

THE NRT FOUNDATION & PARTNERS ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE

2019-20

# MASTERS & DOCTORATE SCHOLARSHIPS

FOR BC FIRST NATIONS STUDENTS



*By investing in Indigenous post-secondary education, the NRT Foundation and its Partners is building the capacity of our communities, enhancing employment opportunities for graduates, and creating the skilled work force that will enable BC to meet its future economic and social development needs.*

## 2019-20 APPLICATION & GUIDELINES

FOR MASTERS & DOCTORATE STUDENTS



**CALL FOR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS**

**OPENS** on Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup>

**CLOSES** on Thursday, June 13<sup>th</sup> at noon

For more information, please contact Marie Alaimo, Senior Project Officer

W: [www.nrtf.ca](http://www.nrtf.ca) | E: [malaimo@nrtf.ca](mailto:malaimo@nrtf.ca) | P: 604-925-3338 | TF: 877-922-3338



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**2019-2020**

**New Relationship Trust Foundation  
Masters/Doctorate Scholarship Awards  
Guidelines & Application**

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The New Relationship Trust Foundation (NRTF) and BC First Nation communities realize the importance of education. Interested and eligible BC First Nations masters and doctorate students should apply to the NRTF Post-Secondary Scholarship Awards. Successful masters and doctorate applicants will be eligible for a maximum of two years. Scholarships are awarded annually, and students must re-apply for any subsequent years.

***Masters scholarships, up to \$10,000 each year / Doctorate scholarships, up to \$20,000 each year***

***Application Deadline:***

- Received at the NRTF office by **Thursday, June 13, 2019 12:00pm (noon) PDT**
- Application **must** have all supporting documents attached, we will NOT accept piece by piece applications, NO EXCEPTIONS
- No Faxes - Faxed applications will not be accepted. You can scan and email
- Late or incomplete applications will not be eligible

***Eligibility:***

Masters and doctorate scholarship applications are open to all BC First Nation students planning on attending an approved post-secondary institution on a full-time basis<sup>1</sup>.

Examples of **Ineligible** Fields of Study:

1. Conferences / symposiums / workshops
2. Professional Fees / schools
3. Education at non-recognized post-secondary institutions
4. Executive / Management programs (short term)

***Masters and Doctorate Scholarship Evaluation Criteria:***

NRTF will award scholarships based on the following:

- Completed application and supporting documentation
- Grades 2.3 GPA (C+ average)
- Essay
- Involvement with First Nations Community
- Need

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<sup>1</sup> Students must be enrolled full time. Doctorate and Master students must provide a letter from their instructor and institution to support full-time status.

**Required Scholarship Application Documents:**

Supporting Document	Acceptable Items	Unacceptable Items
<input type="checkbox"/> Application form	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fully completed form</li> <li>Signed and dated</li> <li>All information is true</li> <li>Clearly written form</li> <li>Scanned application forms</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Incomplete form</li> <li>Not signed or dated</li> <li>Inaccurate or false information</li> <li>Illegible form</li> <li>Phone pictures of application form</li> </ul>
<input type="checkbox"/> Essay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>500- 1000 words (2-4 pages typed)</li> <li>How would your research specifically benefit your community, and contribute to reconciliation in Canada?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Essays exceeding 1000 words</li> <li>Unoriginal essays, (i.e. speeches or essays used in past applications)</li> <li>Reused version from previous application year</li> </ul>
<input type="checkbox"/> Community Involvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One page on your community involvement with a First Nation Community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exceeds one page</li> <li>Community involvement being included in your essay. Must be separate.</li> </ul>
<input type="checkbox"/> Letter of Support from a current or former instructor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Letter attesting to their experience with you in an academic setting.</li> <li>On institution's letterhead</li> <li>Dated this year</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outdated letter</li> <li>Letter not on letterhead</li> </ul>
<input type="checkbox"/> Letter of Support from BC First Nation Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Letter stating that you have support to apply for this scholarship</li> <li>On Letterhead from your First Nation Government</li> <li>Dated this year</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not from British Columbia</li> <li>Letter from anywhere else than the First Nation Government (i.e. Tribal Councils, Education institutions)</li> <li>Outdated letters</li> </ul>
<input type="checkbox"/> Proof of Citizenship from BC First Nation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Letter from First Nation (on letterhead) stating you are a member</li> <li>Or a photocopy of Status or Citizenship card</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Letter from anywhere else than the First Nation Government</li> </ul>
<input type="checkbox"/> Latest unofficial Transcripts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unofficial or Official Transcripts</li> <li>From most recent school year</li> <li>Envelopes do <b>not</b> need to be sealed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Modified or written transcripts</li> <li>Note: Original official transcripts will be required if approved</li> </ul>
<input type="checkbox"/> Acceptance/Enrollment Letter at Post- Secondary Institution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An Acceptance Letter is required if going into a new institution</li> <li>Returning students must submit a letter from your instructor/institution supporting full time status.</li> <li>Dated <b>this</b> year and on <b>school letterhead</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outdated letters from previous years</li> <li>Letters from anywhere else other than the institution</li> <li>Screenshots of online registration with no logs</li> </ul>
<input type="checkbox"/> Resume	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to date Resume or CV</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outdated or incomplete</li> </ul>

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

**Question:** I received an award last year; do I need to reapply?

**Answer:** Yes, each year students need to reapply. Past recipients must show they have kept up their C+ (2.3 GPA) average to qualify for the subsequent school year. Past recipients should also describe in their essay any work performed (paid or volunteer) to strengthen their community.

**Question:** I do not have my status, am I still eligible?

**Answer:** Yes, if you are a member of a BC First Nation and can get a letter of support stating that you are a member from your First Nation Government.

**Question:** I am a Status Indian from another province/Non-Status/Métis/Inuit Student, can I apply for an NRTF Award?

**Answer:** This application is only for the NRTF Scholarship aimed at masters and doctorate students from BC First Nations. If you are a resident of BC and Status Indian from another province, Non-Status, Métis, or Inuit you can apply to the NRTF Indigenous Early Years Scholarship program. Please note that this award only applies to IEY related programs. Please go to [www.nrtf.ca](http://www.nrtf.ca) for more info.

**Question:** I am from a BC First Nation but doing my studies outside of B.C. Am I still eligible?

**Answer:** Yes, you can be studying anywhere in the world as long that it is at a recognized/accredited institution and you are from a BC First Nation.

**Question:** I am getting my Diploma or Trades/Certificate, but I can't find that information on this application?

**Answer:** This application is only for masters and doctorate students. Please see the NRTF undergraduate application if you are an undergrad or the Bursary application if you are taking a Diploma, Certificate, Trades, or Associates Degree program.

**Question:** I'm only registered for part-time studies; do I still qualify?

**Answer:** No, students must be enrolled full time. Masters and Doctorate programs must be considered full-time by their institution to qualify and are required to provide a letter from their instructor and institution to support full-time status.

**Question:** I have already graduated, am I eligible?

**Answer:** No, applicants must be attending school after the scholarship is awarded (typically in August). If students are only attending the Fall semester, than they may be approved for a half scholarship.

**Question:** What field of studies are eligible?

**Answer:** All fields of study are eligible; students must be enrolled at a recognized post-secondary institution<sup>2</sup>.

**Question:** My acceptance letter is dated last year because I'm in my 2<sup>nd</sup> year, is that acceptable?

**Answer:** No, if you are already accepted into the institution, then a letter of enrollment will be needed rather than a letter of acceptance.

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<sup>2</sup> Government authorities are responsible for post-secondary education in each province and have identified "recognized," "registered" and "licensed" institutions within their jurisdiction.

**Question:** My registration date isn't until after the application deadline.

**Answer:** We do not need confirmation of registration until after the scholarship has been awarded; we just need a letter of acceptance or enrollment. Enrollment indicates you are considered a student at the institution; however, you have yet to register in classes. Master and doctorate students may provide this in the form of a letter from an instructor indicating they are in good standing and are considered full time.

**Question:** I cannot get a hold of my First Nation Government; will a letter from anyone else suffice? Or from a First Nation community where I currently live?

**Answer:** No, we require an official letter of support from the First Nation government you are registered with. We will not accept a letter from anywhere else. The letter can be from any member of your Chief and Council, or employee of the Education department (Coordinator, Manager or Director).

**Question:** Can I have my education institute send the transcripts or confirmation of enrollment directly to NRT?

**Answer:** No, applications **must** be complete when submitted by the student. This ensures that you know your application is complete before the deadline. Due to a high volume of applications, we cannot consider applications that are sent incomplete or piece by piece.

**Question:** Do I need my original official transcript?

**Answer:** No, unofficial transcripts will suffice until you are approved. If you are approved, you will be asked to supply additional information, including your original official transcripts. If you do supply the original official transcripts in the application, then you will not be asked for it again.

**Question:** When will I find out if my application has been approved?

**Answer:** We aim to let students know by the first week of August at the latest.

**Question:** If my application is approved, when will I receive my first cheque?

**Answer:** When approved, you will be provided with a letter and instruction of further items we will need, which include confirmation of registration, picture and biography, official transcripts from past year, and a course list. Once those items are received, your cheque will be mailed to you. The second cheque is sent in the second term, following receipt of second term course list, official transcript and confirmation of full-time/enrollment.

**Question:** I need clarification on this application, who do I speak to?

**Answer:** If you have any questions about the NRTF Scholarship, call Marie Alaimo at 1-877-922-3338.

### **Tips for this application:**

- Submit a clearly written and easy to read application. This can go a long way!
- Make sure to attach all required documents
- Call if you have any questions
- Submit early!
- Get the supporting documents first (i.e Band/School letters)
- Scan your application and documents and email it to yourself as a test
- Include everything in your budget
- Name your attachments (i.e. 2. Essay)
- Do not send 18 photos of your application, SCAN it into a single document



**2019-2020 NEW RELATIONSHIP TRUST  
FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS**

**APRIL 18, 2019 MASTERS AND DOCTORATE APPLICATION FORM**

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***Scholarship Applicant Checklist***

Before mailing or hand delivering your completed Masters and Doctorate scholarship application, please ensure that it contains **all** the following documents:

- Completed and signed application form (Pages 1 to 4)
- Essay
  - How would your research specifically benefit your community, and contribute to reconciliation in Canada?
- One page on your involvement within the First Nation community
- Letter of Support from your British Columbia First Nation government
- Reference letter from a current or former instructor
- Proof of citizenship from British Columbia First Nation
- Unofficial Transcript of most recent academic record (official ones will be necessary if you are approved)
- Acceptance/Enrollment Letter from recognized accredited post-secondary institution
- Resume/CV

**\*\*\*Applications must have all supporting documents attached when submitting. Do NOT attach guidelines or this page when submitting your application. \*\*\***

**Due to demand, incomplete applications will not be considered.**

**Please retain copies of your application materials because original submissions will not be returned.**

**Deadline:** Applications, containing all required supporting documents, must be received no later than **12:00 pm (noon) PDT on June 13, 2019.**

**Do not fax** applications. Please mail/email/hand-deliver completed applications to:

**NRTF Post-Secondary Scholarship Awards  
New Relationship Trust Foundation  
3188 Alder Court  
North Vancouver, British Columbia V7H 2V6  
[scholarship@nrtf.ca](mailto:scholarship@nrtf.ca)  
Attention: Marie Alaimo, Senior Project Officer**



**PERSONAL INFORMATION:**

*\*Name and address given will be used on disbursement cheques*

**Legal** First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ **Legal** Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Initial: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing Address:**

Unit #: \_\_\_\_\_ Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

*\* All applicants will be notified of their application status by email*

Have you ever applied for an NRTF Scholarship before?  Yes  No

If yes, please indicate which years:

Scholarship Type: _____	b) Year: _____	c) Value of award (if Successful): \$ _____
Scholarship Type: _____	b) Year: _____	c) Value of award (if Successful): \$ _____
Scholarship Type: _____	b) Year: _____	c) Value of award (if Successful): \$ _____
Scholarship Type: _____	b) Year: _____	c) Value of award (if Successful): \$ _____

*\*Maximum funding given for 2 years at Masters and 2 years at Doctorate*

**Which BC First Nation Community are you a citizen or a member of?**

*\*Applicants must be a member of a BC First nation and show support from the Nation directly*

**BC First Nation:**

Please indicate the person's name and position below who is in authority within the administration of your First Nation to verify your registration as a citizen or member.

**Person's name and position** \_\_\_\_\_

**POST-SECONDARY INFORMATION:**

Post-Secondary Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please indicate your area of research/studies:**

*\*Scholarships are not available for Diploma, Associate Degrees, Certificate or Trades. Please apply for the NRTF Bursary*

**Area of Study:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Business	<input type="checkbox"/> Health	<input type="checkbox"/> Sciences
<input type="checkbox"/> Arts (list major below)	<input type="checkbox"/> Fine Arts	<input type="checkbox"/> Indigenous Studies
<input type="checkbox"/> Social Work	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering

Other: \_\_\_\_\_



Are you a returning student?  Yes  No if Yes, GPA last year: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Attach transcript)

Year Attending (e.g. 2nd, 3rd, 4th): \_\_\_\_\_

Expected Completion Date Year: \_\_\_\_\_ Month: \_\_\_\_\_

**Indicate** which Terms and number of credits per term you plan to enroll in 2019-2020:

**\* Masters/Doctorate students must provide a letter from their instructor and institution to confirm/support full-time status**

Fall Term (Sep-Dec): \_\_\_\_\_ Winter Term (Jan – Apr): \_\_\_\_\_

**FUNDING SOURCES**

If applying for a Canada/BC student loan and/or other student funding sources, please indicate:

**Canada Student Loan Amount Applied for:**

Date of Application: \_\_\_\_\_

**British Columbia Student Loan Amount Applied for:**

Date of Application: \_\_\_\_\_

**Other Student Funding Source(s) applied for:**

Name(s) of Funding Source: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Application: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you approached your First Nation for funding?  Yes  No

If No, please state why: \_\_\_\_\_

Did your First Nation/Community fund you last year?  Yes  No

Has your First Nation agreed to fund you?  Yes  No

Awaiting Decision

If Yes, how much will you receive for the School Year? \_\_\_\_\_

If No, please state why: \_\_\_\_\_

Will you be receiving funding assistance from other sources  Yes  No

If yes, what sources and what amounts? (E.g. Family/Personal/Scholarships)

Source: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Source: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Source: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_



**EMPLOYMENT**

Are you currently employed?  Yes  No

If No, how long have you been unemployed? \_\_\_\_\_ Months \_\_\_\_\_ Years

Name of Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Info: \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Employment NET Income: \_\_\_\_\_

Length of Employment: \_\_\_\_\_

Job Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Will you be employed during the School Year?  Yes  No

**BUDGET:**

Please be sure to list all sources of expenses and income you will have throughout the year.

<u>Expenses</u>	<i>Sept-Dec</i>	<i>Jan-April</i>	<i>May-Sept</i>	<i>Total</i>	<u>Income</u>	<i>Sept-Dec</i>	<i>Jan-April</i>	<i>May-Sept</i>	<i>Total</i>
Tuition & Fees					Employment				
Books					Family/Personal				
Rent/Mortgage					Band/Community Living allowance				
Utilities/Phone					Band/Community Tuition				
Food					Band/Community Books				
Transportation					Scholarships				
Child Care					Bursaries				
Clothing					Student Loan				
Other (identify)					Other (identify)				
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>

Please explain any unique budget circumstances below:

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How did you hear about the New Relationship Trust Foundation Scholarship?

NRT Website  Facebook  First Nation  School  Twitter  Other

What are your Career Goals? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Verification of Information

I understand that the information submitted in and with this application will be used to assess my eligibility for the Scholarship Award. I hereby certify that all the information provided on this application form and in all the documents accompanying are true, accurate and complete. I have read all the policy and guidelines regarding the New Relationship Trust Foundation Scholarship initiative. By submitting this application, I agree to be bound by the policies and guidelines of this initiative. I give my permission to the NRT Foundation and its Partners to collect my contact information so that I may receive information about potential employment, scholarship, and training opportunities.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_