



**B.C. Government and Service Employees' Union**  
A Component of NUPGE (CLC)

March 17, 2021

**Attention: Scholarship Contact**

To whom it may concern,

The BC Government and Service Employees' Union (BCGEU) is pleased to once again offer scholarships for post-secondary studies undertaken by BCGEU members, staff and their families.

We are proud that our scholarship program, funded by our 80,000 members' dues, will offer \$60,000 in 2021 to full and part-time students. Successful students are eligible for scholarships of \$2,000 for full-time and \$1,000 for part-time studies.

We recognize students with an Individual Education Plan (IEP) may find the traditional essay question challenging. Accordingly, these applicants may submit their answer to the essay question in audio or video format.

Details of our scholarship program, including eligibility requirements and link to the online application may be found in the attached brochure and online at [https://www.bcgeu.ca/2021\\_bcgeu\\_scholarships](https://www.bcgeu.ca/2021_bcgeu_scholarships). Applications must be submitted online by **midnight on Sunday, May 9, 2021.**

We appreciate your assistance in promoting these scholarships to eligible students.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

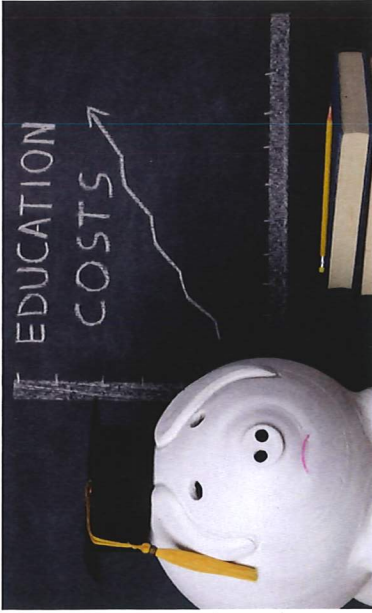
Yours truly,

Stephanie Smith

President

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MoveUp

Encl.



## 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.

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



## 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 77,000 to 80,000 members who work in the provincial public service as well as 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. Last year, we celebrated 100 years of building worker power and defending public services.

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 the National Union of Public and General Employees (NUPGE). Through NUPGE, we are affiliated to the Canadian Labour Congress (CLC), Public Services International (PSI) and the International Union of Food, Agricultural, Hotel, Restaurant, Catering, Tobacco and Allied Workers' Association (IUF).

[www.bcg.eu.ca](http://www.bcg.eu.ca)

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# BCGEU Scholarships 2021

Apply Now!





# Application details



## Eligibility

Applicant must be:

- A BCGEU member in good standing, 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 2021.

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 providing personal information and details about your education plan, you will be asked to submit a short essay of 450 - 500 words in response to one of four questions.

Look for the application, including options for a short essay at: [www.bcgau.ca/2021\\_bcgau\\_scholarships](http://www.bcgau.ca/2021_bcgau_scholarships)

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



## Awards

Our annual scholarship programme of \$60,000 offers awards of \$2,000 for full-time students and \$1,000 for part-time students. Scholarships are funded by the dues of our 80,000 members



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



## Deadline

The deadline for submitting your application is Sunday, May 9, 2021 at midnight. Apply now online at [www.bcgau.ca/2021\\_bcgau\\_scholarships](http://www.bcgau.ca/2021_bcgau_scholarships)

## Additional opportunities

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

- Brian Fudge Memorial Scholarship
- Scholarship for Indigenous Students
- Terry Fox Memorial Scholarship
- Tommy Douglas Scholarship



For information on these scholarships, including eligibility criteria and the deadline for submissions, visit [www.nupe.ca](http://www.nupe.ca).

