

6.9 PEA Scholarships

Scholarship awards are intended to foster PEA member engagement and create accessible and fair opportunities for applicants. Awards shall be subject to the eligibility criteria and conditions stated in this policy.

A. Awards Committee

The Awards Committee assesses the applications for PEA scholarships and bursaries and the nominations for the PEA Service Award.

The Awards Committee consists of two executive members, up to three members-at-large, and the Executive Director or their designate.

To the extent possible, the Association Executive will ensure that the diversity of union membership is reflected in committee appointments, and that committees include members new to Association activities.

A potential committee member is considered to be in conflict of interest if they are a scholarship applicant or relative of an applicant, and shall not be eligible to serve on the Awards Committee for the scholarship adjudication.

B. Award Value

The Association Executive may make up to 20 scholarships of \$1,000 available to eligible recipients.

C. Eligibility

To be eligible for PEA scholarships, applicants must meet the following requirements. The applicant must:

1. Be a PEA member in good standing, their relative, or a relative of a PEA staff member.

Members may include persons formerly employed in a PEA bargaining unit who are receiving long-term disability benefits under terms of a PEA collective agreement.

For the purpose of this policy “relative” shall mean spouse (including common-law spouse and same-sex spouse), parent, child or grandchild;

2. Be registered, or in the process of being registered, in a full-time post-secondary educational program. Full-time registration will not be required of applicants who are prevented by a disability, or other academic accommodation, from registering full-time in a regular academic program.

3. Submit a personal statement with a minimum 250 words to a maximum 500 words to the PEA office that answers the following:
 - i. Why do you deserve this scholarship?
 - ii. What are your goals for your future education and career?
 - iii. How would this scholarship impact your academic studies?
4. Applications must be received by the PEA office on or before May 1. No late applications will be considered. Applicants are limited to one application per year.
5. PEA members who apply for a PEA bursary are eligible to apply for a PEA scholarship in the same calendar year. Award recipients shall not receive a PEA scholarship and bursary in the same calendar year.

D. Conditions

1. Scholarships will only be granted to eligible applicants; this may mean not granting all scholarship monies. Members of the Awards Committee shall review and evaluate each scholarship application to ensure it meets the criteria in Section C. Applicant personal statements may be used to help determine eligibility.
2. Scholarships are awarded by random draw. The scholarship draw precedes the bursary draw. Preference will be given to those not having received a previous scholarship.
3. At the time of the award selection, award recipients must meet the eligibility criteria under Section B.
4. Payment of a scholarship award shall be subject to proof of completion of a full term or semester within a post-secondary educational program as contemplated under Section C. Successful applicants prevented from registering full-time must also provide reasonable documentation to that effect, and will be reimbursed for the cost of attaining the documentation production of a receipt.
5. Proof of completion must be received in the PEA office no later than 24 months after the notification of the award; the award can be applied to any educational term or semester within the same calendar year.
6. Photos and bios of the successful applicants will be published in *The Professional*.

7. At the PEA's discretion, statements may be published, promoted or excerpted in *The Professional*, posted on the PEA website for up to one year, or otherwise distributed for the information of PEA members.

E. Appeals

1. Provided it is consistent with this policy, a decision of the Awards Committee shall not be subject to appeal. The executive shall hear and conclude any claim that a decision of the Awards Committee is in violation of this policy.

POLICY AMENDED DECEMBER 5, 2022