

Joy of Learning Scholarship Guidelines

Joy Arntzen began her nursing career in 1977 – the same year United Nurses of Alberta was founded – and has devoted herself to the profession and to caring for others ever since.

In 2011, Joy was elected as President of United Nurses of Alberta Local 196 and joined the Edmonton Civic Employees Charitable Assistance Fund (ECECAF) Board of Trustees, representing the Local. As a Trustee, she is especially committed to initiatives that lift ECECAF members up – charitable supports, educational scholarships, and special aid programs designed to help members and their dependents.

One of the longest-ever serving Trustees since ECECAF's founding in 1941, Joy brings unwavering empathy, decades of frontline experience and heartfelt leadership, continually championing the well-being of nurses and ECECAF members in the Edmonton communities they serve.

In recognition of Joy's 15 years – and counting – on the Board of Trustees, the Joy of Learning scholarship was established to honour her enduring contributions and lasting impact to ECECAF.

Joy of Learning Scholarship established in 2026
Read Joy's full bio on www.ececaf.ca > [Scholarships](#)

General Information

- The applicant's parent(s) must be a current contributing, retired, or deceased member of: CEMA, EFFU 209, CUPE 30, ATU 569, Unifor 829, IBEW 1007, Senior Police Officers Association, UNA 196, or AMNUA – Alberta Health Services.
- The applicant's parent(s) must be contributing to ECECAF for twelve (12) consecutive months prior to the application deadline (or until retired or deceased).
- Visit www.ececaf.ca for the most current application form and guidelines. The scholarship will be awarded as a one-time disbursement of \$5,500 and is subject to change per the most current version of these guidelines.
- Applicants must provide proof of acceptance to a graduate, master's, or doctoral degree program (regardless of age) at an accredited post-secondary educational institution.
OR
Applicants must provide proof of acceptance as a mature student (25 years or older at start of program) at an accredited post-secondary educational institution.
- Applications must be received by May 15 of the same year the applicant wishes to attend September programming by mail (postmarked) or email (sent date). Confirmation of receipt will be sent to the applicant by email.
- Determination of the final scholarship recipient(s) will be made by June 30. Only successful recipient(s) will be notified by July 15.
- The recipient is required to provide proof of paid tuition clearly stating student name, school, term/period by the end of the first month of programming (i.e., September 30). Scholarship funds will be disbursed within the following 30 days.

- Upon recipient and contributing parent(s) consent (per initials on the scholarship application form), the successful recipient(s) may be announced on the ECECAF website www.ececaf.ca.
- Under CRA rules, scholarships are taxable as income to the recipient, and as such, are subject to federal and provincial taxes. A T4A will be issued to the recipient(s) by February 28 of the next calendar year.
- This scholarship is available to each successful applicant once. Applicants may reapply for the scholarship if they are unsuccessful.
- The Board has the right to consider extenuating circumstances that do not fall within these parameters on a “without prejudice” basis.

Terms and Conditions

1. Only complete applications accompanied by all supporting documents will be considered. Any missing documents will result in the application being removed from consideration.
2. Scholarships are awarded on a combination of academic merit, volunteerism, and extra-curricular involvement; all of which will require the submission of written verification in an Application Cover Letter as outlined in the Application Checklist.
3. Applications received only as indicated on the first row of the application form will be accepted and be presented to the review panel consisting of, at minimum, three (3) members of the ECECAF Board of Trustees.
4. Scholarships are limited in number, and subject to availability. Even if an applicant meets scholarship criteria, a scholarship may not be awarded.
5. The review panel will decide and bring a recommendation for approval by the Board. All decisions made by the Board are final.
6. If a recipient is found to have falsified any portion of their application, the Board may terminate the scholarship and reissue the funds to another applicant. The Board will actively seek repayment of the disbursed funds. The Board may also choose to run the application process again, allowing applicants to reapply.
7. If the selected recipient withdraws, discontinues, or in some other way is no longer able to complete study, notification to the Board is required outlining the situation through the same mechanism as the application was submitted. Based on the Board’s discretion, the Board may terminate the scholarship and reissue the funds to another applicant. The Board may also actively seek repayment of the disbursed funds. The Board may also choose to run the application process again, allowing applicants to reapply.
8. Scholarships are not transferable.
9. Within 90 days of completing the Fall term funded by the scholarship, the recipient is required to submit an impact statement including a transcript which will be provided to the ECECAF board of trustees.

Application Checklist

The following information must be included as the Application Package for the Joy of Learning Scholarship:

- Application Form: Fully completed including:
 - Social Insurance Number as a T4A will be issued to the recipient
 - Employment status of the contributing parent(s): FT for full-time, PT for part-time, Casual, LTD for long-term disability, retired, or deceased
 - Required signatures, and if in agreement, initials where indicated
- Application Cover Letter: Describe academic merit, volunteerism, and/or extra-curricular involvement including supporting reference documentation such as volunteer organization's letter(s) of support.
- Acceptance letter to the program or Letter of Enrolment from the post-secondary educational institution. (If the applicant is already in program, the transcript will be accepted as indication of acceptance.)
- Transcript of most recent academic study completed, clearly stating student name and school
- Government issued photo identification e.g., Driver's License or Passport

Final Steps

- After completing the Application Package, double check for completeness using the Application Checklist.
- Ensure appropriate signatures are included. For mailed applications include originals, and for emailed applications attach scanned PDF of the originals.
- Submit the Application Package either by mail or email:

Fund Administrator
Edmonton Civic Employees Charitable Assistance Fund
PO Box 389 St Albert AB T8N 7A2

ececaf@gmail.com

- Late applications will not be processed, regardless of the reason for delay.
- If sending the application package by mail, ensure it is postmarked on or before the deadline. Applications received after the deadline that are not postmarked on or before the deadline will be excluded from consideration.