



Graduation / End of School Year Awards and Scholarships Funded by the APSEA Blind and Visually Impaired (BVI) Trust Fund

Guidelines

Learners who are blind and visually impaired may be nominated for awards by any APSEA staff who have been directly involved with providing support for the learner. Nominations should be made on the attached application form and forwarded to the Supervisor of Programs – BVI (Except for scholarship applications, which should be submitted directly to the Trust Fund Committee as noted below). Ensure all applications are submitted as outlined.

List of Graduation / End of Year Awards

Technology Support Program

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

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

Criteria:

- Enrolled in final year of public school
- Under 21 years of age at the start of the final year of public school
- Learner is entering into the workforce/community or attending a bridging program (ex. ACHIEVE)
- Demonstrated independence with technology being requested
- Resident of Atlantic Canada

Exception: An application may be submitted for a learner 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 Education Support Teacher-Access Technology outlining the level of independence with using the technology requested
- Letter from learner outlining intended use and benefits of technology (Note: A member of the learner'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 Scholarship for Post-Secondary Education for Learners who are Blind and Visually Impaired

Note: This application must be completed and submitted by the learner

Submit completed application to the following:

Administrative Assistant, BVI Programs
102-7071 Bayers Road, Halifax, NS B3L 2C2
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: This application must be completed and submitted by the learner

Submit completed application to the following:

Administrative Assistant, BVI Programs
102-7071 Bayers Road, Halifax, NS B3L 2C2
Fax: 902-425-6166
Email: bvi@apsea.ca

- Awarded to a learner 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 learner'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 learner 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 learner 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 Education Support Specialist - Orientation and Mobility
- Award: \$100 (senior), \$75 (junior/middle), and \$50 (elementary).

Mary Bertha Campbell Braille Award

- Awarded to a learner 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 learner 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 learner 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 learner 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 learner who is graduating and has demonstrated commitment, dedication and sense of responsibility toward work placement/experience.
- Submit details regarding the placement/experience and the learner'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 learner 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 learner in recognition of participation and achievement in sports at the competitive level (team or individual.).
- Submit a letter from the learner'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 learner 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 learner'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 learner who demonstrated progress in any area of functional living skills (e.g., personal hygiene, household management, organization skills).
- Submit details that outline 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 learner who demonstrated significant progress in math skills during the current school year.
- Submit details to support the progress of the learner in math with this application.
- Award amounts are \$200 (Senior), \$50 (Junior/Middle), \$50 (Elementary).

Special Accomplishment Award

- Awarded to a learner who set a goal to achieve for this current school year that required personal commitment and responsibility above and beyond the learner's school program.
- Submit details to support this special accomplishment by outlining the goal that was set and the actions that were completed to achieve a positive result.
- One award of \$100 is available annually.

Learner Leadership Award

- Awarded to a learner who demonstrates exceptional leadership involvement in their school and/or community. This learner is committed to the spirit of the school and/or community.
- Learners 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
- Learners who exhibit at least one characteristic from each of these two areas may be nominated by their Education Support 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 learner'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 employee) which should, where applicable:
 - List the activities or organizations with which this learner is or has been engaged to demonstrate support of the criteria.
 - Give examples of how this learner has contributed to their school and/or community.
 - Comment on how this learner balances being a good learner and a young leader.
- A maximum of one award of \$300 is available annually.

Awards for Learners who are blind and visually impaired with additional exceptionalities**Exemplary Performance - Work Placement**

- Awarded to a learner 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 learner in each of the four Atlantic Provinces will receive an award of at least \$250.

Exemplary Performance - Communication/Social Skills

- Awarded to a learner 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 learner's lead teacher must accompany the application.
- One graduating learner in each of the four Atlantic Provinces will receive an award of \$100.

Functional Living Skills

- Awarded to a learner 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).

Motor Development and Communication Skills

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

Prevocational Training Award

- Awarded to the learner 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 and Visually Impaired (BVI) Trust Fund

Check the graduation / end of year award(s) you are applying for. (Multiple award applications are permitted)

Technology Support Program

Scholarship for Post-Secondary Education for Learners who are Blind or Visually Impaired

Sir Frederick Fraser (Grade 12) Award

Sir Frederick Fraser Award

Lowell Legge Award

Mary Rhind O&M Award

Mary Campbell Bertha Braille Award

E. Chesley Allen Music Prize

Ronnie Corbett-Guenette Citizenship Award

Art-Drama Award

Cooperative Education and Work Placement Performance Award

Technology Award

Sports Award

Keyboarding Award

Functional Living Skills

Judy Johnson Math Award

Special Accomplishment Award

Learner Leadership Award

Awards for Learners who are Blind or Visually Impaired with Additional Exceptionalities

Exemplary Performance – Work Placement

Exemplary Performance – Communication Social Skills

Functional Living Skills

Motor Development and Communication Skills

Prevocational Training Award

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

Academic Information:

Applicant Name:

Permanent Resident of Atlantic Canada:

Proposed Program of Study:

Educational Institution:

Upcoming Year of Study:

Anticipated Date of Graduation:

Briefly outline your future career or profession:

Additional Information for Graduation / End of Year Awards

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:

Education Support Teacher:

Education Support Teacher - Access Technology (Technology Support Program):

Education Support Specialist – O&M (Mary Rhind Award):

Supervisor of Programs-BVI - 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 COMMITTEE USE

Application Approval

Date Application Reviewed:	
Award(s) Approved:	
Total Amount Approved:	
Signature of Director of Programs - BVI:	

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:

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

Payment Approval

Signature of Director of Finance & Administration:	
Date:	