

Black Feather Fund Entrance Scholarship 2024 Application

Purpose of Award:

The Vancouver Foundation aims to build healthy, vibrant, and livable communities across British Columbia. Vancouver Foundation accomplishes their work by harnessing the gifts of energy, ideas, time, and money of caring residents to make meaningful and lasting impacts. They are Canada's largest community foundation, have been investing in communities since 1943, and holds more than 1,600 endowment funds, including the Black Feather Fund.

The Black Feather Fund was established in recognition of the struggles thousands of young Indigenous people in British Columbia have gone through in the last century. The founders wish to make a small contribution to the journey Indigenous people of a new generation are committed to undertaking. The founders are humbled by the challenges ahead for this new generation, but are confident education is an important element in that renaissance. It is true, every journey begins with a single step; the Black Feather fund is intended to provide financial assistance to those setting out in pursuit of their educational dreams.

Eligibility:

The Black Feather Fund Entrance Scholarship is awarded to two (2) full-time Indigenous students entering NVIT enrolled in a minimum 80% course load in any post-secondary level program at NVIT. (College Readiness, Bridging to Trades and Employment Skills Access programs are not eligible.) Students must have met a minimum 65% (C+) grade point average in the last two (2) years of secondary level coursework and demonstrate strong extracurricular community and/or school involvement. Students must also describe their career plans. Successful recipients are eligible to apply for a renewal scholarship in their second year of studies.

Criteria:

Please complete the following checklist to ensure the application is complete. Incomplete applications will not be accepted. Upon registering into a post-secondary level program at NVIT, students will submit:

New Applicant:

- a completed and signed application;
- proof of Indigenous ancestry (copy of status card, metis card, or letter from Band, First Nation or Tribal Council);
- official secondary school transcripts showing the last two (2) years of completed coursework with minimum 65% (C+) grade point average;
- character reference letter, written by an instructor, demonstrating the student's extracurricular school involvement;
- character reference letter, written by a community member, demonstrating the student's extracurricular community involvement;
- a typed-written, 500-word essay with a title page describing the student's career plans (The title page must include the name of the award, the date of submission, student's name and the title, "Future Career Plan"); and
- Copy of NVIT's registration statement showing proof of full-time studies in a minimum 80% course load.

Renewal Applicant: [Renewal applicants only need to submit the following:]

- a completed and signed application;
- NVIT transcripts showing a minimum 65% (C+) grade point average from the last year of studies at NVIT; and
- Copy of NVIT's registration statement showing proof of full-time studies in a minimum 80% course load.

Amount:

The Black Feather Fund Entrance Scholarship will be disbursed to two (2) students in the amount of \$1000 each at the annual awards ceremony. If successful, these awards are renewable for an additional \$1000 if the students maintain their respective programs' minimum grade point averages in their first year of studies at NVIT.

Deadline:

The NVIT Registration Office must receive applications by 4:30pm on August 15, 2024. If August 15th lands on a weekend, the application will be due the last business day before the deadline. Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted. Please mail or drop off original copies only; faxes, emails and/or photocopies will not be accepted. Students may appeal the award decision by submitting a written letter to the awards adjudication committee attention:

Black Feather Fund Entrance Scholarship
c/o Registration Office
Nicola Valley Institute of Technology-Merritt Campus
4155 Belshaw Street Merritt, BC V1K 1R1
registrarsoffice@nvit.ca



Please select the category or scholarship you are applying for:

- New Applicant Renewal Applicant

PERSONAL INFORMATION:

Name:

Last

First

Middle Initial

Permanent Mailing Address

(_____) _____ - _____ _____ / ____ / ____

Telephone

NVIT Student ID

Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY)

_____ - _____ - _____ _____

S.I.N.

Email Address

EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION:

Where did you attend your last two years of highschool? City/Prov: _____

Name of Educational Institution: _____

What year did you graduate? _____ Did you submit your official secondary school transcripts? Yes No

*Students applying for a renewal award are **not required** to submit secondary school transcripts.

If not, when can we expect to receive them? _____

*Please note, official transcripts must be submitted in a sealed envelope

What campus or community delivery will you be attending? Merritt Burnaby Other Community

What program at NVIT are you registering into? _____

*To receive this award, you must be registered in a minimum 80% course load at NVIT by 4:30pm, August 15th.

STUDENT DECLARATION:

I hereby declare, all the above information is true and correct. I authorize the Registration Office to verify any or all of the above statements.

Date: _____ Signature: _____
(mm/dd/yyyy)

New Applicants:

- a completed and signed application;
- proof of Indigenous ancestry (copy of status card, metis card, or letter from Band, First Nation or Tribal Council);
- official secondary school transcripts showing the last two (2) years of completed coursework with minimum 65% (C+) grade point average;
- character reference letter, written by an instructor, demonstrating the student's extracurricular school involvement;
- character reference letter, written by a community member, demonstrating the student's extracurricular community involvement;
- a typed-written, 500-word essay with a title page describing their career plans (The title page must include the name of the award, the date of submission, student's name and the title, "Future Career Plan"); and
- copy of NVIT's registration statement showing proof of full-time studies in a minimum 80% course load.

Renewal Applicants: [Renewal applicants only need to submit the following:]

- a completed and signed application;
- NVIT transcripts showing a minimum 65% (C+) grade point average from the last year of studies at NVIT; and
- copy of NVIT's registration statement showing proof of full-time studies in a minimum 80% course load.

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Character Reference Letter – **INSTRUCTOR** Student Name _____

The above-named student has applied for a Black Feather Fund Entrance Scholarship and has named you as a reference. In order to make an informed decision, we need to know the student's extracurricular school involvement. The letter must describe citizenship qualities such as leadership roles, volunteer work, and participation at student events. Any information you provide will be held in the strictest confidence.

Instructions:

Please verify by answering the following questions. Once completed, please place your letter in **a sealed envelope** with your **signature across the seal**. You can hand it back to the student for submission.

How long have you known the student? _____

How many hours of service did the student provide? _____

What were the responsibilities of involvement at the school? _____

How did the student perform with regard to a leadership role? _____

Is this student a team player or does he/she excel by working alone? _____

What was the student's attendance record? Was the student on time and dependable? _____

What areas of development were communicated to the student and how did he/she respond? _____

Information provided by:

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Thank you for your cooperation and prompt response.

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Character Reference Letter – **COMMUNITY MEMBER** Student Name: _____

The above-named student has applied for a Black Feather Fund Entrance Scholarship and has named you as a reference. In order to make an informed decision, we need to know the student's community involvement. The letter must describe citizenship qualities such as leadership roles, volunteer work, and participation at community events. Any information you provide will be held in the strictest confidence.

Instructions:

Please verify by answering the following questions. Once completed, please place your letter in **a sealed envelope** with your **signature across the seal**. You can hand it back to the student for submission.

What is your relationship to the student? _____

How many hours of service did the student provide? _____

What were the responsibilities of involvement in the community?

How did the student perform with regard to a leadership role? _____

Is this student a team player or does he/she excel by working alone? _____

Was the student on time and dependable? _____

What areas of development were communicated to the student and how did he/she respond? _____

Information provided by:

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Thank you for your cooperation and prompt response.