

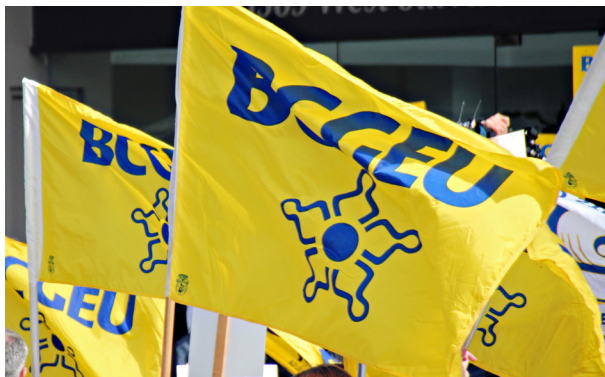


The high cost of higher learning in Canada:*

- On average, undergraduate tuition is \$7,451
- 54% of students work while in school – and work 17 hours a week on average
- 50% of post-secondary students have debt
- Over 489,000 students have federal student loans, together worth over \$2.7 billion
- Average student debt has increased by 28% between 1999 and 2012
- In 2014 – 2015, 256,000 borrowers were struggling to pay back their student loans
- 4 in 10 students report financial concerns and debt impacting their decision to continue their education

Education for all

The BCGEU strongly supports universal access to quality public education – from early learning and care to higher learning.



Who we are

The BC Government and Service Employees' Union (BCGEU) is one of the largest and most diverse unions in British Columbia. We represent over 74,000 members who work in the provincial public service, the broader public and private sectors.

We trace our beginnings back to the early 1900s when provincial civil servants first formed an association to address their working conditions.

Since then, the BCGEU has continued to organize and represent thousands of workers outside of government – including health care, community-based social services, post-secondary education, libraries and local governments, highways maintenance, credit unions, and casinos – and we continue to grow!

The BCGEU is affiliated to district labour councils and the BC Federation of Labour, and is a component of NUPGE, the National Union of Public and General Employees. Through NUPGE, we are affiliated to the Canadian Labour Congress (CLC), and to Public Services International (PSI) and the International Union of Food, Agricultural, Hotel, Restaurant, Catering, Tobacco and Allied Workers' Association (IUF).



Apply Now!

BCGEU Scholarships 2018

*Sources: Statistics Canada, Canadian University Survey Consortium, Canada Student Loans Program Annual Report, Office of the Parliamentary Budget Officer.

Application details

Eligibility

Applicant must be:

- A BCGEU member, or related to a current retired, or deceased BCGEU member or staff; and
- A student or prospective post-secondary or higher learning student enrolled, registered or planning to attend an eligible educational institution in 2018.

Eligible relatives include spouses, parents, and children or grandchildren (including foster, adopted and step children and grandchildren).

Eligible educational institutions must be designated by Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC).

Previous BCGEU scholarship recipients are not eligible to apply.

Essay

In addition to personal information and details of your education plan, you will be asked to submit a short essay of 450 - 500 words.

This year's essay question is:

British Columbia has a long history of protest and activism that has shaped our province. What lessons, if any, can today's trade unions learn from this history? How important is protest and activism to making change possible? Use a historical or contemporary example of social movements, protest and activism that you find inspiring to consider these questions.

We encourage you to interview an activist, conduct original research or base your essay on personal experience.

Awards

Delegates to our 2017 Constitutional Convention voted to increase our annual scholarship program to \$60,000.



We are very proud of our scholarship program. Over the years, we have supported hundreds of students to achieve their learning goals."

- BCGEU president Stephanie Smith



Awards for full-time students are \$2,000 and for part-time students, \$1,000. Our scholarship program is funded by the dues of our 74,000 members.

Deadline

The deadline for submitting your application is:
Sunday, April 29, 2018 at midnight

Apply now online at www.bcgeu.ca/scholarships

Additional opportunities

You may also be eligible for one of these five scholarships worth \$1,500 awarded by our national union, NUPGE:

Brian Fudge Memorial Scholarship
Scholarship for Indigenous Students
Scholarship for Students of Colour
Terry Fox Memorial Scholarship
Tommy Douglas Scholarship

For information on these scholarships, including eligibility criteria, visit www.nupge.ca. The submission deadline for these scholarships is June 6, 2018.

