

# TEACHER TRAINING BURSARIES

## Background

The Division encourages the recruitment and development of teachers with appropriate training, especially in areas where shortages of qualified staff exist, by making available teacher training bursaries in identified areas of need. In partnership with the Northern Alberta Development Council and the ATA sub-locals the Division will offer ten (10) bursaries.

## Procedures

### 1. Number and Amount of Bursaries

- 1.1 Ten individual bursaries of \$3000.00 each will be awarded annually.
- 1.2 Students are eligible to receive a bursary for a maximum of two years, but must apply each year.

### 2. Student Eligibility

In order to be eligible candidates must meet the following criteria:

- 2.1. Have a minimum three-year residency in Alberta immediately prior to the application date.
- 2.2. Have a minimum one-year residency within the boundaries of the Northern Lights School Division.
- 2.3. Have completed a minimum of two years in a post-secondary program related to the field of education.
- 2.4. Be enrolled full-time in a post-secondary program relating to the field of Education.
- 2.5. Have a financial need to qualify for funding. Students may not be eligible if they are receiving a full-time wage, employment insurance or a training allowance during their studies.
- 2.6. Commit to work in Northern Lights School Division for a specified period of time upon graduation.
- 2.7. Have reasonably good prospects for employment in the sponsor region after graduation.
- 2.8. Demonstrate a commitment to their community and the field of education.

### 3. Return Service Commitment

- 3.1 All students selected to receive a Teacher Training Bursary must sign a contract which commits them to working in the Northern Lights School Division for a specified amount of time upon graduation. The length of return service is based on the total value of the bursary with one month of return service for each \$250.00 of bursary support.
- 3.2 If a candidate fails to comply with the terms of the contract, the full amount of the bursary must be repaid.

#### 4. Application Process

- 4.1 Prospective recipients shall apply in writing to the Superintendent of Schools.
- 4.2 Candidates must forward a completed application form, a letter outlining their career goal, community involvement and leadership initiatives, two letters of reference and their most recent transcript of marks.
- 4.3 The deadline for receipt of applications is May 31<sup>st</sup>, annually.
- 4.4 For first year applicants bursaries will be awarded following confirmation of enrollment in second semester studies. In subsequent years, bursaries will be awarded upon receipt of confirmation of attendance in first semester studies.

Reference: Section 60, 61 School Act