



▶ TRU Financial Aid & Awards is located in the Old Main Building Room 1631, in the centre of the campus.

## Free Money for Current Students! —Awards and How to Get Them

Each year, via the Financial Aid & Awards Office, TRU students receive over a million dollars from individuals, businesses, and other organizations who believe in helping deserving students reach their goals. Thanks to the efforts of the TRU Foundation, new awards are continually being added. This money is in addition to TRU Entrance Scholarships (funded by TRU), and the various government grants available.

### What Types of Money are Available?

**Scholarship** – Money given to recognize and reward high scholastic achievement over an entire academic year. Financial need is not a factor, and the money normally can only be used for further study. Applicants must enrol in at least an 80% course load (usually 12 undergraduate credits, or four courses, per term) to qualify for and maintain a scholarship, and must also achieve a post-secondary GPA of at least 3.5 (A/B average). Scholarships are open to both domestic and international students.

**Bursary** – Money given to students who demonstrate financial need and achieve

satisfactory academic standing. Applicants must enrol in at least a 60% course load (usually 9 undergraduate credits, or 20 hours per week in a Vocational program) to qualify, and must have achieved a post-secondary GPA of 2.00 (C average) in their most recent full-time semester. However, some awards only require part-time enrolment or a lower GPA. Bursaries are only open to Canadian citizens or Permanent Residents (Landed Immigrants).

**Award** – Money or recognition given to acknowledge meritorious accomplishment in a particular field, either academic or non-

academic. Awards may or may not require demonstration of financial need.

**Conditional Award or Bursary** – Awards or bursaries that have certain additional conditions specified by the donor, such as living in a certain geographic area, being of a specified national origin, having an affiliation with an organization or company, having a disability, etc. Students wishing to be considered for a conditional award or bursary must clearly list how they qualify.

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## FINANCIAL AID & AWARDS

### What Types of Money are Available? *continued*

**Medal or Prize** – Awards given for outstanding performance in a course or program of study. Medals and prizes are awarded upon the recommendation of faculties or departments and do not require an application. Prizes may consist of a medallion, a certificate or plaque, a cash prize, or combination thereof.

**Grant** – Money given by a government program or foundation, which usually requires demonstrated financial need (similar to a bursary).

**Loan** – Repayable funding lent to applicants who demonstrate financial need and meet other criteria of the lender such as place of residence, program of study, course load, adequate performance in studies, etc. The main source of loans for BC students is the Student Aid BC suite of programs ([www.studentaidbc.ca](http://www.studentaidbc.ca))

### Who's eligible?

If this is at least your second full-time semester at TRU, and you are enrolling full-time for credit in post-secondary courses (at least nine credits, or 20 hours for Vocational programs) and are a Canadian citizen or Permanent Resident, you can apply for all sources of funds unless it specifically excludes you.

If you are enrolled as a **part-time student**, please visit our website ([www.tru.ca/finaid](http://www.tru.ca/finaid)) or contact us for information on part-time grants and loans.

If you are enrolled in **University Prep or ABE** courses (which begin with a "0"), then look for bursaries under the University Prep heading, or visit our website ([www.tru.ca/finaid](http://www.tru.ca/finaid)), or contact us for information on the Adult Basic Education Student Assistance Program (ABESAP).

If you are enrolled exclusively in **TRU Open Learning** courses, you are eligible to apply for most awards, but must be enrolled in and maintaining a full-time course load according to your Open Learning Study Contract. Part-time grants are also available through the Open Learning Division. For more information contact Financial Aid & Awards.

### How and When To Apply

Most **TRU scholarships, bursaries, and awards** are accessed through the Online TRU Awards Application. See [www.tru.ca/awards](http://www.tru.ca/awards). A number of awards are selected by faculty, and are marked "No Application Necessary" in the award description.

The application is normally available online for the month prior to the term start, and closes at midnight on the third Friday of the first month of the term. Only one application is accepted per academic year unless exceptional circumstances arise, which cause serious financial hardship. In this event, you may set up an appointment with an Awards Advisor to discuss the situation.

**Deadlines, unless otherwise stated are:**

- ▶ **Fall Term – the third Friday of September**  
If your program starts in the Fall term prior to this date. If you miss this deadline, you may apply by the third Friday in January, and will be considered if sufficient funds remain. Most awards are disbursed in the Fall.
- ▶ **Winter Term – the third Friday of January**  
If your program starts after the Fall deadline and before the Winter deadline.

### Selection Criteria

Selection of recipients is made either by members of the faculty under which the award falls, or by the Financial Aid & Awards Office Selection Committee, and is based on how well the applicant matches the criteria established by the donor or the university. For bursaries and awards requiring financial need, the applicant demonstrating the highest need and showing effort in accessing other resources will be considered to best meet the need criterion.

### Payment of Awards

Most Fall awards (the majority for the year) are paid by a cheque presented at the Fall Awards Ceremony in late November. Otherwise, awards are paid by cheque approximately 10–12 weeks after the application deadline. Awards may be applied directly to your student account if tuition or fees are still owing.

Recipients of all awards are expected to maintain certain levels of enrolment and academic standing. Unless otherwise stated, bursary and award recipients are required to maintain enrollment in at least 60% of a program of study (9 post-secondary credits or 20 hours per week for vocational), and achieve a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.00 or equivalent. Scholarship recipients are required to maintain enrollment in at least 80% of a program of study, and achieve a minimum GPA of 3.50 or equivalent. All awards may be cancelled, reduced, or withheld for unsatisfactory attendance or progress, for failure to maintain enrollment over the period of study for which application is made, or for failure to meet the terms of the award, as set forth in the awards description. Where an award has been cancelled or reduced, the recipient may be required to repay all or a portion of the funds.

### FINANCIAL AID & AWARDS DEPARTMENT

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