

CENTRAL OKANAGAN BURSARY AND SCHOLARSHIP SOCIETY

*Helping our local graduates build
a future!*

*Your Gift is Making a
Difference*



May 2024

President COBSS- Lorraine Miller

Past-President COBSS- Anne Pistawka



HISTORY AND MISSION

Founded in 1971

Celebrating 50 years of community support for students' post secondary education

Mission Statement

The Central Okanagan Bursary and Scholarship Society (COBSS) is a non-profit society made up of dedicated local volunteers. Together with the community, we help provide financial assistance to Grade 12 grads pursuing post-secondary education

FOUNDERS



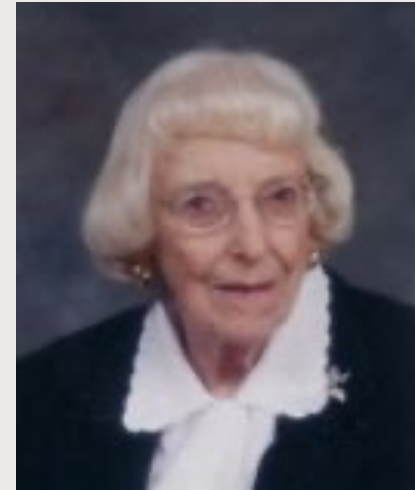
Harry Dewar
SD23 Administrator



Ken Harding
Whillis Harding Insurance

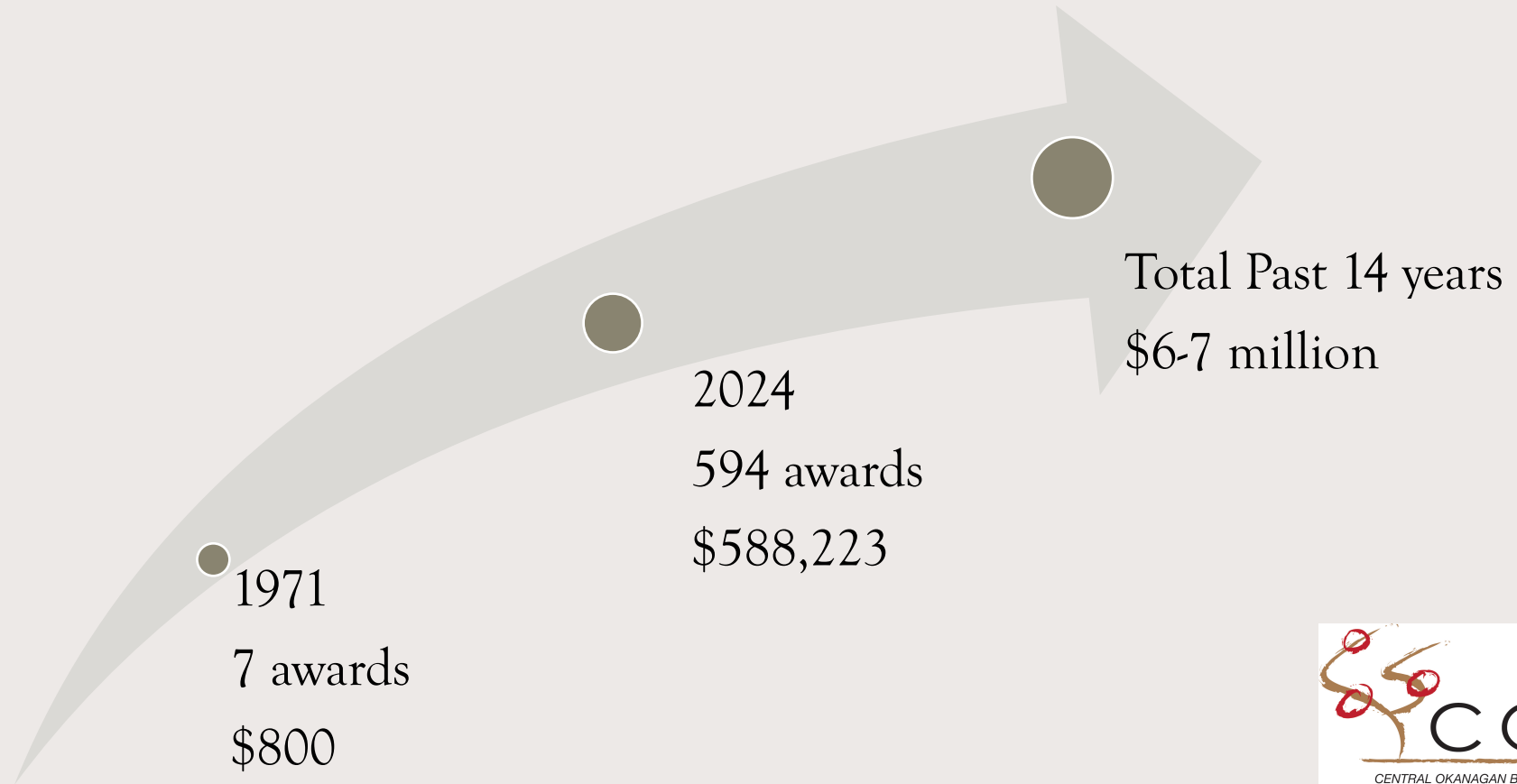


Lou Dedinsky
SD23 Administrator



Rosemary King
SD23 Administrator

HOW WE HAVE GROWN



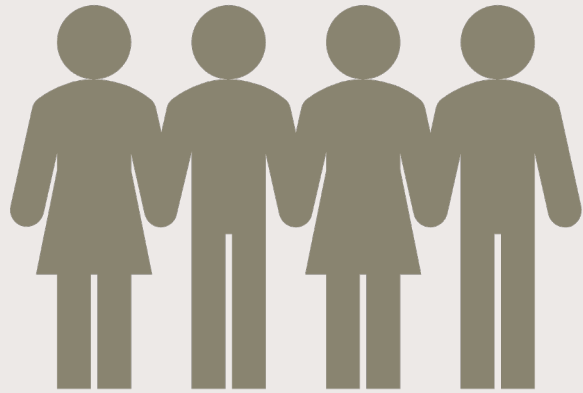
JUNE 2024 C.O.B.S.S. AWARDS

594 COBSS
awards

Total value of
awards
\$588,233

642 Student
applications

COMMUNITY AWARDS



- Criteria set by donor
 - *Individuals*
 - *Sport groups*
 - *Community groups (e.g., Rotary, CFUW, Lions Clubs)*
 - *Local Businesses*
 - *Memorials*

- *Comes from the community and stays in the community*

SAMANTHA BLANDON
COBSS RECIPIENT & DONOR



BLANDON SISTERS - FULL CIRCLE

WHAT TYPES OF AWARDS?

Bursary

Scholarship

Award





TEAM & PARTNERS

ADMINISTRATIVE
ASSISTANT

DONORS

SD 23

VOLUNTEER
PROFESSIONAL
ACCOUNTANT

GRADUATING
STUDENTS

SCHOOL
COUNSELLORS

VOLUNTEER
COMMUNITY
MEMBERS

EXECUTIVE
BOARD OF
DIRECTORS

FINANCIAL
MANAGEMENT
ADVISOR

GRADUATING STUDENTS



One application submitted online
(2024) - access to hundreds of
awards



Counsellor coordination and
support



Member schools (SD 23 public
schools, Independent schools)

ELIGIBILITY

1. Be a Canadian citizen, permanent resident or refugee living within the boundaries of Central Okanagan Public Schools.
2. Must be applying/have applied and plan to attend **FULL TIME** at an **accredited** post-secondary institution in **September of graduation year.**
3. Obtain a minimum of 60% average in all grade 11 and 12 courses.
4. Registered in a minimum of six (6) courses during grade 12 year, and will complete a minimum of six (6) courses by June 30th not including the grade 12 Capstone Careers course.
5. Have potential to graduate for the first time this June.
6. Attending one of the member schools of COBSS as their home school during graduation year.

MEMBER SCHOOLS



Aberdeen Hall Preparatory School

Central Programs & Services

Ecole de L'anse au Sable

eSchool23

Flex Academy

George Elliot Secondary School

Kelowna Christian School

Kelowna Secondary School

Heritage Christian Online School

Immaculata Regional High School

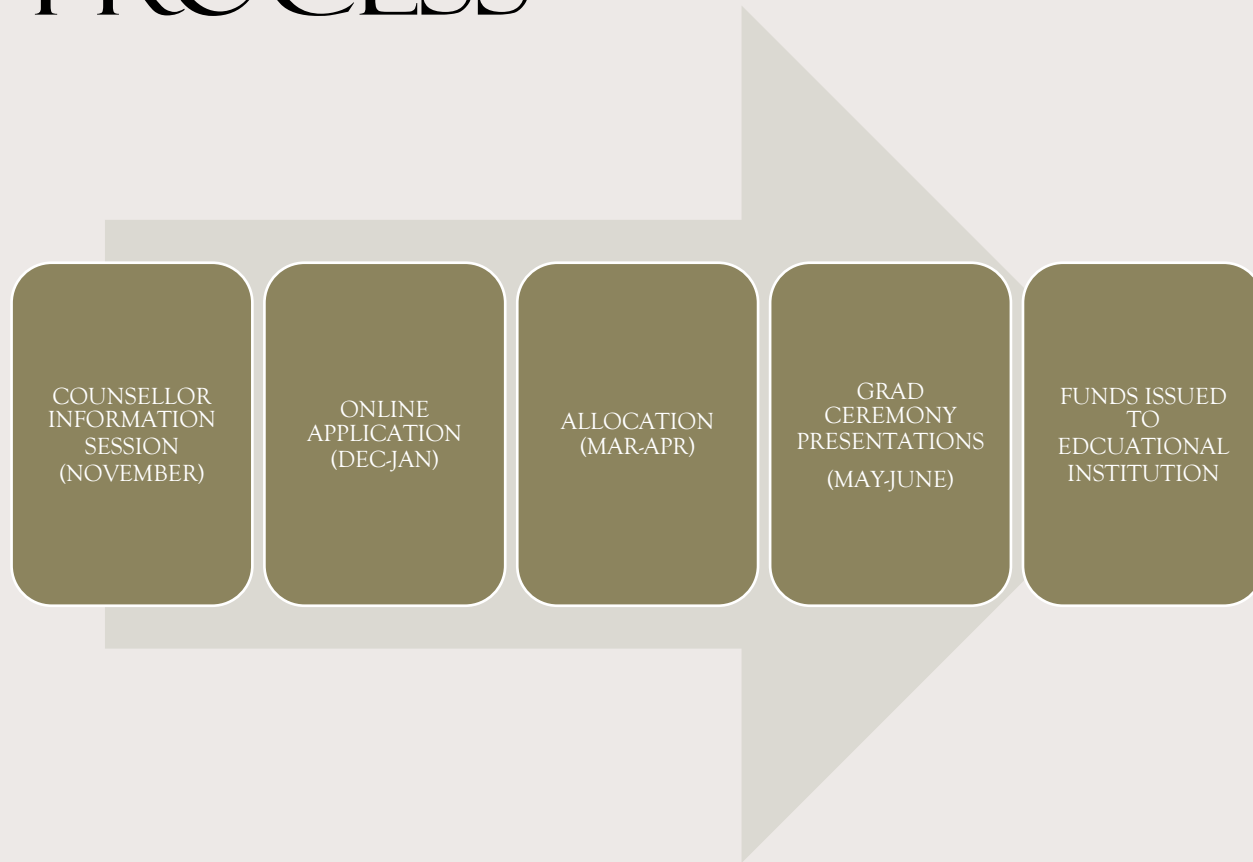
Mount Boucherie Secondary School

Okanagan Christian School

Okanagan Mission Secondary School

Rutland Senior Secondary School

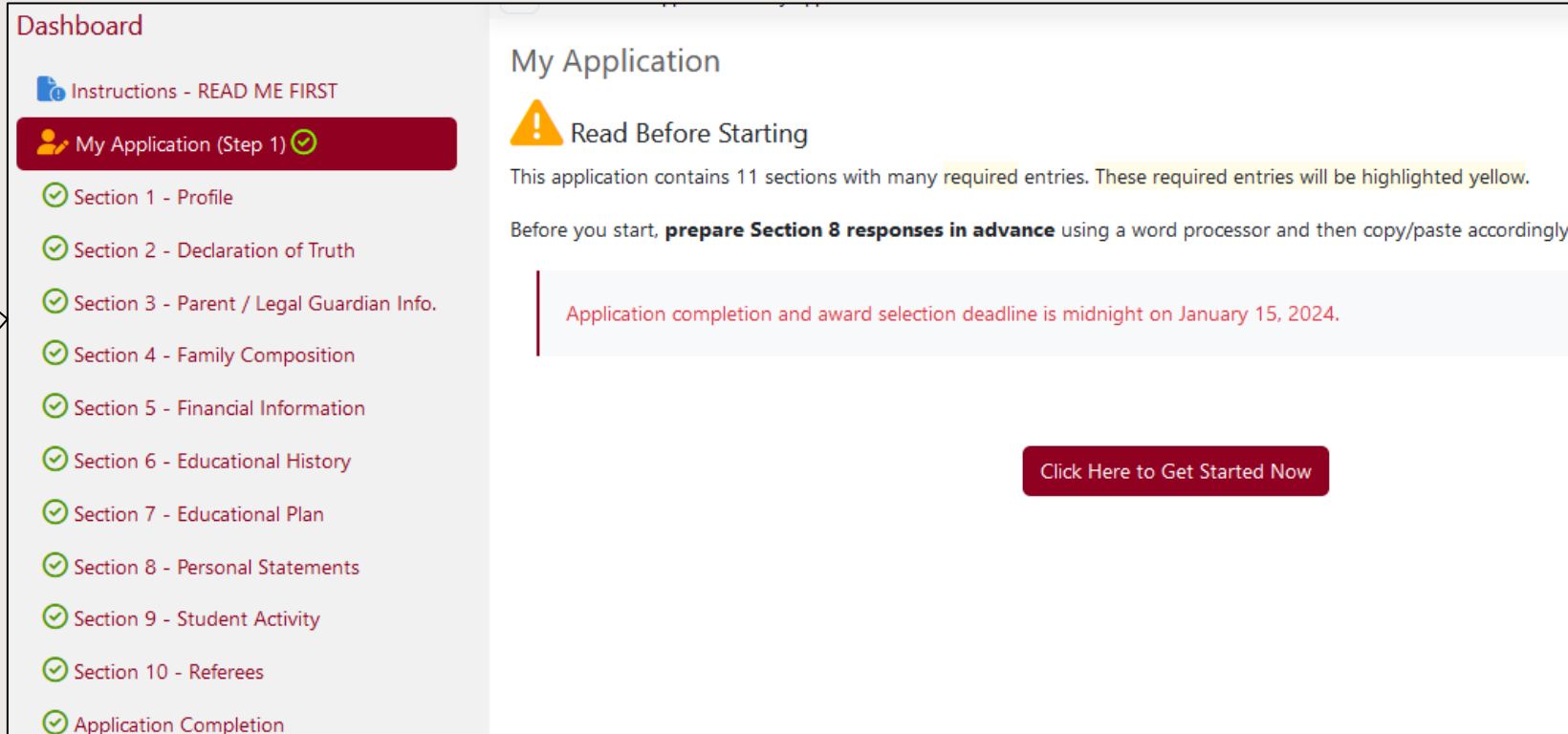
PROCESS



MY APPLICATION

There are **ten sections** and the **Application Completion step** to be completed.

When a section is completed, the check mark will be **green**.



The screenshot displays a dashboard titled "My Application". On the left, a sidebar lists 11 sections, each with a green checkmark indicating completion. The sections are: Section 1 - Profile, Section 2 - Declaration of Truth, Section 3 - Parent / Legal Guardian Info., Section 4 - Family Composition, Section 5 - Financial Information, Section 6 - Educational History, Section 7 - Educational Plan, Section 8 - Personal Statements, Section 9 - Student Activity, Section 10 - Referees, and Application Completion. The "My Application (Step 1)" item is highlighted in red. The main content area features a yellow warning icon and the text "Read Before Starting". Below this, it states: "This application contains 11 sections with many required entries. These required entries will be highlighted yellow. Before you start, **prepare Section 8 responses in advance** using a word processor and then copy/paste accordingly." A red box contains the text: "Application completion and award selection deadline is midnight on January 15, 2024." At the bottom right, there is a red button that says "Click Here to Get Started Now".

MY APPLICATION

- This is where your personality shows through and helps the committee with its decision.
- BE **CREATIVE, HONEST** and **CONCISE** and remember to proofread your answers.
- With your words, you are trying to create a vision in the donor's mind of who you are, what your goals and dreams are and why you deserve to be selected for the award.

QUESTION 1:

What are your educational/career plans? Describe the experiences that have contributed to these plans.

TIPS:

- Try to be original and creative.
- Do not start with “My name is_____ and I am in grade 12 at _____.”

QUESTION 2:

For the selection committee, describe the three qualities that best demonstrate your character. Use examples from your life to illustrate these qualities.

TIPS:

- Try to get across who you are and what you are about in words.
- You want to stand out in the sea of applications.

QUESTION 3:

Describe your family (include custodial and non-custodial parent information). Explain any financial and non-financial struggles that you may have encountered.

TIPS:

- Remember that financial need is one of the areas that selection is based on for COBSS awards.
- This is a snapshot of your current family and financial situation.

MY APPLICATION

Eg. of Community & School Based Involvement & Achievement:
(use the green + button to add details to each section)

Dashboard

- Instructions - READ ME FIRST
- My Application (Step 1)**
- Section 1 - Profile
- Section 2 - Declaration of Truth
- Section 3 - Parent / Legal Guardian Info.
- Section 4 - Family Composition
- Section 5 - Financial Information
- Section 6 - Educational History
- Section 7 - Educational Plan
- Section 8 - Personal Statements
- Section 9 - Student Activity**
- Section 10 - Referees
- Application Completion
- Select Awards (Step 2)
- Completion Checklist



Student / Application / Activity Details

Activity Details

In the spaces provided please include experience, activities & achievements from **Grades 10-12**, starting with the most recent experience in each section (maximum 3 in each section).

Community & School Based Involvement & Achievements

(List any extracurricular involvement outside of classroom time which can include athletics, fine arts, music, certifications. Please do not list school courses)

| Organization | What is the activity/achievement? (255 characters max) | Dates (mm/yyyy-mm/yyyy) | Estimated Total Activity Hours (per week) | Total Overall Hours for This Activity | + |
|--------------|---|----------------------------|---|---|---|
| Kelowna | | | | | |
| 1 Minor | Basketball Referee | 12/2022-03/2023 | 5 | 100 |   |
| | Basketball | | | | |

Volunteer Experience

(list any unpaid and non credit Community & School experience.)

| Organization | What are your responsibilities/activities? (255 characters max) | Dates (mm/yyyy-mm/yyyy) | Estimated Total Activity Hours (per week) | Total Overall Hours for This Activity | + |
|--------------|--|----------------------------|---|---|---|
|--------------|--|----------------------------|---|---|---|

Paid Work Experience

| Organization | What is your job title and duties? (255 characters max) | Dates (mm/yyyy-mm/yyyy) | Estimated Total Activity Hours (per week) | Total Overall Hours for This Activity | + |
|--------------|--|----------------------------|---|---|---|
|--------------|--|----------------------------|---|---|---|

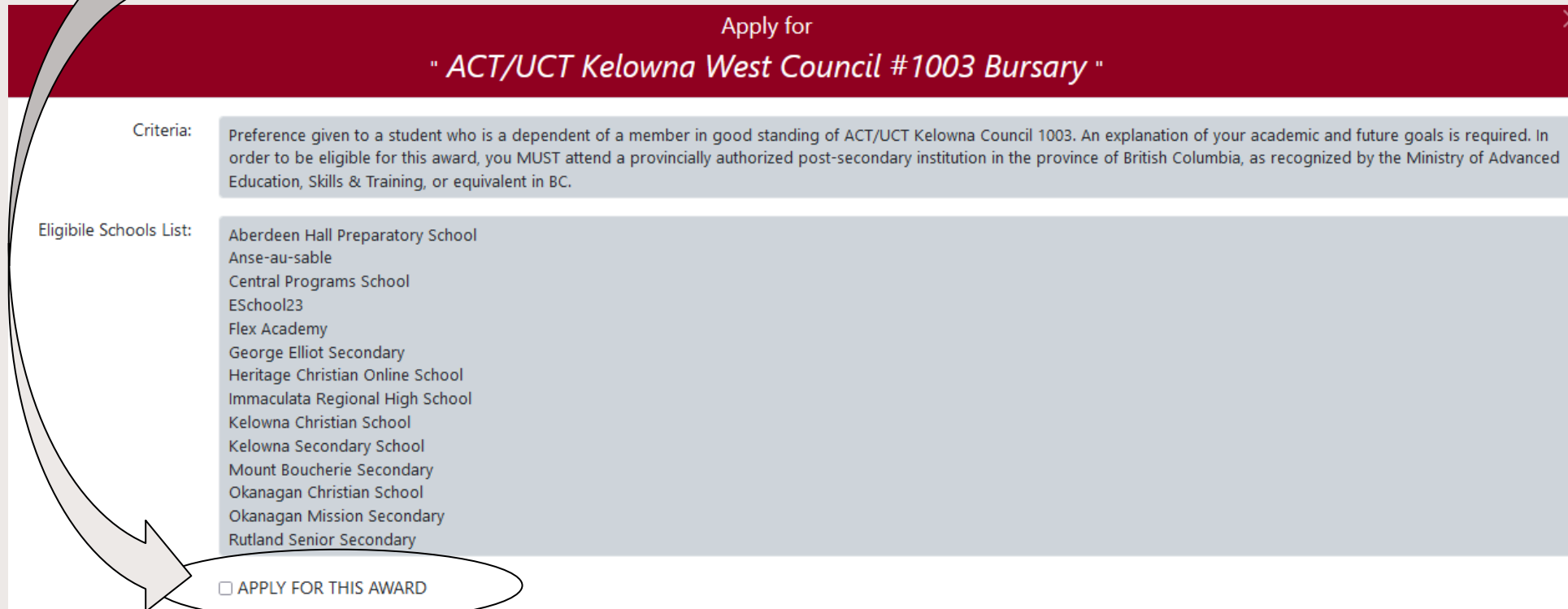
STATEMENT OF REFERENCE

- Consider community people, employers, and teachers as potential referees. (One teacher and one community reference is recommended.)
- Choose referees carefully and contact them in advance for permission.

The screenshot shows a web application interface for 'Referees'. On the left is a 'Dashboard' sidebar with a list of sections: 'Instructions - READ ME FIRST', 'My Application (Step 1)', 'Section 1 - Profile', 'Section 2 - Declaration of Truth', 'Section 3 - Parent / Legal Guardian Info.', 'Section 4 - Family Composition', 'Section 5 - Financial Information', 'Section 6 - Educational History', 'Section 7 - Educational Plan', 'Section 8 - Personal Statements', 'Section 9 - Student Activity', and 'Section 10 - Referees'. 'Section 10 - Referees' is circled in black. The main content area is titled 'Referees' and includes a breadcrumb trail 'Student / Application / Referees'. A red '+ Add Referee' button is visible. Below it, text reads: 'Please provide **two** referees. Once you complete your application, they will each be sent an email with instructions on how to complete their Statement of Reference.' A warning box contains the text: 'It is imperative that you enter each referee's email address correctly'. At the bottom, there is a left arrow button and a green 'Continue' button.

SELECT AWARDS

Click on **APPLY FOR THIS AWARD**



Apply for
" *ACT/UCT Kelowna West Council #1003 Bursary* "

Criteria: Preference given to a student who is a dependent of a member in good standing of ACT/UCT Kelowna Council 1003. An explanation of your academic and future goals is required. In order to be eligible for this award, you **MUST** attend a provincially authorized post-secondary institution in the province of British Columbia, as recognized by the Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills & Training, or equivalent in BC.

Eligible Schools List:

- Aberdeen Hall Preparatory School
- Anse-au-sable
- Central Programs School
- ESchool23
- Flex Academy
- George Elliot Secondary
- Heritage Christian Online School
- Immaculata Regional High School
- Kelowna Christian School
- Kelowna Secondary School
- Mount Boucherie Secondary
- Okanagan Christian School
- Okanagan Mission Secondary
- Rutland Senior Secondary

APPLY FOR THIS AWARD

PROCESS

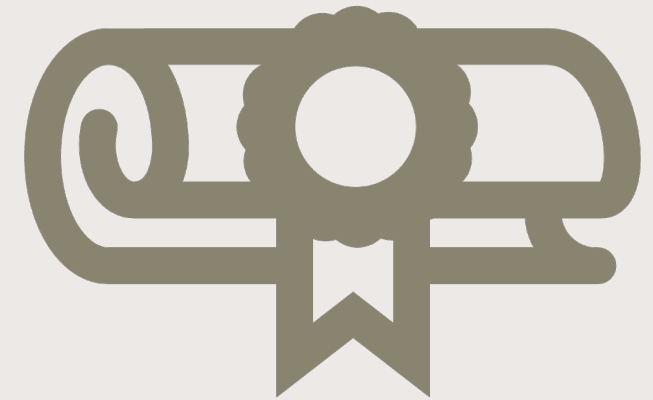


Applications read only by
counsellors, donors and
COBSS members.
Confidentiality paramount



SELECTION IS BASED ON THE FOLLOWING THREE AREAS:

1. **FINANCIAL NEED** – based on line 15000 of tax return and any special circumstances
2. **ACADEMIC ABILITY** – the average of student's Grade 11 and Grade 12 marks
3. **ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP** – such as involvement in school and community



PLEASE REMEMBER

If you are a COBSS award recipient, please:

- Write an immediate thank you note to your donor.
- A follow up thank you note in the early fall is always a kind gesture.

TIP:

- Keep a binder of all your awards so that you can track them accurately and use them before they expire.

COST OF EDUCATION

https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/post-secondary-education/data-research/bc_tuition_fees.pdf

Cost of a Four-Year University Degree, By Province¹

| Province | Ranking of Most Expensive Provinces By Education Costs Next Year (Including Residence) | Cost of Education Next Year (Including Residence) | Comparison to National Average (Cost of Education Next Year) | What Education Will Cost In 18 Years (Including Residence, Forecast) | Education Cost Growth Over The Next 18 Years (Compared to 2024 Costs) | Year That Children Are Forecast To Pay More Than \$100,000 For School, By Province |
|----------------------|--|---|--|--|---|--|
| Canada | National | \$75,387 | - | \$104,898 | 39 % | 2039 |
| Nova Scotia | 1 | \$88,490 | 17 % | \$132,565 | 50 % | 2029 |
| Ontario | 2 | \$86,106 | 14 % | \$114,024 | 32 % | 2034 |
| New Brunswick | 3 | \$83,162 | 10 % | \$116,741 | 40 % | 2033 |
| Saskatchewan | 4 | \$80,761 | 7 % | \$115,014 | 42 % | 2034 |
| Alberta | 5 | \$78,034 | 4 % | \$104,493 | 34 % | 2039 |
| Prince Edward Island | 6 | \$76,802 | 2 % | \$105,879 | 38 % | 2038 |
| Quebec | 7 | \$69,719 | -8 % | \$96,919 | 39 % | - |
| British Columbia | 8 | \$68,495 | -9 % | \$93,668 | 37 % | - |
| Manitoba | 9 | \$67,934 | -10 % | \$95,705 | 41 % | - |
| Newfoundland | 10 | \$54,366 | -28 % | \$73,975 | 36 % | - |

¹Employment and Social Development Canada's (ESDC) Canadian Post-Secondary Institution Collection (CPIC) database found at. www.newswire.ca, January 2024



YOUR GIFT MAKES A DIFFERENCE!

THANK YOU

Central Okanagan Bursary And Scholarship Society

- Address: 316-3001 Tutt Street, Kelowna, BC,
V1Y 2H4
- Phone: 250 861-4980
- Email: cobss@shaw.ca

