AWARD

Has overcome adversity (mental/physical disability), financial hardship, family issues and/or who has displayed outstanding community and/or school spirit as an organizer, participant, coordinator and/or who has demonstrated inspirational conduct whether an act of heroism or leadership in a crisis. Must be a Canadian citizen.

The selection will be based on a 500 word essay written by the student describing how they have overcome adversity, displayed outstanding community and/or school spirit or how they demonstrated inspirational conduct.

Salutation: To S.D. #81 Scholarship Selection Committee
 DONOR: Western Community Insurance
 VALUE: \$750.00

**Upload all PDF documents on the Google Form by 3:30 p.m. May 8, 2026
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B. DISTRICT/AUTHORITY AWARDS

[District/Authority Scholarships](#) are given out by the BC Government. They recognize graduating BC students for excellence in a chosen area of interest or strength. Winners receive a \$1250 scholarship voucher to use towards post-secondary tuition. These awards are chosen by the SD #81 Scholarship Committee. It takes time to prepare a good portfolio, so an early start is always better.

Each year, the Ministry of Education allocates awards to each B.C. School District. The School District then rewards graduating students for their *excellent and outside achievement in any of the following non-academic fields*:

- **(APLSK) Applied Design, Skills, and Technologies** (e.g., Business, Technology, Home Economics, Media Arts, Tourism)
- **(COMSERV) Community Service (Volunteer Activity)**, which includes awareness of local, global, and cultural issues
- **(FINE) Fine Arts** (e.g., Dance, Drama, Music, Visual Arts)
- **(INDLC) Indigenous Languages and Culture**, demonstrated at school or in the community
- **(LNG) Languages from the Languages Curriculum or External Assessments**, including AP and IB courses
- **(PHYSAC) Physical Activity (and Health)** (e.g., Athletics, Dance, Gymnastics)
- **(TRADES) Technical and Trades Training** (e.g., Coding, Culinary Arts, Mechanics, Robotics, Woodwork)

Basic Eligibility Requirements:

In order to be eligible to compete for a District/Authority Award, a student must:

- be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident (landed immigrant)
- be a BC resident
- be enrolled at Fort Nelson Secondary School or Toad River School this school year and have fulfilled their graduation requirements
- be graduating in the same year the scholarship is awarded
 - Fulfill the B.C. graduation requirements of either the B.C. Graduation Program or the Adult Graduation Program by August 31 of their graduating year
- create a portfolio to showcase their achievement in their chosen area
- meet the criteria of the SD#81 Scholarship Selection Committee
- have exhibited good citizenship, contributing positively to both our school and community
- have not previously received a District/Authority Award or a District/Authority Scholarship

**Upload all PDF documents on the Google Form by 3:30 p.m. May 8, 2026
No late applications will be accepted.**

How to apply for a District/Authority Award:

In order to win a District/Authority Award, a student must:

- meet the above Basic Eligibility Requirements
- display **superior achievement** in a non-academic area,
- meet school standards in attendance, punctuality, behaviour, and attitude
- **apply to the School District #81 Scholarship Committee, uploading:**
 - **a personal essay/scholarship letter**
 - **a portfolio** of work completed over the course of the school year; this portfolio should provide an indication of work and experiences related to future plans.

Notes on portfolio preparation:

Your **portfolio** must show work completed over the course of the school year; this portfolio should provide an indication of in school and out of school work/ experiences/ projects/activities, as well as experiences related to your future plans.

Portfolios must be prepared digitally, in an uploadable format that can be opened on any device.

Redeeming a District/Authority Award

In November of 2025, the Ministry of Education will send you an envelope containing a letter, a certificate, and a voucher valued at one thousand two hundred and fifty (\$1250) dollars. To receive the monies from this voucher it is necessary for you to:

- Enrol with a post-secondary institution that is designated by the Province of B.C. (i.e., approved for Canada Student Loans), or a post-secondary program provider that is approved by SkilledTradesBC.
- Confirm the information on the voucher is correct.
- Have your voucher validated, on the back, by the Registrar's office of the post-secondary institution you are registered in and attending, and **return the completed voucher to the Ministry of Education for processing before its expiry date.** You have 5 years to redeem the voucher.

Note: The mailing instructions are indicated on the front of the voucher. We recommend that you (the student) mail the voucher to the address provided rather than leave it with the post secondary institution. **If your address has changed from that printed on the voucher, please provide your current mailing address.** Please allow six to eight weeks for completion of the redemption process.

Upload all PDF documents on the Google Form by 3:30 p.m. May 8, 2026
No late applications will be accepted.

STUDENT CHECKLIST for SCHOOL DISTRICT #81 SCHOLARSHIPS

1. For Scholarships Selected by Donor

___ PDF formatted personal essay/scholarship letter for each individual donor

___ PDF attachments:

1. scholarship resume
2. letter of reference from SD #81 employee
3. letter of reference from community member
4. transcript of Q3 marks

2. For Scholarships Selected by SD #81 Committee

___ One PDF copy of a personal essay/scholarship letter

___ PDF attachments:

1. a list of the scholarships selected by SD #81 Committee that you are applying for. This is instead of individual letters.
2. scholarship resume
3. letter of reference from SD #81 employee
4. letter of reference from community member
5. transcript of Q3 marks

3. District/Authority Awards

___ PDF copy of personal essay/scholarship letter

___ Portfolio

**Upload all PDF documents on the Google Form by 3:30 p.m. May 8, 2026
No late applications will be accepted.**