



RISE ABOVE

BURSARIES FOR SINGLE PARENTS

SEPTEMBER 2026

APPLICATION

RISE ABOVE BURSARIES FOR SINGLE PARENTS

BACKGROUND

Rise Above Bursaries for Single Parents was established in February of 2016 to assist a single parent exhibiting financial need in attending the *University of Manitoba*. Rise Above now accepts applications from students attending any accredited post-secondary institution in Winnipeg, MB Canada.

AVAILABLE AMOUNT

The number of bursaries awarded in any given year is dependant upon donations brought in prior to the application deadline. The September 2026 bursary recipient(s) will receive a total of **\$3,000**.

TIMELINE

Completed applications must be received no later than July 31, 2026. The top applicants will be scheduled for a video or in-person interview between August 5th and August 20th, 2026. The applicant(s) chosen to receive the bursary will be notified by August 25th, 2026, and will be expected to provide proof of enrollment by August 31st, 2026. A cheque for \$3,000 will be issued after the recipient has provided proof of enrollment and not before August 26th, 2026. **This bursary is a single year award.** If the recipient is still in need of assistance for additional academic years, they may apply again annually and will be considered alongside all other applicants. Recipients cannot receive more than one bursary from Rise Above in any given twelve-month period.

EXPECTATIONS

To qualify for this bursary, applicants must have primary custody of their child(ren).

If selected to receive this bursary, recipients must:

- ✓ Be enrolled at any **accredited** post-secondary institution in Winnipeg *at the time of award disbursement* and for a minimum of one full semester afterward. For a list of accredited post-secondary institutions, please visit www.riseabovebursaries.ca, and
- ✓ Be considered a full-time student by their institution.

Before receiving the award disbursement, recipients are required to:

- ✓ Submit a letter outlining the impact of the bursary on themselves and their family, which may be used by Rise Above in communications with donors and on its website; and
- ✓ Submit proof of enrollment.

Please note that demonstrated financial need carries significant weight in the selection process.

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

Along with your application, you will be required to submit the following:

- A Proof of Income Statement (available through CRA) to confirm your income (formerly called Option C).
- A scanned copy of your photo ID (Manitoba Enhanced ID, Driver's License or Passport).

You may also choose to submit any other documentation that helps us assess your level of financial need (pay stubs, bills, etc.).

GENERAL INFORMATION

Full Name: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ Province: _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

ACADEMIC PROFILE

I am **currently** a student at an accredited post-secondary institution. Yes No

Please specify the institution: _____

If yes:

I am currently in year _____ of a _____ year program.

I am currently in the Faculty of _____, and/or I am in
the _____ program.

I am currently an: Undergraduate Student Graduate Student NA

If no:

Please specify the institution that you are applying to:

Start date, or prospective start date, of program: _____

End date, or prospective end date, of program: _____

For a list of accredited post-secondary institutions in Manitoba, please visit

www.riseabovebursaries.ca/accredited-institutions

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

I have applied for, and received, Manitoba Student Aid in past years. Yes No

I have applied for, and will receive, Manitoba Student Aid this year. Yes No

*If **no** to above:*

I intend to apply for Manitoba Student Aid this year but have not yet done so. Yes No

If you do not intend to apply for any governmental student aid, please explain why not:

I will be receiving funding from a band/community group for the 2026-2027 Academic Year.

Yes No NA

*If **yes**, the amount I will be receiving is:* _____

I will be receiving other governmental or institutional funding. (Example: SSHRC Funding)

Yes No

*If **yes**, the amount I will be receiving is:* _____

FAMILY

I receive child support from my child(ren)'s other parent. Yes No

I have _____ child(ren), who is/are _____ years old.

My child(ren) is/are currently enrolled in daycare. Yes No

*If **no** to the above:*

My child(ren) is/are currently cared for by _____

LONG ANSWER QUESTION

In approximately 1000 words or less, please answer the following questions. This is your opportunity to show us how this bursary will help you and is a key part of the selection process.

Your long answer response must be typed and can be sent as a separate file (within the same email) if needed.

If awarded this bursary, what would you put the money towards? How would this assistance benefit you, and your child(ren)? What are your career goals/what do you hope to accomplish with your degree or certificate? Will you be pursuing other education after you finish this program? Finally, why is a university education important to you?

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS/DECLARATIONS

How did you hear about the *Rise Above* bursary?

- Facebook
- Google
- Word of Mouth
- Event (Please Specify: _____)
- Other (Please Specify: _____)

We add our applicants and recipients to our general mailing list, unless otherwise requested.

- Please do not add me to your mailing list.

Optional Self-Identification

I self-identify as a member of a minority group.

- Yes
- No

Minority Group (Optional): _____

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

This bursary is based on financial need. The following page *must be filled in accurately*. **If you are unsure how to fill it out, please refer to the example budget sheet included at the end of this application.** If you are still unsure, please contact us. **Any application that is not filled out correctly will be disqualified.**

As well, we require a Proof of Income Statement (formerly called Option C), which you can get by mail by calling CRA (1-800-267-6999) or by logging into your CRA Account online and printing it yourself. *Note: if you request your Proof of Income Statement by mail, it can take 10-20 business days to receive. Please plan accordingly.*

If your Proof of Income Statement (which is reflective of your income over the previous tax year) does not accurately reflect your *current* income, please *also* provide a copy of your three most recent pay stubs or a letter from your employer stating your current income.

STUDY PERIOD BUDGET

This budget applies to the period of September 2026 to April 2027

Make sure you include your tuition in your expenses, and all funding you will receive in your income, even if the funding is the exact amount of tuition.

All household income/financial support must be disclosed. (i.e. parental help, partner assistance, etc.) Failure to do so will result in your application being disqualified.

Accommodations during your study period:

- With parents On campus Renting Other, please specify: _____

Total Income/Resources During Study Period:

Savings:		
RESP Income:		
Parental Help:		
Student Loans:		
Band Funding:	/month x 8 months =	
Job Income:	/month x 8 months =	
Child Support:	/month x 8 months =	
Canada Child Benefit:	/month x 8 months =	
_____:	/month x 8 months =	
_____:	/month x 8 months =	
Total Resources:	WITHOUT STUDENT LOANS =	
	WITH STUDENT LOANS =	

Total Expenses During Study Period:

Tuition and fees:		
Books and supplies:		
Rent & Utilities:	/month x 8 months =	
Phone/Internet:	/month x 8 months =	
Food:	/month x 8 months =	
Personal Care:	/month x 8 months =	
Clothing:	/month x 8 months =	
Local Transportation:	/month x 8 months =	
Entertainment/Recreation:	/month x 8 months =	
Childcare:	/month x 8 months =	
Debt Payments:	/month x 8 months =	
Medical/dental:	/month x 8 months =	
_____:	/month x 8 months =	
_____:	/month x 8 months =	
_____:	/month x 8 months =	
Total Expenses:		

Projected Surplus/Deficit without Student Loans: _____

Projected Surplus/Deficit with Student Loans: _____

(Total Income – Total Expenses = Projected Surplus/Deficit)

APPLICANT'S DECLARATION & CONSENT

I authorize *Rise Above Bursaries for Single Parents (RABfSP)* to release a copy of this application to the award selection committee. I understand that I am responsible for providing all required documentation as indicated in this application. I understand that if I do not submit the required documentation I will not be considered for this bursary. I understand that the collection of personal information provided on this application or accompanying documentation is used solely for the purpose of determining my eligibility for this award.

I understand that, if selected, I will be required to submit a letter by August 31st, 2026, outlining the impact of the bursary on myself and my family, which may be used by Rise Above in communications with donors and on its website.

I understand that this bursary is for one year, not for the entirety of my degree, and if I need financial assistance for additional academic years I may re-apply but am not guaranteed funds.

I declare that all the information that I have provided is true. I understand that any money awarded may be reassessed and/or withdrawn if any of the aforementioned information is proven to be false.

Applicant's Signature

Date

COMPLETED APPLICATIONS MUST BE SCANNED* AND EMAILED TO:

info@riseabovebursaries.ca

OR MAILED TO:

**Rise Above Bursaries
PO Box 35032 Henderson PO
Winnipeg MB R2K 4J9**

***PLEASE NOTE:** applications that have been *photographed* and emailed will not be accepted. A *clean, legible scan is required*. Scanning is available at your University/College print shop, Staples, the Public Library, among other places. Fees to use those places will vary.

***PLEASE ALSO NOTE:** we will only consider information that is included in the application and/or attached as a separate document. We will not take into account any additional/supplementary information that is pasted into the body of an email.

APPLICATION SUBMISSION CHECKLIST

You do not need to include this page, or the sample budget (the next page) when you submit your application. These pages are for your reference only.

When submitting your application, please make sure to include the following:

- Fully completed application
(if being emailed, it must be *scanned* – no photos will be accepted)
- Long answer question
(*must be typed*, not handwritten)
- Photocopy of your ID
(valid driver's license, passport or Manitoba enhanced ID)
- Proof of Income Statement (formerly called Option C)
from Canada Revenue Agency – CRA
- Optional Other Documents
(to verify income/expenses, explain why there is a difference
between your Option C and your budget, etc.)

You can scan and email your application package to info@riseabovebursaries.ca

Or mail it to:

**Rise Above Bursaries
PO Box 35032 Henderson PO
Winnipeg MB R2K 4J9**

EXAMPLE BUDGET SHEETS

The next page is an example of how you should fill in the budget sheets (page 6 of the application). *This page does not need to be typed* but must be easy to read.

The numbers used in the example budget are *examples only* – we recognize that your financial situation may look very different from the one provided in the example. It is important that the information you record in your application is *true to your situation*, as the budget plays a significant role in the selection process.

An incomplete budget, or one that doesn't make sense, may result in your application not being considered.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to us. We're happy to assist!

STUDY PERIOD BUDGET *EXAMPLE*****

This budget applies to the period of January 2026 to June 2026.

Accommodations during study period:

With parents On campus Renting Other, please specify:

Total Income During Study Period:

Savings:	\$3,225	\$3,225
RESP Income:	\$0	\$0
Parental Help:	\$0	\$0
Student Loans:	\$4,000	\$4,000
Band Funding:	\$0 /month x 6 months =	\$0
Job Income:	\$1,200 /month x 6 months =	\$7,200
Child Support:	\$150 /month x 6 months =	\$900
Canada Child Benefit:	\$550 /month x 6 months =	\$3,300
NA :	\$0 /month x 6 months =	\$0
NA :	\$0 /month x 6 months =	\$0
Total Resources:	WITH STUDENT LOANS	\$18,625
	WITHOUT STUDENT LOANS	\$14,625

Total Expenses During Study Period:

Tuition and fees:	\$4,500	\$4,500
Books and supplies:	\$600	\$600
Rent & Utilities:	\$1,200 /month x 6 months =	\$7,200
Phone/Internet:	\$120 /month x 6 months =	\$720
Food:	\$250 /month x 6 months =	\$1,500
Personal Care:	\$75 /month x 6 months =	\$450
Clothing:	\$75 /month x 6 months =	\$450
Local Transportation:	\$120 /month x 6 months =	\$720
Entertainment/Recreation:	\$75 /month x 6 months =	\$450
Childcare:	\$500 /month x 6 months =	\$3,000
Debt Payments:	\$280 /month x 6 months =	\$1,680
Medical/dental:	\$30 /month x 6 months =	\$180
Gym :	\$10 /month x 6 months =	\$60
NA :	\$0 /month x 6 months =	\$0
NA :	\$0 /month x 6 months =	\$0
Total Expenses:		\$21,510

Projected Surplus/Deficit without Student Loans: -\$2,885

Projected Surplus/Deficit with Student Loans: -\$6,885

(Total Income – Total Expenses = Projected Surplus/Deficit)