

GITWANGAK EDUCATION SOCIETY POST-SECONDARY SUPPORT POLICY

1. The Gitwangak Education Society determines funded students based on their educational status. The priority for funding is as follows:
 - Continuing students have priority based on academic achievement, attendance and progress with a minimum of a 2.0 grade point average (C+) or higher, with a minimum of four (4) complete courses in the previous semester.
 - Graduating students with a Dogwood Certificate
 - Adult new students. Applicants living on Gitwangak reserve will be given first consideration for funding.
2. Students who do not complete High School but qualify for Trade Programs may apply for funding if one of the pre-requisites is Grade 12
3. Students under the age of 19 qualify for grade school and or Adult Basic Education (ABE) not Post-Secondary programs.
4. Students must be on the Gitwangak Band List to apply for funding (subject to provisions listed in #1). Also, must provide the Gitwangak Education Society with a copy of current Status Card.
5. Undergraduate Programs will be funded to a maximum of five (5) years with a 2.0 (C+) grade point average. Any student not achieving a 2.0 (C+) grade point average will be subject to a review by the Gitwangak Education Society Board of Directors, or a designate of the Board of Directors as to whether or not funding will continue. Students cannot switch majors after the second year.
6. The Post-Secondary Budget is what determines the amount of students funded each year. Indian and Northern Affairs Canada regulates the budget.
7. Upon graduation or completion of a Bachelor Degree, a student is no longer eligible for funding unless they wish to pursue a Master's Degree. To qualify for funding for a Master's Degree, a student must work for 2 years.
8. Adult Basic Education (ABE) does not qualify as a Post-Secondary program and is therefore not eligible for funding.
9. All necessary forms, registration, acceptance letter(s), and applications for funding are mandatory, and should be received prior to June 20th of each funding year.
10. Misuse of funds will ultimately result in cancellation of monthly support and may jeopardize any future funding. The definition of Misuse of funding includes:
 - A. Not providing accurate and current marital and/or dependant information
 - B. Collecting Post-Secondary funding after withdrawing from studies
 - C. Not complying with the Gitwangak Education Society terms of funding

11. Students qualify for an achievement incentive grant that has attained a 3.0 (B+) grade point average or higher on a year to year basis. There are also strategic studies scholarships at the commencement of the 2nd year of a Bachelors Program. Students completing the Master's Program are eligible for a Post Graduate Incentive.
12. Appeal Procedure: a student who wished to appeal decisions regarding non- sponsorship, or discrepancies with sponsorship may do so in writing to:

Gitwangak Education Society
Attention: Debbie Bright-Education Coordinator
PO Box 280
Kitwanga, BC V0J-2A0

A copy of the appeal should also be forwarded to:

Amanda Zettergreen-Administration and the Gitwangak Education Society Board of Directors.

All pertinent correspondence and documentation must accompany your appeal letter. The person appealing has the right to have support in the form of an advisor or advocate if and when a meeting is required.

Appeal Process:

- We Endeavour, to the best of our ability, to provide a fair and equitable process of appeal.
- A written appeal, including a complainant's concerns, must be forwarded to the Gitwangak Education Society's Education Coordinator and Administrator.
- An Appeal Committee will be appointed to deal with appeals that arise.
- Upon receiving the appeal, a decision will be made as soon as practical.

Emergency Contingency Funding:

- In the event of a death or illness the immediate family (father, mother, brother, sister), full time students are eligible to receive one trip at the rate appropriate for travel.
- Process: a written letter of request must be forwarded to the Gitwangak Education Society's Education Coordinator and Administrator