



## Frequently Asked Questions

### What is the Education Awards Hub?

The Community Education Awards Hub is a one-stop, online source for students to access numerous community scholarships, bursaries and awards at no cost to students or organizations offering educational awards.

### Why an Education Awards Hub?

The Hub will provide a streamlined and centralized system for students to access a number of scholarships and bursaries available from community organizations. The online intake of applications will simplify and coordinate the existing paper-based process.

### What Organizations are participating in the Hub?

- Halton Learning Foundation
- Halton Region Chinese Canadian Association
- Henderson Partners
- Oakville Chamber of Commerce
- Oakville Community Foundation
- Oakville Rotary Clubs
- The Lions Club of Oakville
- The May Court Club of Oakville
- University Women's Club of Oakville
- Woodview Mental Health and Autism Services

### What awards are administered through the Oakville Community Foundation?

- The Alexander and Bernice DeMaio Education Award
- The Miller Family Foundation Bursary

### Who is the Oakville Community Foundation?

The Oakville Community Foundation (The Foundation) is a charity that is part of Canada's network of 191 Community Foundations. Our purpose is to "build community through philanthropy" by pooling and investing donations to create new money for charitable activities. We also help to build community assets like Oakville's Heritage Trail System and offer community-wide programs like Community Classroom and GiveOakville. The Hub is one of many Foundation activities where funders and community needs are brought together.

### How much award money is available through the Hub?

There is over \$330,000 in total award monies available. Each award varies between \$500-\$20,000.



## **Can I apply for more than one award?**

Yes, the Hub offers a quick “eligibility quiz” to identify which awards you are eligible to apply for. See the section below on “Eligibility.”

## **Is academic achievement the main focus of the awards available through the Hub?**

No, many of the awards available have specific requirements such as; financial need, community engagement etc.

## **Getting Started**

Go to [www.awardshub.ca](http://www.awardshub.ca)

### **I am applying for the first time, how do I register?**

Click on “Create New Account” to complete the registration process and create your login. Be sure to keep the login information for your records as you will need it in the future.

### **When can I start submitting applications?**

The Hub opened on February 1, 2022 at 12:01 am. Applications will be accepted between then and the closing date, which varies by the organization offering the award. Please keep note of the closing date for each award that you are applying for as they may have different deadlines. Any application that has not been submitted by the deadline will not be considered.

## **Eligibility**

### **Am I eligible to apply for awards on The Hub?**

- You must be planning to attend and/or be attending a post-secondary institution in 2022.
- You have or will be graduating from secondary school in Spring 2022.
- You have completed the “Eligibility Quiz” through the online hub and meet the criteria for the award.

### **I am a mature student can I apply for an award?**

Yes, please complete the eligibility quiz as there are some awards offered to mature students.



### **What Education Awards are available?**

Scholarships for academic achievement and bursaries for financial support are available as well as awards for specific areas of studies.

### **Why are the applications different for each award ?**

Each organization providing awards has customized their applications to meet their criteria - i.e. audio responses as an option. All awards share the same basic information about a student (i.e. name, address, high school, etc), so a student only needs to enter their personal information once.

**NOTE: Participating organizations are required to abide by the Oakville Community Foundation’s Privacy Policy and a Confidentiality Agreement must be signed by all those reviewing applications submitted through the Hub. Are only Oakville students eligible to apply?**

### **The award I am applying for requires an access code, what does this mean?**

Some awards require students to have very specific requirements to be eligible to apply. You will still need to register in the Hub to apply for these awards. Once your registration is complete you will need to reach out to the specific partner offering the award to receive the access code. Once you have the code you can enter it into the ‘Enter Code’ box on the top right-hand side of your dashboard.

### **Are only Oakville students eligible to apply?**

No, each award specifies who is eligible to apply. However, each awarding organization participating in the Hub must offer awards to which Oakville students are eligible.

### **How much does it cost to register as an applicant?**

There is no cost to applicants or community service organizations providing the awards.

## **Administration**

### **How do I submit my application?**

Applications must be filled out and required attachments uploaded through the online portal. The application will not be complete and subsequently submitted if the required fields are not filled. Required questions are denoted with an asterisk beside the question. Click the “submit” button at the bottom of the application only once when you are satisfied with your answers as you will not be able to edit after submission.



### **Do I have to complete the applications all at once?**

No, an applicant can save a draft if they are not ready to submit an application. Applications are automatically saved every 20 minutes. If you need to leave the page you can select “save as draft.” If you leave the page without saving, any unsaved changes will be lost. Please note that after 90 minutes of inactivity you will be automatically logged out.

### **Can I view the application(s) offline?**

Yes, you may download a pdf version of the questions however you can only complete and submit the application through The Hub.

### **Is it the same application deadline for all applications?**

No, once you know which awards you are eligible for, be sure to check the deadlines for each.

### **What happens after I have submitted my application(s)?**

You will receive a message from [education@theocef.org](mailto:education@theocef.org) indicating your application was received. Once received, it will be reviewed by the specific organization(s) to which you applied. You will receive an “accept” or “reject” letter by email once the evaluation has been completed. With some organizations, an interview will be required prior to a final decision being made.

### **When will I be notified if I am a successful award recipient?**

The organization providing the award determines the successful applicant(s) and will contact the award recipient directly according to their award schedule.

### **I have been accepted to receive an education award, what do I do?**

You may be required to fill out follow-up documents by the organization. Simply go back to The Hub to fill out and submit these forms directly to the organization.

### **How do I collect the award?**

In most cases, the awards will be sent directly to the post-secondary institution you will be attending.

## Community Education Awards

# HUB

[www.awardshub.ca](http://www.awardshub.ca)



### **I have more questions about a specific award, who can I contact?**

Each organization providing awards has customized their applications to meet its criteria. If you have application / award-specific questions, please refer to that organization's website for further information.

- [Halton Learning Foundation](#)
- [Halton Region Chinese Canadian Association](#)
- [The May Court Club of Oakville](#)
- [Oakville Chamber of Commerce](#)
- [The Oakville Community Foundation](#) (The Alexander and Bernice DeMaio Education Award; The Miller Family Foundation Bursary)
- [Oakville Rotary Clubs](#)
- [University Women's Club of Oakville](#)
- [Henderson Partners](#)
- [Oakville Chamber of Commerce](#)
- [Woodview Mental Health and Autism Services](#)

### **I have more questions about the Education Awards Hub, who can I contact?**

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If you have any questions about logging onto the portal or any other technical questions about the online process, please contact The Foundation at [education@theocf.org](mailto:education@theocf.org).

## **For Education Award providers:**

### **I want to offer a scholarship/bursary, can I use the portal to receive applications?**

The portal is available for use to other organizations free of charge provided you meet a few requirements.

### **Whom do I contact if I am interested in starting an Education award?**

Contact Frances Pace, Director of Fundholder and Community Engagement at [frances@theocf.org](mailto:frances@theocf.org) for more information.