

PROGRAM GUIDE

This guide identifies the eligibility criteria for Youth Community Service Award (YCSA) and gives you information on how to complete an application.

WHAT IS THE YOUTH COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD?

Columbia Basin Trust's Youth Community Service Awards are designed to reward and encourage the volunteerism of Columbia Basin students. These awards are not based on academic achievement but rather volunteer community service activity. Community service refers to a significant contribution of volunteer time, energy and/or talent that fosters community well-being. Columbia Basin Trust (the Trust) uses the term "community" to also include rural areas of the Basin that are not defined as cities, towns or villages, and areas of interest.

WHAT ARE THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA?

The emphasis for award selection is on impactful and meaningful volunteer service that fosters community well-being. Added weight will be given to activities that focus on providing benefit to Basin communities, but other volunteer service will be considered.

WHO CAN APPLY?

1. The applicant must be a Basin student graduating from a Basin Public School or Independent School (or other program) that grants Ministry of Education-recognized graduation diplomas;
2. The applicant must be no more than 20 years of age; and
3. The applicant must currently live within the [Columbia Basin Region](#).

WHAT IS THE APPLICATION PROCEDURE AND DEADLINE?

- All Basin students who will graduate from a Basin Public School or Independent School (or other program) that grants Ministry of Education-recognized graduation diplomas are eligible for the award.
- Applications must be submitted online to the Basin Public School that the applicant attends, or to the one nearest to where they live by **April 8, 2021 by 3:30 PM Pacific**.
- Use the amount of space provided to answer each question; be clear and to the point.
- Letters of support must be included with the application.

WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE LETTER OF SUPPORT?

- Contributions to strengthening the community through volunteer service (describe the activity, history of applicant's community activities, major accomplishments);
- Special leadership qualities (ability to inspire and encourage others);
- Ability to achieve outcomes (such as problems solved, numbers of people reached, measurable change, dollars saved); and

- Any extraordinary effort made by the applicant, and any challenges or obstacles that were overcome in making these contributions.

WHAT IS THE SELECTION PROCESS?

- Recipients of the awards will be selected based on their completed applications and letter(s) of support.
- The selections will be made by selection committees organized by the local public secondary schools within the Basin.
- Successful candidates will be notified by their school.

HOW ARE THE FUNDS DISTRIBUTED?

- Where it has been determined there are no successful/qualified candidates in a community, the award will not be offered.
- The school will notify Columbia Basin Trust of the recipient, the recipient must contact the Trust with their Social Insurance Number and the Trust will then issue and mail a cheque.
- Award recipients may use the funds, worth \$2,000, at their discretion; the award is not tied to post-secondary education.

HOW DO I APPLY?

1. Download the Application Guide and the Worksheet from [YCSA Application](#).
2. Review the application guide for direction and advice on how to complete the application form.
3. Use the worksheet to develop your application offline if you so choose.
4. Complete the online application form at [YCSA Application](#).

If you are unable to apply online, or if you have any questions about the application process, please contact Trust staff at scholarship@ourtrust.org or 1-800-505-8998.

WHAT SCHOOLS ACCEPT APPLICATIONS?

Note: Applications must be submitted online to the Basin Public School that the applicant attends, or to the one nearest to where they live.

Castlegar: Stanley Humphries Secondary	Cranbrook: Mt. Baker Secondary
Crawford Bay: Crawford Bay Secondary	Creston: Prince Charles Secondary
Elkford: Elkford Secondary	Fernie: Fernie Secondary
Golden: Golden Secondary	Invermere: David Thompson Secondary
Kaslo: JV Humphries Secondary	Kimberley: Selkirk Secondary
Nakusp: Nakusp Secondary	Nelson: LV Rogers Secondary
New Denver: Lucerne Elementary Secondary	Revelstoke: Revelstoke Secondary
Salmo: Salmo Secondary	South Slocan: Mount Sentinel Secondary
Sparwood: Sparwood Secondary	Trail: JL Crowe Secondary
Valemount: Valemount Secondary	

WHO DO I CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION?

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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