



SERVE! **BURSARY PROGRAM**

Information & Guidelines

Purpose/Objective

The bursary program further promotes Serve!'s mission and values, provides support and aid to graduates of Serve! programs in achieving their future goals, and encourages continued community involvement. The bursary funds are to be used to benefit the recipients' long term future, to build skills and to increase personal stability.

Guidelines

The bursary is intended to support graduates in the following areas:

- i) attending full-time post-secondary education (any year of study)*
- ii) starting you own business initiative or community project
- iii) pursuing vocational training (i.e. technical school, trades, apprenticeship program)*
- iv) establishing yourself in the workplace (must be in field of work related to career/vocational goals)
- v) educational travel (5 weeks or longer).

*The post-secondary education or vocational training must be at an approved education/training institution.

Eligibility Requirements and Criteria

- i) Applicants must have successfully completed a Serve! (or formerly Serve Canada) program
- ii) Applicants cannot be a past Serve! (or Serve Canada) bursary recipient
- iii) Applicants must have completed high school or equivalent (i.e. General Equivalency Diploma or enrollment in a post-secondary educational institution as a mature student)
- iv) Applicants must be legally entitled to receive funds (i.e. have valid SIN card)
- v) Applicants should demonstrate financial need
- vi) Applicants must be 18 to 29 years old at the time of application
- vii) Bursary recipients must give back to Serve! (i.e. deliver a workshop to youth participants, assist a new participant, speak about their experience at special events, contribute to youth outreach). The nature of this activity will be mutually agreed upon by the recipient and Serve!.

Unsuccessful applicants may reapply as many times as eligible.

Fraudulent entries/applications will be automatically disqualified.

Value of Awards and Number Each Year

There will be a minimum of 4 bursary awards available per year (provided there are at least 4 suitable applications received) valued at up to \$2,000 each.

Frequency of Availability and Application Times

Applications are accepted once per year. In 2008, the deadline is May 5, 2008.

Application Procedure

The application procedure includes the completion of the bursary application form; documentation verifying completion of high school or equivalent; as much documentation or confirmation of plan and use for the bursary as possible (i.e. registration information at college); and 1 to 2 letters of support (not from Serve!, family members or friends of the applicant).

Please consult with Serve! in situations where literacy is a challenge for completing the application form. Alternative methods of application may be considered.

Award Disbursement (Installment Payment Plan)

The bursary award will be disbursed in installments and should be used entirely within a year. An installment plan schedule will be provided to bursary recipients (and is currently available upon request). Recipients are expected to report at least 3 times within the year on their activities utilizing the award. Payment of each installment depends on successful and satisfactory reporting for previous installments.

If there are delays in accessing the complete bursary award within a year, recipients are expected to maintain communication and updates with Serve!. Prolonged delay in using the entire bursary will result in forfeiture of remaining bursary installments.

If you are unsure about your eligibility, have questions about preparing your application, or have a proposal/ initiative outside of the established bursary guidelines, please consult with Serve! prior to working on your application/proposal.