



2024 Youth & Family Opportunity Bursary Guidelines

MARCH 2024

**OUR
SHARED
VISION**

**Child and
youth safety,
well-being
and resilience**

**Thriving
families**

**Community
partners
working
together**

Bursary Eligibility

The Catholic Children's Aid Society of Hamilton (CCASH) along with support from our committed donors, proudly provides a number of bursaries designed to uplift and enrich the life trajectories of individuals we serve.

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

Bursary awards support any activities that are considered 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 considering a new, life-enhancing activity and would like to check its eligibility for bursary funding, please contact: **Jennie Dragos** at bursaries@hamiltonccas.on.ca

How to Apply

The Bursary application can be found on the [CCASH website](#) under the *How You Can Help / Our Bursary and Scholarship Program* menu heading. Please review it well in advance of the application deadline.

Please notify your worker if you are applying for a bursary, as they will be contacted during the review phase for additional information as required.

For any questions or assistance with your application, please contact: **Jennie Dragos** at bursaries@hamiltonccas.on.ca.

Applications must be submitted via the CCASH website by Friday, April 26, 2024 at 4:30 pm.

Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.



Application Review Process

Applications are reviewed by a team of CCASH 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 and other agency staff as needed, 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 decisions:

- Eligibility of the applicant and the proposed life-enhancing activity
- Completeness of the application
- Demonstrated ability to set and meet goals
- Financial need

Bursary Announcements

All funding decisions will be communicated to applicants in May.

Successful Applicants

If successful, you will be contacted with all necessary details and asked to provide a video or photo testimonial thanking donors for their contributions.

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

Reapplying

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 2025.

Questions & Support:

For any questions or assistance with your application, please contact: **Jennie Dragos at bursaries@hamiltonccas.on.ca**