



# 2022 Youth and Family Opportunity Bursary Guidelines

MARCH 2022

## OUR SHARED VISION

Child and youth safety, well-being and resilience

Thriving families

Community partners working together

## Who can apply for a bursary?

The Catholic Children's Aid Society of Hamilton (CCASH), through the generosity of our dedicated donors, is able to offer a number of bursaries to support and enhance the life outcomes of individuals served by the agency. This includes:

- Current and former wards
- Kin families
- Children and parents receiving services from the agency
- Children in families that foster children through CCASH (to a maximum of one bursary).

Bursary awards are considered to support any activities that are seen to be life-enhancing, such as:

- ongoing education and skills training
- employment outcomes and possibilities (specialized equipment purchase, computer and electronic purchase, ongoing training).

If you are thinking about taking on a new, life-enhancing activity and would like to check its eligibility for bursary funding, please contact **Debora Emberson** at [bursaries@hamiltonccas.on.ca](mailto:bursaries@hamiltonccas.on.ca)

## When are bursaries available, and how much are they?

Bursaries are awarded once per year. The **2022 application deadline is Friday, April 29, 2022 at 4:30 pm**. Funding decisions are made and communicated to applicants in May. Bursaries vary in amounts.

## How do I apply for a bursary?

The bursary application can be found on the [CCASH website](#) under the *Helpful Resources / Bursaries and scholarships* menu heading. You should review it well in advance of the application deadline. If you have any questions or concerns, contact **Debora Emberson** at [bursaries@hamiltonccas.on.ca](mailto:bursaries@hamiltonccas.on.ca) for additional support with your application. It is a good idea to let your worker know if you are applying for a bursary, as your worker will be contacted during the review phase for additional information if required.

Applications must be submitted to CCASH by **Friday, April 29, 2022 at 4:30 pm**, via the CCASH website. **Late applications will not be considered**. All questions must be answered and incomplete applications may not be considered.



## How are applications reviewed?

Applications are reviewed by a team of CCAS of Hamilton staff who bring a range of perspectives to the review process. Your worker will not be on the Review Team, but the team will consult with your worker to gain a more complete picture of your application

The Review Team will consider and compare the following aspects of each application when making its funding decisions:

- eligibility of the application and the proposed life-enhancing activity
- completeness of the application
- demonstrated ability to set and meet goals
- financial need.

## When will I find out if my application is successful?

All funding decisions are communicated to applicants in May.

## If my application is successful, what then?

If successful, you will be contacted to provide a video or photo testimonial thanking donors for their contributions. Additional details will be communicated to you in the event that your application is successful.

Please note, disbursement of funds will be directed toward tuition at your selected post-secondary institution, or distributed as a reimbursement for supplies (ie, books, laptop) with proof of purchase. You can discuss the disbursement of funds further with your worker.

## Can I apply again for another bursary the following year?

Yes, you can apply for another bursary to support multi-year activities, or to support a new life-enhancing activity. The next application deadline will be in the spring of 2023.

## If I have questions about my application, who should I contact?

You can contact **Debora Emberson** at [bursaries@hamiltonccas.on.ca](mailto:bursaries@hamiltonccas.on.ca)

