



APSEA

Serving Children and Youth Who are Deaf,
Hard of Hearing/Blind or Visually Impaired

GUIDELINES

GRADUATION / END OF SCHOOL YEAR AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS FUNDED BY THE APSEA BLIND or VISUALLY IMPAIRED (BVI) TRUST FUND

GUIDELINES

Students who are blind or visually impaired may be nominated for awards by any APSEA staff who have been directly involved with providing supports for the student. Nominations should be made on the attached application form and forwarded to the Provincial Supervisor (Except for scholarship applications, which should be submitted directly to the Trust Fund Committee as noted below). Cheques will be sent to the individual Itinerant Teacher responsible for the student who has received the award for presentation during graduation ceremonies. Ensure all applications are submitted as outlined below.

LIST OF GRADUATION/END OF YEAR AWARDS

Technology Support Program

Amount: Maximum of up to \$10,000/applicant

Note: To ensure the equipment will be issued in the spring or summer, the completed application form must be submitted to the Provincial Supervisor by **May 1st** of the current school year. If the request is submitted after May 1st, the equipment will be issued when available.

Criteria

- Enrolled in final year of public school
- Under 21 years of age at the start of the final year of public school
- Student is entering into the workforce/community
- Demonstrated independence with technology being requested
- Resident of Atlantic Canada

Exception: An application may be submitted for a student who has not yet turned 21 years of age and is within 12 months of leaving school.

Additional Requirements:

- List of technology being requested
- Letter from Assistive Technology Specialist outlining the level of independence with using the technology requested
- Letter from student outlining intended use and benefits of technology (Note: A member of the student's school team may submit the letter on their behalf, as necessary)

Applications for scholarships and graduation/end of year awards must be received by April 1st annually.

APSEA Scholarships for Post-Secondary Education for Students who are Blind or Visually Impaired

(Note: This application must be completed and submitted by the student.)

Submit completed application to the following:

Administrative Assistant, BVI Programs

5940 South Street, Halifax, NS B3H 1S6

Fax: 902-425-6166

Email: bvi@apsea.ca

Amount: Maximum of up to \$1,500/applicant

Selection criteria:

- Graduating from high school, commencing post-secondary studies, under 21 years of age
- must show potential for success in chosen program
- resident of Atlantic Canada

➤ **Additional Requirements for Scholarship Applicants:**

- ✓ Copy of applicant's most recent eye report
- ✓ Current high school transcript
- ✓ Three letters of reference (character, academic, and one other)
- ✓ Copy of Letter of Acceptance into a post-secondary program

Sir Frederick Fraser Award

(Note: For the \$500 (Grade 12) Award, the application must be completed and submitted by the student.)

Submit completed application to the following:

Administrative Assistant, BVI Programs

5940 South Street, Halifax, NS B3H 1S6

Fax: 902-425-6166

Email: bvi@apsea.ca

- Awarded to a student who demonstrates strong academic performance, is an active participant in school extra-curricular activities and is an active participant in community activities.
- Submit a copy of the student's most current report card and details regarding the level and type of extra-curricular and community activities with this application.
- Award: \$500 (Grade 12), \$100 (Grades 9-11), \$75 (Grades 6-8), \$50 (Grades Primary-5).

Lowell Legge Award

- Awarded to a student who demonstrates progress in the areas of social interaction/social skills or organization skills.
- Submit details of a specific example of progress with this application.
- Award: \$100 (senior), \$75 (junior/middle), \$50 (elementary).

Mary Rhind Award

- Awarded to a student who demonstrates progress with Orientation and Mobility Skills during the year.
- Submit details regarding specific examples of progress with their Orientation and Mobility skills with this application.
- Nominations must be submitted in consultation with and signed by the provincial Orientation and Mobility Specialist.
- Award: \$100 (senior), \$75 (junior/middle), and \$50 (elementary).

Mary Bertha Campbell Braille Award

- Awarded to a student who demonstrates progress in the use of the Unified English Braille code.
- Submit a sample of braille from September and April to demonstrate the skill development.
- Award: \$100 (senior), \$75 (junior/middle), and \$50 (elementary/ beginning braille readers).

E. Chesley Allen Music Prize

- Awarded to a student who demonstrates progress in music as an individual or in a group setting (Solo performer, choir, band, etc.).
- Submit details to support the music progress outlining the level of participation as an individual and/ or as a member of a choir and/or band.
- Award: \$100 (senior), \$75 (junior/middle), and \$50 (elementary).

Ronnie Corbett-Guenette Citizenship Award

- Awarded to a student who is actively involved in school and school related extra-curricular activities and demonstrates academic achievement.
- Submit details of the extra-curricular activities outlining the level of involvement and the current academic progress with this application.
- Award: \$125 (senior), \$75 (junior/middle), and \$50 (elementary).

Art/Drama Award

- Awarded to a student who demonstrates skill and actively participates in art or drama (i.e. painting, sculpting, drawing, musical theatre, etc.) The nominee should participate in art/drama activities on a regular basis and enjoy self-expression through these media.
- Submit details of the participation including pictures of the artwork (if applicable) with this application.
- Award: \$75.

Cooperative Education/Work Placement Performance

- Awarded to a student who is graduating and has demonstrated commitment, dedication and sense of responsibility toward work placement/experience.
- Submit details regarding the placement/experience and the student's progress.
- Submit a letter from the employer of the work placement/experience that outlines details such as demonstrated effort, punctuality, dependability and interpersonal communication with this application.
- Award: at least \$250/award

Technology Award

- Awarded to a student who demonstrates progress or increase in knowledge of computer technology, software or other types of technology.
- Submit details to support this progress with this application.
- Award: \$100 (senior), \$75 (junior/middle), and \$50 (elementary).

Sports Award

- Awarded to a student in recognition of participation and achievement in sports at the competitive level (team or individual.).
- Submit a letter from the student's coach outlining the skills, enthusiasm and sportsmanship with this application.
- Award: \$100 (senior), \$75 (junior/middle), and \$50 (elementary).

Keyboarding Award

- Awarded to a student who demonstrates progress with the development of keyboard skills with an emphasis on accuracy and speed.
- Submit details outlining test results of speed and accuracy. Test results showing the student's development of speed and accuracy throughout the school year must be included.
- Award amounts are \$100 (senior), \$75 (junior/middle), and \$50 (elementary).

Functional Living Skills

- Awarded to a student who demonstrated progress in any area of functional living skills (e.g., personal hygiene, household management, organization skills).
- Submit details that outlines the progress in the identified area(s) with this application.
- Award: \$100 (senior), \$75 (junior/middle), and \$50 (elementary).

Judi Johnson Math Award

- Awarded to a student who demonstrated a significant progress in math skills during the current school year.
- Submit details to support the progress of the student in math with this application.
- Award amounts are \$200 (Senior), \$50 (Junior/Middle), \$50 (Elementary).

Special Accomplishment Award

- Awarded to a student who has reached a special accomplishment through determination and dedication in reaching their goals.
- Submit details to support this special accomplishment by outlining the goal that was set and the progress to achieve this goal with this application.
- One award of \$100 is available annually.

Student Leadership Award

- The Student Leadership Award shall be presented annually to a student who demonstrates exceptional leadership involvement in their school and/or community. This student is committed to the spirit of the school and/or community.
- Students enrolled in Grades 9-12 are eligible to apply for the **\$300.00 Leadership Award**.
- Leaders are people who take action, show initiative, and go above and beyond what is expected. The recipient of this award demonstrates the following leadership characteristics:

Personal Qualities:

- dependable and accountable
- committed to academic achievement
- demonstrates initiative and is self-motivated/directed
- empathetic and sensitive to the needs of others
- works effectively in a group (able to delegate/influence in a positive way)
- self-advocates

Participation:

- participates in a variety of activities in school and/or the community
 - maintains good relations with peers and adults
 - is involved in volunteering
 - initiates and commits to school, social, community events
- Students who exhibit at least one characteristic from each of these two areas may be nominated by their Itinerant Teacher, member of their school team, or member of their community.
 - Extra consideration should be given to an individual whose participation may have become progressively more active over time and whose leadership activities are distributed and span across the student's school career.

Application Process:

The following documents must be included with the application:

- ✓ Letter from the nominee describing their involvement in a leadership capacity at school and/or in the community
- ✓ Two letters of recommendation (school team member, school council chair, member of the community, or APSEA staff) which should, where applicable:
 - ▶ List the activities or organizations with which this student is or has been engaged to demonstrate support of the criteria.
 - ▶ Give examples how this student has contributed to their school and/or community.
 - ▶ Comment on how this student balances being a good student and a young leader.

A maximum of one award of \$300 is available annually.

Awards for Students who are blind or visually impaired with additional exceptionalities

a) Exemplary Performance - Work Placement

- Awarded to a student graduating from high school who demonstrated commitment, dedication, and sense of responsibility toward work placement experience.
- Submit details to support the progress with independence and social interaction with this application.
- A letter of recommendation/support from the employer must accompany the application.
- One graduating student in each of the four Atlantic Provinces will receive an award of at least \$250.

b) Exemplary Performance - Communication/Social Skills

- Awarded to a student graduating from high school who shows enthusiasm, inspiration, appropriate behaviour, and courage demonstrated through their day-to-day performance in school.
- Submit details to support the areas of progress with this application.
- A letter of recommendation from the student's lead teacher must accompany the application.
- One graduating student in each of the four Atlantic Provinces will receive an award of at least \$100.

c) Functional Living Skills

- Awarded to a student who demonstrates progress in functional living skills such as dressing, personal hygiene, meal preparation, or demonstration of increased independence.
- Submit details to support progress with this application.
- Award: \$100 (senior), \$75 (junior/middle), or \$50 (elementary).

d) Motor Development and Communication Skills

- Awarded to a student who demonstrated progress in the area of motor development and communication skills as outlined in the student's school education plan.
- Submit details to support progress with this application.
- Award: \$100 (senior), \$75 (junior/middle), or \$50 (elementary).

e) Prevocational Training Award

- Awarded to the student at the junior/middle and senior high school levels for participation and demonstrated success in the development of prevocational work skills.
- Submit details to support the development of prevocational work skills with this application.
- Award: \$100 (senior) and \$75 (junior/middle).

APPLICATION FORM

GRADUATION / END OF YEAR AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS FUNDED BY THE APSEA BLIND OR VISUALLY IMPAIRED (BVI) TRUST FUND

GRADUATION/END OF YEAR AWARDS:

Which graduation / end of year award(s) are you applying for? (Multiple award applications are permitted)

<input type="checkbox"/> Technology Support Program	
<input type="checkbox"/> APSEA Scholarship for Post-Secondary Education for Students who are Blind or Visually Impaired	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sir Frederick Fraser Award	<input type="checkbox"/> Technology Award
<input type="checkbox"/> Lowell Legge Award	<input type="checkbox"/> Sports Award
<input type="checkbox"/> Mary Rhind Award	<input type="checkbox"/> Keyboarding Award
<input type="checkbox"/> Mary Bertha Campbell Braille Award	<input type="checkbox"/> Functional Living Skills
<input type="checkbox"/> E. Chesley Allen Music Prize	<input type="checkbox"/> Special Accomplishment Award
<input type="checkbox"/> Ronnie Corbett-Guenette Citizenship Award	<input type="checkbox"/> Student Leadership Award
<input type="checkbox"/> Art/Drama Award	<input type="checkbox"/> Judy Johnson Math Award
<input type="checkbox"/> Cooperative Education/Work Placement Performance	

Awards for Students with Disabilities in Addition to a Visual Impairment

<input type="checkbox"/>	Exemplary Performance – Work Placement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Exemplary Performance – Communication/Social Skills
<input type="checkbox"/>	Functional Living Skills
<input type="checkbox"/>	Motor Development and Communication Skills
<input type="checkbox"/>	Prevocational Training Award

APSEA Scholarship for Post-Secondary applicants, please complete the Academic Information section.

ACADEMIC INFORMATION:

Applicant Name	
Permanent Resident of Atlantic Canada (Yes or No)	
Proposed Program of Study	
Educational Institution	
Year of Study (1, 2, 3, 4)	
Anticipated Date of Graduation	
Briefly outline your future career or profession.	

Additional Information for Graduation / End of Year Awards

**APPLICATION FOR GRADUATION / END OF YEAR AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS
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Applicant Name:	
Name of School:	
Grade:	
Staff recommendation:	
List of supporting documentation submitted as outlined in criteria of award(s)/Technology Support Program:	
Additional Comments:	
Itinerant Teacher:	
Assistive Technology Specialist (Technology Support Program):	
O&M Specialist (Mary Rhind Award):	
Provincial Supervisor Signature:	
Date:	

I certify that the information on this application is, to the best of my knowledge, true and complete.

Name of Person Completing Form: _____

Relationship of Applicant (if not self): _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

**Successful applicants will be notified in writing.
Payment will be made once all requirements are met.**

FOR APSEA STAFF USE:	
Application Approval	
Date Application Reviewed:	
Award(s) Approved:	
Total Amount Approved:	
Signature of Director of Programs for Students who are Blind or Visually Impaired:	

Additional requirements for approved Scholarship Award applicants. Must be received prior to payment.

Letter from Admissions Office verifying enrolment,
dated after the program has begun:

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Applicant's Social Insurance Number (enter in box):

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Payment Approval

Signature of Director of Finance & Administration:	
Date:	