

TUITION WAIVER PROGRAM

Bursary program for current and former youth-in-care



11 colleges and universities in **Manitoba** offer a limited amount of **renewable** Tuition Waivers for **current and former youth-in-care**.

Awarded bursaries may cover **up to** the full cost of **tuition** for a **certificate, diploma or undergraduate degree** program at a participating institution.

Tuition Waiver students are also eligible for Living Supports through *Training & Employment Services* to sponsor books, supplies and a **bi-weekly living allowance**.



Eligibility:

- Must be a current or former youth-in-care in Manitoba
- Meet the program admission requirements and have applied directly to the college or university
- Be applying for full-time studies (at least 18 credit hours per year or 60% course load)
 - *Students with a registered disability may apply for funding for part-time studies*
- UM, UW, USB, CMU and Booth UC applicants must demonstrate financial need

Important Notes:

- Applicants **must** apply to their institution of choice, pay the corresponding application fee, receive a letter/email of acceptance and, where applicable, pay a program deposit fee of up to \$400
- Tuition Waivers are **not guaranteed** - limited funding is available per institution, so applicants **must have a backup plan** in case they are not selected for a Tuition Waiver.
- Campus dorms and Student Residence fees are **not covered by the Tuition Waiver program**; alternative funding **must** be found if students need these fees covered by an external funder.

To Apply:

1. Research various post-secondary program options
 - Review program websites, attend information sessions, open houses, and/or tours
 - Review admission requirements, prerequisites, and deadlines
 - Meet with Futures Forward & post-secondary recruitment staff
2. Apply directly to the school of your choice
 - Submit application fee and necessary transcripts/documentation
 - Pay program deposit, if applicable
3. Apply for a Tuition Waiver before the **March 31 deadline** (for the following school year)
 - Application forms are available mid-January at:
<https://futuresforward.ca/education/paying-for-post-secondary-school/>



University of Winnipeg

Tuition Waiver Application

Eleven post-secondary institutions in Manitoba provides funding to support **current and former youth in Child and Family Services (CFS) care** to attend post-secondary education. Each institution has their own admission and renewal requirements that you must meet in order to maintain eligibility for this bursary program. Futures Forward helps administer the Tuition Waiver program but each post-secondary institution is in charge of their own admissions and acceptance process. Tuition Waiver students may also be eligible for living supports through Training & Employment Services (TES) to cover the cost of books, supplies and a bi-weekly living allowance. **You must apply for admission to one of the participating institutions in order to qualify for a Tuition Waiver and its associated funding.**

We recommend you apply for admission to the post-secondary institution by March 1, 2026.

Deadline for the 2026-2027 Tuition Waiver Applications: **March 31, 2026**

Section 1: Personal Information

First Name:	Last Name:	Chosen Name:
<p>Please list any previous first or last names that may appear on your CFS records: (for CFS care history verification purposes only)</p>		
Date of Birth (YYYY-MM-DD):	How did you hear about the Tuition Waiver program?	
Street Address:	City:	Postal Code:
Email:	Phone Number:	Are you able to receive text messages?
Gender Identity: <input type="radio"/> Female <input type="radio"/> Transgender <input type="radio"/> Male <input type="radio"/> Two-Spirited <input type="radio"/> Non-Binary/Non-Conforming <input type="radio"/> Prefer not to answer	Gender Pronouns: <input type="radio"/> She/Her <input type="radio"/> They/Them <input type="radio"/> He/Him <input type="radio"/> Other:	Residency Status: <input type="radio"/> Canadian Citizen <input type="radio"/> Work Visa <input type="radio"/> Permanent Resident <input type="radio"/> Refugee Claimant <input type="radio"/> Student Visa
Indigenous Status: <input type="radio"/> First Nations <input type="radio"/> None <input type="radio"/> Unknown Status <input type="radio"/> Metis <input type="radio"/> Non-Status		
Are you a member of a visible minority? (Non-Indigenous applicants only)	If Permanent Resident or Refugee only: Landing Year:	
Do you have any dependents? If 'yes', how many dependents do you care for?	Would you like to receive updates and communications in relation to Futures Forward updates, programming, and events? <small>You may opt out at any time.</small>	

Section 2: CFS Care History Information

CFS Status:	CFS Agency:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> I am a current youth-in-care <input type="radio"/> I am on an Agreement with Young Adults (AYA) <input type="radio"/> I am a former youth-in-care 	CFS Authority:				
<p>Complete this next section if you selected In-Care or on an Agreement with Young Adults (AYA):</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>Name of Social Worker:</td> <td>Social Worker Phone Number:</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Social Worker Email:</td> </tr> </table>		Name of Social Worker:	Social Worker Phone Number:	Social Worker Email:	
Name of Social Worker:	Social Worker Phone Number:				
Social Worker Email:					

Section 3: Previous Education Information

Schooling/Training	Name of Institution	Name of Program (if applicable)	Calendar Year Completed	Certificate Received?
High School		<i>High School Diploma</i>		
College				
University				

Do you have any disabilities that may impact your education? Yes No Prefer Not To Answer

Section 4: Post-Secondary Education Information

Current Student Status:	New Student	Returning Student		
Intended program or area of study:				
Total expected length/duration of the program:				
<p>Complete this next section if you are a current student returning to your studies for another year:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>Student Number:</td> </tr> <tr> <td>What year of studies are you beginning in the Fall?</td> </tr> </table>			Student Number:	What year of studies are you beginning in the Fall?
Student Number:				
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Section 5: Career Goals Essay [INSTRUCTIONS]

Write and attach on a separate document, a 500-word essay that responds to the following prompts:

- Tell us about yourself and your life experience
- What are your educational goals and how did you arrive at them?
- Is there anything that might keep you from being successful?
- What supports do you have in your studies?
- What are your plans for after you graduate?

Reminder:

- Please be mindful of the wordcount and attempt to keep your essay within the 500-word range.
- Essays can be submitted as Word docs or PDF files; if you choose to handwrite your essay, you may submit a photo.
- Please DO NOT submit links to Google Docs or Sharepoint folders; ensure you are downloading and attaching an electronic file (.doc, .pdf, .jpg, etc.) to your application for submission.

Futures Forward and the Tuition Waiver Program Privacy, Consent and Release of Information

Futures Forward is a collaborative program across three separate organizations (Youth Employment Services Manitoba, Canadian Mental Health Association, and Community Financial Services). In order to receive and access services, all participants must read and consent to the following use of their information.

Privacy

Purpose:

1. Information is collected in order to:
 - Determine eligibility for Futures Forward services
 - Monitor and record services received
 - Administer and advertise Futures Forward services
 - Help direct you to relevant Futures Forward services
 - For research, planning, reporting, monitoring, evaluation, and accountability purposes.
2. Who the information is shared with:
 - Information is shared between the three partner agencies in order to help provide wrap around services to clients. Information is stored on a secure server and only accessed in order to provide services, contact participants, make referrals, and report to funders.
 - Any demographic information is kept for reporting purposes, and will not include specific client identities when being used.
3. Who I contact with concerns:
 - For concerns about the collection, use, or disclosure of your personal information you can contact Futures Forward at futuresforward@yesmb.ca

Consent

As part of our funding agreement, we require the following privacy and consent forms to be signed. Please note Futures Forward is compliant with all FIPPA and PIPEDA laws.

I agree to provide the following personal information to Futures Forward. I understand the information collected is necessary to receive services from Futures Forward.

- Full name, address, and contact information
- Birth date
- Gender identity
- Demographics information
- In care status and contact information to relevant agencies and social workers
- Detailed information pertaining to specific services (i.e. additional intake information regarding supports, employment, etc.)

I acknowledge I have given this information freely in order to receive Futures Forward services.

I understand that case notes related to services received will be recorded by the Futures Forward staff and kept in a secure location. Information will only be accessed in relation to the services I receive.

I understand and consent for my information to be shared with relevant parties pertaining to the services I am receiving.

I understand that Futures Forward keeps client files each year to track intake information, however I may withdraw my consent at any time in writing to Futures Forward. I also understand that if I withdraw my consent at any time, I may no longer be eligible for Futures Forward services and the Tuition Waiver Program.

Consent and Release of Information

In order to support Tuition Waiver students, Futures Forward must verify information and care status with appropriate Child and Family Services (CFS) authorities. Information regarding application status will be made available to the appropriate social worker, and it is the responsibility of the student to update the Futures Forward team on any changes in care status or social worker contact information.

Furthermore, in order to set up living supports through the Tuition Waiver program, relevant information such as contact information, social worker contact information, and application status will be shared with Training & Employment Services (TES).

I hereby authorize the exchange of information between the Province of Manitoba, Child and Family Services, Futures Forward, and recognized post-secondary institutions, in Manitoba, as it relates to the Tuition Waivers, including but not limited to:

- Verification of school acceptance;
- End-of-term reports including credit hours and grades as it relates to my studies;
- General comments about my progress, attendance, and any financial information related to my student loan, grants or waiver

By signing this application form, I hereby verify that the information that I have provided is true. I also consent to Futures Forward verifying that I have been in the care of the CFS authorities and that I am registered as a full-time student at a recognized post-secondary educational institution in Manitoba.

Participant Signature

Date

Media Consent

I give Futures Forward permission to take photographs of their services that I may be taking part of. I understand that specific photos of myself I will be asked for further consent, but also that existing in the spaces of Futures Forward activities may cause my likeness to be captured. (voluntary)

Participant Signature

Date

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Please submit applications to: tuitionwaiver@yesmb.ca

1. Ensure your Tuition Waiver Application forms are **complete** and that you've included **all signatures**.
2. Save your Career Goals Essay as a PDF file, Word doc, or JPEG image.
3. Attach both the application forms and your Career Goals Essay **in one email** to be sent to tuitionwaiver@yesmb.ca.
4. Please **clearly state** your first & last name within the email.

All applicants will receive a confirmation email that the application has been received.



2026-2027
Opportunity Fund: Youth-In-Care Tuition Waiver
Application Form

Since 2012, the University of Winnipeg has provided tuition waivers to current and former youth-in-care as a key priority of UWinnipeg's Opportunity Fund. Each academic year, the University provides 30 tuition waivers to new and continuing undergraduate students. The UWinnipeg Awards and Financial Aid Office administers tuition waiver applications.

Eligibility: You may be considered for a tuition waiver if you:

- Are a current or former youth-in-care;
- Have already applied or intend to apply for admission to the University of Winnipeg, or have received admission for the upcoming Fall term;
- Are over the age of 18, or will be turning 18 by December 31 of the next academic year;
- Demonstrate financial need as determined by UWinnipeg and/or Futures Forward;
- Register for a minimum 18 credit hours (9 Fall/9 Winter) per academic year.

Renewal Requirements: Tuition waivers are renewable for the advertised length of your degree plus one year, as long as you:

- Achieve a minimum 2.00 (C) grade point average in the previous academic year;
- Complete a minimum 18 credit hours each academic year;
- Continue to demonstrate financial need;
- Actively participate in student advising and support services offered by the university and Futures Forward as needed, or when required.

Tuition Waiver Amount: Up to \$5500 toward UWinnipeg tuition per academic year for a maximum of 5 consecutive years. The CFS Authority and/or the Province of Manitoba cover living expenses, books and supplies up to a maximum amount; refer to Futures Forward for more information.

Application Deadline: March 31, 2026

Selection Process: A UWinnipeg selection committee reviews all new and continuing waiver applications following the application deadline. The awards office will notify students as soon as possible, typically in June/July. Waiver recipients must meet with a student advisor at least once before the start of each term of study.

APPLICANT DETAILS

Name	
UW Student Number (if known)	

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION (OPTIONAL)

Please check off as many criteria that apply to you:

Low income
Recent immigrant or refugee
Student with a disability
First member of your family to attend university or college
Adult Learner/Mature Student
Other (please specify) _____

EXPENSE CATEGORY

What situation best describes you? Please choose **one** of the following:

I am a single student paying rent
I am a single student not paying rent
I am a single parent; number of dependents _____
I am married/common law with a spouse/partner
I am married/common law with a spouse/partner and dependents;
number of dependents _____

ACADEMIC AND FUTURE GOALS

Please outline your academic, professional, and future goals: What do you plan on studying at university? Do you have a specific major in mind? What kind of job or career are you interested in?
Attach a separate page as needed.

FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Provide your estimated/anticipated resources while studying from September to April.

Complete all three sections and do not leave any answers blank – enter a 0 (zero) if the question does not apply to you.

Part 1 - Monthly Resources (each month from September to April)

Social Assistance or Employment Insurance? If yes, provide the <i>monthly</i> amount?	\$ _____/month
Child Tax Benefit? If yes, provide the <i>monthly</i> amount?	\$ _____/month
Sponsorship? Includes: Band Council/Indian Affairs, Employment and Training Serves (ETS), or employer support. If yes, provide the <i>monthly</i> amount?	\$ _____/month
Do you plan on having a part-time or full-time job? If yes, estimate your average <i>monthly</i> earnings after taxes.	\$ _____/month
Other resources not listed above? If yes, provide the <i>monthly</i> amount.	\$ _____/month
Total monthly resources	\$ _____/month

Part 2 – Personal Resources (total amount from September to April)

Personal savings	\$ _____
Family members or caregivers	\$ _____
Spouse/partner	\$ _____
Other awards, scholarships, or bursaries <u>excluding</u> those from the UW	\$ _____
RESP, RRSP, RHOSP, bonds, etc.	\$ _____
Total sessional resources	\$ _____

Part 3 - Student Loans, Grants, Bursaries, Lines of Credit

Do you plan on applying to **Manitoba Student Aid** for student loans, grants and bursaries? Yes No

If "No" please provide more info: _____

Do you plan on applying to a **bank or private lender** for a student loan or line of credit? Yes No

If "Yes", what is the loan/credit amount you expect to need or be approved for? \$ _____

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES (OPTIONAL)

Please provide any additional relevant information regarding your financial situation and personal plan while studying. This may include statements of support from a counselor, advisor, or parent/caregiver.

MANITOBA FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT

Applicants must consent to the use of their personal information. If you have questions concerning the retention, use, or disclosure of personal information, please visit:
www.uwinnipeg.ca/privacy

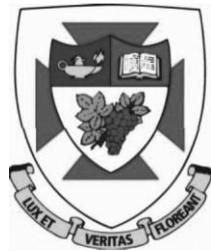
DECLARATION AND CONSENT

I hereby declare that all the information on this application is complete and true in every respect. I understand that my personal information will be collected and may be used and disclosed for the purposes as outlined in the Manitoba Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA).

Personal information collected on this form may also be used and disclosed by The University of Winnipeg for award eligibility purposes, alumni services (i.e. events, publications, media stories, alumni membership tracking), donor reports, and/or research (i.e. internal and external award reporting, analysis of programs, institutional statistics) done at the University. If I am a successful recipient, I understand that the name of the award, the amount received, my name, degree/major, year level and email address will be disclosed to The University of Winnipeg Foundation for purposes of fund-raising activities and to be released to the donor(s) of my award.

Student Signature

Date (YYYYMMDD)



THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG

AUTHORIZATION FOR RELEASE OF INFORMATION

I _____ **(Name)** _____ **(Birth Date)**

hereby authorize the exchange of information between the Province of Manitoba and The University of Winnipeg as it relates to the Tuition Waiver Program including but not limited to:

- Educational information including student records submitted to the University as part of the Tuition Waiver intake process;
- End-of-term reports including credit hours and grades as it relates to my studies at the University;
- General comments about my progress, attendance, and any financial information related to my student loan, grants or waiver; and
- Notification if I am a recipient of a Tuition Waiver from the University.

The University exchanges information to determine initial and on-going eligibility for The University of Winnipeg Tuition Waiver program, as well to determine further financial, academic and miscellaneous supports.

Applicant Signature

Date

The University of Winnipeg

Date