



CHIEF JOE MATHIAS BC ABORIGINAL SCHOLARSHIP 2025 Nursing Scholarship Application

The Chief Joe Mathias British Columbia Aboriginal Scholarship Fund (the “Fund”) was established to honour the memory of the late Chief Joe Mathias, a hereditary and elected Chief of the Squamish Nation. Chief Joe Mathias will be long-remembered for his vision and tireless leadership for the rights of Indigenous people in BC and across Canada.

Central to Chief Joe Mathias’s vision was his passionate belief in and advocacy for higher education. The Chief Joe Mathias BC Aboriginal Scholarship was created to further this goal and is one of the largest and longest-running Indigenous scholarships in BC. With the generous support of both private and public donors, we have been able to provide over 500 scholarships to students from almost all of the First Nations in BC since the inception of the Fund in 2002.

In addition to continuing this work, in 2025, with the assistance of the Province of BC, we are pleased to announce the addition of the Chief Joe Mathias BC Indigenous Nursing Scholarship, a new five-year scholarship program aimed at supporting First Nation students in BC who aspire to pursue careers in the field of Nursing. Our goal is to assist the Province in attracting and supporting nursing students who will eventually serve to fill the serious need for nurses in British Columbia. Underscoring the importance of the contribution of First Nations nurses, one of the Chief Joe Mathias BC Aboriginal Scholarship Fund Nursing Committee members stated:

“Indigenous nurses are leaders, advocates, caregivers, educators, and researchers who work across all areas of health and healing. Our roles extend beyond the bedside to include community-based care, health system transformation, and the revitalization of Indigenous knowledge and practices. We carry a responsibility to uphold the health and wellness of our Peoples through approaches that are relational, culturally grounded, and rooted in the strength of our Nations. Indigenous nursing is not limited to clinical settings — it is a sovereign act of care that addresses the impacts of colonization and creates space for future generations to thrive.”

- Nikki Rose Hunter-Porter, RN, BScN, MN, St’uxwstews te Secwépemc



Chief Joe Mathias British Columbia Aboriginal Scholarship Fund

2025 Nursing Scholarship Application Form

PURPOSE OF THE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Chief Joe Mathias British Columbia Aboriginal Scholarship Fund (the "Fund") is a nationally registered charity established in memory of the late Chief Joe Mathias to support Chief Mathias' vision of post-secondary education for all First Nations people. The Fund is an incorporated society under the BC Societies Act and directed by a Board.

The purpose of the Fund's Nursing Scholarship Program is to advance the education and development of students wishing to pursue a career in nursing, including students enrolled in:

- ❖ Courses towards an academic nursing degree or diploma at an eligible post-secondary educational institution at an undergraduate level;
- ❖ Post-graduate academic nursing studies at an eligible post-secondary institution; or
- ❖ A bridging, certificate, or pathway program which will lead into a diploma or degree in nursing.

The goal of the Fund's Nursing Scholarship Program is to improve the health and well-being of First Nations communities in British Columbia. The Fund will assist with the costs of nursing school and wrap-around costs. All eligible applicants will be considered for a scholarship between \$2,000-\$10,000. The amount awarded per person will be decided by the Board on a case-by case basis. Please note that we're considering a program for multi-year funding, and also for the provision of mentors to successful applicants.

ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS

The Fund will grant nursing scholarships to people who:

- ❖ Are members or citizens of a British Columbia First Nation;
- ❖ Have been accepted or are enrolled full-time or part-time in an accredited post-secondary nursing program. Programs can include Practical Nursing Diploma, Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN), Bachelor of Science in Psychiatric Nursing (BSPN), Master of Science in Nursing (MSN), or Doctorate in Nursing (DN);
- ❖ Have been accepted or are enrolled into a bridging, certificate, or pathway program that is leading towards a degree or diploma in nursing, at an eligible post-secondary institution; and
- ❖ Demonstrate financial need.

Priority will be given to candidates who can demonstrate their commitment to positively impact on the health and well-being of First Nations communities in British Columbia.

ELIGIBLE POST-SECONDARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION

The scholarships will be provided to eligible recipients for post-secondary studies at a post-secondary educational institution that grants nursing degrees or diplomas, or has an established pathway program leading to a career in health.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Factors to be considered by the nursing selection committee and the Board in the selection of a candidate for a scholarship may include academic achievement, personal qualities and character, clinical experience, interest and participation in post-secondary educational institution and community affairs or volunteer activities.

APPLICATIONS

Applications will be reviewed each year by the nursing selection committee that will make recommendations to the Board. Scholarship Applications must conform with all requirements of the following application form. Should you have any questions please email chiefjoemathias@gmail.com.



Chief Joe Mathias British Columbia Aboriginal Scholarship Fund

2025 **Nursing** Scholarship Application Form

Be sure to read this Application Form carefully, answer each question, and sign this Application Form.

1. Who is eligible? A member or citizen of a British Columbia First Nation who is pursuing education in the field of nursing. This scholarship package is aimed towards supporting nursing students enrolled in a degree, diploma, bridging, certificate, or pathway program which leads to pursue a career in nursing.

2. What Parts of this Application Form must be completed?

Part I - All applicants must complete Part I of this Application Form.

Part II – To be completed by Undergraduate Scholarship Applicants.

Part III – To be completed by Post-Graduate Scholarship Applicants must complete.

3. What support documents must I provide?

A complete Undergraduate Scholarship Application must include:

- Part I of the Scholarship Application Form
- Part II of the Scholarship Application Form for Undergraduate Students
- Resume or Curriculum Vitae
- One (1) letter of reference from a teacher, academic supervisor, or current/former employer
- A copy of your valid status card; or proof of First Nations citizenship
- Proof of enrollment: A letter from the post-secondary educational institution verifying your enrollment OR a copy of your current class registration form
- A transcript of your grades including your most recent period of study

A complete Graduate Scholarship Application must include:

- Part I of the Scholarship Application Form
- Part III of the Scholarship Application Form for Graduate Students
- Resume or Curriculum Vitae
- One (1) academic reference letter from a teacher or academic supervisor
- A copy of your valid status card, or proof of First Nations citizenship
- Proof of enrollment: A letter from the post-secondary educational institution verifying your enrollment OR a copy of your current registration form
- A transcript of your grades including your most recent period of study

4. Who do I send the Completed Application Form and Supportive Documentation to?

Email to ChiefJoeMathias@gmail.com. **Note that the assembled application packages sent electronically must be included in one PDF document sent in a single email with the subject line as your name and the type of scholarship you are applying for.**

5. Deadline for submitting applications: Scholarship Applications and Support Documentation are due, and must be received at, the above address by no later than **June 14, 2025 at 11:59PM**. **Late applications will not be considered.**

6. Please note the nursing selection committee may have additional questions for you. We may reach out if any additional questions are required. If you have any questions, please email ChiefJoeMathias@gmail.com.

Part I — All Applicants Must Complete This Part
 (Insert additional page(s) if required)

1. Which scholarship are you applying for: Undergraduate Graduate
2. Surname: _____ Given Name and Initials: _____
3. Home Address: _____ City: _____ Postal Code: _____
 Province: _____ Phone: _____ Email address: _____
 Mailing Address: as above, or: Mailing Address: _____ City: _____
 Province: _____ Postal Code: _____
4. Date of Birth: _____ (MM/DD/YYYY)
5. Which British Columbia First Nation are you a member/citizen of? _____
6. Have you applied for or received a Chief Joe Mathias British Columbia Aboriginal Scholarship before? Yes No
 If **yes**, please indicate:
 Year _____ If received, value of award _____
 Year _____ If received, value of award _____
 Year _____ If received, value of award _____
 Year _____ If received, value of award _____

7. **Income:** What other sources income or funding will help cover your expenses (complete the following table)?

Income	Annual Amount	Description of Funding
Provincial Funding/Grants	\$	
Student Loan	\$	
First Nation/ Band Funding	\$	
Scholarships	\$	
Personal Savings	\$	
Employment Income	\$	
Other	\$	
Grand Total	\$	

8. **Expenses:** What do you estimate your out-of-pocket expenses will be (complete the following table)?

Expense Type	Annual Amount	Description of expense
Tuition	\$	
Textbooks	\$	
Supplies	\$	
Accommodation	\$	
Food	\$	
Transportation	\$	
NCLEX or other out-of-pocket exam fees	\$	
Other expenses including, childcare, etc. (please specify)	\$	
Grand Total	\$	

9. Do any of the following apply to you?

- a. I have dependent children
- b. I am traveling to or from a remote/rural community for school
- c. I am first-generation university student from within your family
- d. I plan to return to work in your Nation or community post-graduation

Yes	No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

10. Please describe your involvement within your First Nation community, and how will you contribute to First Nations people and/or communities in nursing:

11. Do you have a favourite speciality area of nursing you would like to practice?

12. **Optional:** Is there anything else you would like the Board and nursing selection committee to know about you?

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for the applicant to provide additional information.

Part II — Undergraduate Nursing Scholarship Applicants Must Complete this Part

(Insert additional page(s) if required)

Is your program leading towards a:

- BSN Degree
 BSPN Degree
 LPN Diploma
 Certificate, Bridging, and/or Pathway Program

1. What program are you enrolled in?

Program Name: _____

Nursing Specialization: _____

Institution: _____

Location: _____

2. How long is your program? (NOTE: One year equals 8 months of full-time studies)

- 1 year
 2 years
 3 years
 4 years
 5+ years

3. What year of your studies are you applying for a scholarship for? (Example: Year 1 of 4)? Year _____ of _____

4. Indicate the date on which your course of study begins and ends for the year in which you are applying for funding:

Begin: _____ (MM/DD/YYYY) End: _____ (MM/DD/YYYY)

5. Are you enrolled in full-time or part-time studies? _____

6. What was your **cumulative grade point average** for your most recent year of studies? _____

7. What month and year do you anticipate receiving your degree/diploma? _____

8. Have you ever enrolled in or completed a previous post-secondary education program? If so, please list below.

Institution	Program	Year	Did you graduate? (Yes/No)

9. Tell us about your educational path (for example: why you want to pursue a career in nursing, what your career aspirations are, and what motivated you to choose nursing)?

COMPLETE APPLICATION CHECKLIST

A complete Undergraduate Scholarship Application must include:

- Part I of the Scholarship Application Form
- Part II of the Scholarship Application Form for Undergraduate Students
- Resume or Curriculum Vitae
- One (1) letter of reference from a teacher, academic supervisor, or current/former employer
- A copy of your valid status card, or proof of First Nations citizenship
- Proof of enrollment: A letter from the post-secondary educational institution verifying your enrollment OR a copy of your current class registration form
- A transcript of your grades including your most recent period of study

I hereby declare that the information in Part I of this Application Form is correct, that I shall be a full-time or part-time student for the academic period stated in this Application Form and that if I discontinue full-time or part-time studies during the stated period or if my submitted information is found to be fraudulent, I am liable to return all or a portion of any award provided to me.

Date: _____ Signature: _____

Part III — Applicants for a Graduate Scholarship Must Complete this Part

(Insert additional page(s) if required. Please note your graduate degree must specialize in nursing and contribute towards patient care. Any other graduate studies will not be considered but are eligible for our other CJMBCASF application not specific to nursing.)

1. Please indicate the program you are enrolled in: Doctorate Masters Advanced Degree

Desired nursing career speciality: _____

Area of focus and/or concentration: _____

Institution: _____

Location: _____

Is your Program: Online In- Person Hybrid

2. Provide your current cumulative grade point average for your current program (if applicable): _____

3. Previous degree(s)	Institution and Location	Average Grade	Year

4. What awards have you received or will you be entitled to during this academic year?

Type _____ Value _____

Type _____ Value _____

Type _____ Value _____

Type _____ Value _____

Type _____ Value _____

3. When did you begin your advanced degree/ masters/doctorate program? Month: _____ Year: _____

4. When do you anticipate graduation? Month: _____ Year: _____

Indicate the dates on which you begin and end classes and/or research for the year for which you are applying for a scholarship.

Begin: _____(MM/DD/YYYY) End: _____(MM/DD/YYYY)

5. Provide a description of your major, research project, or thesis:

6. What inspired you to pursue graduate studies in nursing, and what are some ways you will balance its demands?

I hereby declare that the information provided in Part III of this Application Form is correct, that I shall be a full-time or part-time student for the academic period stated in this application and that if I discontinue full-time or part-time studies during the stated period or if my submitted information is found to be fraudulent, I am liable to return all or a portion of any award provided to me.

Date: _____ Signature: _____

COMPLETE APPLICATION CHECKLIST

A complete Graduate Scholarship Application must include:

- Part I of the Scholarship Application Form
- Part III of the Scholarship Application Form for Graduate Students
- Resume or Curriculum Vitae
- One (1) academic reference letter from a teacher or academic supervisor
- A copy of your valid status card, or proof of First Nations citizenship
- Proof of enrollment: A letter from the post-secondary educational institution verifying your enrollment OR a copy of your current registration form
- A transcript of your grades including your most recent period of study