

# BCGEU 2017 Scholarships FAQ

## 1. What is the BCGEU Scholarship Program?

The BCGEU offers \$45,000 annually in scholarship awards for post-secondary and higher learning students who are BCGEU members or relatives of current, retired or deceased BCGEU members or staff. Full-time students are eligible for a \$3,000 scholarship and part-time students are eligible for a \$2,000 scholarship.

## 2. When is the deadline to apply?

The deadline for applications is at midnight on Sunday, March 12, 2017. Late applications cannot be considered.

## 3. Who is eligible to apply?

Applicants must be:

- A BCGEU member; 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 2017.

Eligible relatives include spouses, (same or opposite sex and common law spouses); parents; and children and grandchildren (including foster, adopted and step children and grandchildren).

Eligible educational institutions must be recognized by Human Resources and Social Development Canada (HRSDC).

Previous BCGEU scholarship recipients and members of affiliated unions are not eligible to apply.

## 4. Can I still apply if I am currently on leave from my job or a seasonal worker and not currently an active member?

If you are currently on leave from your job or are a seasonal worker and not currently an active member, you must have a return to work date. After applying, please email [scholarship@bcgeu.ca](mailto:scholarship@bcgeu.ca) let us know your return to work date.

## 5. How do I apply?

Fill out the online application is at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BCGEU2017scholarship>

In addition to personal information and details of your education plan, you will be asked to answer an essay question. We recommend that you prepare your answer in advance and return to the online application. You can prepare your 400 to 500 word answer and then cut and paste it into the application.

The essay question is:

*“What are the benefits of belonging to the BCGEU?”*

**6. What are you looking for in the essay question?**

We encourage you to base your answer on an interview with a BCGEU member, personal experience or original research. Please do not include your name or any identifying information within your essay answer.

**7. I have an Individual Education Plan (IEP). Can I use an alternative format to answer the essay question if required?**

Yes. You may be required to submit proof of your IEP. Please email [scholarship@bcgeu.ca](mailto:scholarship@bcgeu.ca) for further information.

**8. Is this scholarship program only open to grade 12 students?**

No, all students and prospective students may apply, including mature and returning students.

**9. What if I do not know whether I will have a full-time or part-time status yet?**

Select "Not sure" to this question and email us at [scholarship@bcgeu.ca](mailto:scholarship@bcgeu.ca) once you do know..

**10. How many applications do you usually receive?**

We usually receive between 500 – 600 applications each year. We make an effort to ensure that every region of the province is represented amongst the successful recipients.

**11. How are the successful applicants selected?**

The BCGEU's Education and Scholarship committee, with representatives from around the province and different components of the union, meets in the spring to review applications. Successful applicants are selected based on the answer to the essay question.

**12. How will I know if I have been selected a winner?**

Successful applicants will be advised in writing in May and their names will be published on our website ([www.bcgeu.ca](http://www.bcgeu.ca)). We are unable to notify unsuccessful applicants because of the great number of applications. All decisions of the committee are final.