

## Transition Awards for ABE Students

### Frequently Asked Questions

**Q. Who can apply for a Transition Award?**

**A.** Transition Awards are granted to students who have completed a minimum of two (2) Adult Basic Education (ABE) courses at a BC public post-secondary institution during the current and/or immediately previous year and are planning to enroll in full-time studies at a BC public post-secondary institution. You do not hold any previously awarded post-secondary credentials (e.g. degree, diploma, certificate).

**Q. Can I apply for a Transition Award if my courses are related to English language training?**

**A.** No. English as an Additional Language (EAL), English Language Learning (ELL), and English as a Second Language (ESL) are NOT eligible programs for the Transition Award. Only Adult Basic Education (ABE) program students are eligible.

**Q. How current must my Adult Basic Education (ABE) courses be and is my school eligible?**

**A.** You must complete your minimum two ABE courses between January 2024 and December 2025.

You must be an ABE student at either BCIT, Camosun College, Capilano University, Coast Mountain College, College of New Caledonia, College of the Rockies, Douglas College, Kwantlen Polytechnic University, Langara College, Nicola Valley Institute of Technology, North Island College, Northern Lights College, Okanagan College, Selkirk College, Thompson Rivers University, University of the Fraser Valley, Vancouver Community College, or Vancouver Island University to be eligible.

Your Adult Basic Education (ABE) courses must be completed at a BC public post-secondary institution by December 2025. There are no exceptions to this rule.

**Q. Which full-time programs at BC public post-secondary institutions are allowed?**

**A.** Students need to be planning to be enrolled full-time in any Apprenticeship, Certificate, Diploma, or Undergrad program.

**Q. How do I find out if I will be a full-time student at a BC public post-secondary institution?**

**A.** Please contact the Financial Aid Office at the school you are planning on attending. The Society does not apply a specific definition of “full-time study”. BC public post-secondary institutions use a variety of standards for defining “full-time”.

**Q. Can I apply for a Transition Award if am a part-time student?**

**A.** No. Only students studying full-time are eligible to apply for this scholarship. (Students with medical or disability exemptions recognized by their current institution can apply.)

**Q. Can I apply for a Transition Award if took time-off from my Adult Basic Education (ABE) classes?**

**A.** No. To be eligible for this scholarship, attendance in Adult Basic Education (ABE) must be continuous. The BC Scholarship Society will only accept courses completed between September 2023 and December 2024.

**Q. What can I do if I miss the application deadline?**

**A.** Application deadlines for BC Scholarship Society Transition Awards are firm. Late applications will ***not be accepted***. Applications are only considered complete and acceptable for adjudication if all documents including references, are received by the Society before the deadline.

**Q. Who can I list as my Reference?**

**A.** Your reference must come from an individual who can comment on (1) your academic performance or (2) your community activity and/or volunteer service.

When you apply online you will be asked to provide the name and contact information for your chosen reference. Please obtain a personal email address from your reference as some organizational emails block incoming requests.

Your reference will receive an invitation from the Society to provide a reference on your behalf which they will be asked to submit directly to the Society. You will *not* receive a copy of the reference they provide.

It is good idea to speak with your intended references before you include them on your application so that they will be expecting the invitation the Society will send to them.

Your reference must be received by the Society *before* the application deadline. It may be necessary for you to remind your references that responding to the Society's invitation is important and time sensitive.

**Q. Who can be a Reference?**

**A.** Your reference could be one of your Adult Basic Education (ABE) instructors or a representative of a community/volunteer organization. (Note that work for which you received compensation is not considered community activity and/or volunteer service.)

**Q. Can I change my reference?**

**A.** Yes. As long as you have not completed and submitted your application – including previous reference – you can change who you want to serve as your reference. On the application site, you will need to delete the references you have previously provided and submit new names and contact information.

**Q. Can I apply if I am planning to attend a private institution to do full-time studies?**

**A.** No. The Transition Award is only available to students planning to be enrolled in study at one of BC's public post-secondary institutions. There are no exceptions to this rule.

If the institution you are currently attending is *not* on this list, **you are not eligible to apply for this award.**

- BC Institute of Technology
- Camosun College
- Capilano University
- Coast Mountain College
- College of New Caledonia
- College of the Rockies
- Douglas College
- Emily Carr University of Art and Design
- Justice Institute of BC
- Kwantlen Polytechnic University

- Langara College
- Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
- North Island College
- Northern Lights College
- Okanagan College
- Royal Roads University
- Selkirk College
- Simon Fraser University
- Thompson Rivers University
- University of British Columbia
- University of Northern British Columbia
- University of the Fraser Valley
- University of Victoria
- Vancouver Community College
- Vancouver Island University