



Xat'sūll First Nation Post-Secondary Policy and Procedures

Version Date:	June 05, 2025
Approval Date:	June 05, 2025
Amendment Date(s)	June 05, 2025



Table of Contents

UNDRIP EDUCATION RIGHTS	3
PART 1 – ELIGIBILITY TO APPLY FOR FUNDING	4
PART 2 – SELECTION CRITERIA.....	5
PART 3 – FREQUENCY OF SPONSORSHIP	6
PART 4 – ELIGIBLE PROGRAMS	7
3.1 UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE ENTRANCE PREPARATION PROGRAM (UCEPP)	7
3.2 POST-SECONDARY PROGRAM.....	8
3.3 FULL TIME/PART TIME STATUS DETERMINATION.....	9
PART 5 - ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS.....	10
PART 6 – EDUCATION FINANCIAL SUPPORT	11
5.1 Application Fees, Tuition, Books & Compulsory Fees, Supplies and Costs	12
5.3 Living Allowances.....	13
5.4 Tutoring and Counselling.....	14
5.5 Travel.....	14
PART 7 - INCENTIVES AND AWARDS	15
PART 8 - EDUCATION SUPPORT SERVICES.....	16
PART 9 – APPLICATION PROCESS & FUNDING ALLOCATIONS	17
PART 10 –RESPONSIBILITIES.....	20
9.1 DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION & EDUCATION DEPARTMENT RESPONSIBILITIES	20
PART 11 – APPEALS	21
PART 12 – AMENDMENTS.....	21
APPENDIX A: SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES	22

We would like to acknowledge all past, current and future Education Committee members for their dedication and support to higher learning.



UNDRIP Education Rights

United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

Article 14:

Article 14 of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples states:

1. Xatśüllemc have the right to establish and control their educational systems and institutions providing education in their own languages, in a manner appropriate to their cultural methods of teaching and learning.
2. Xatśüllemc, particularly children, have the right to all levels and forms of education within Canada, without discrimination.
3. Canada will, in conjunction with indigenous peoples, take effective measures, in order for Xatśüllemc, particularly children, including those living outside their communities, to have access, when possible, to an education in their own culture and provided in Secwépemetsin.

Article 15

1. Xatśüllemc have the right to the dignity and diversity of their cultures, traditions, histories and aspirations which shall be appropriately reflected in education and public information.
2. Canada take effective measures, in consultation and cooperation with the Xatśüllemc, to combat prejudice, eliminate discrimination, and to promote tolerance, understanding and good relations among Indigenous peoples and all other segments of society.

Article 21

1. Xatśüllemc have the right, without discrimination, to the improvement of their economic and social conditions, including, inter alia, in the areas of education, employment, vocational training and retraining, housing, sanitation, health and social security.
2. Canada will take effective measures and, where appropriate, special measures to ensure continuing improvement of their economic and social conditions. Particular attention shall be paid to the rights and special needs of Xatśüllemc elders, women, youth, children and persons with disabilities.



Part 1 – Eligibility to Apply for Funding

- a. To be eligible for Post-Secondary Support you must:
- ☐ Be a registered member of Xat'sull First Nation
 - ☐ Have submitted a completed Application Package prior to May 15th annually.
 - ☐ Be accepted into an 'eligible' program at an 'eligible' post-secondary institution, and
 - ☐ Agree to adhere to the Xat'sull First Nation Post-Secondary Policy and Procedures

** This includes home and away from home members, and does not discriminate due to gender identity, financial situation, age, etc.*

Please note: If a learners' academic records indicate a history of not completing courses or programs, their application might not be considered until all other applications have been reviewed and there are remaining funds available in the current fiscal year, as determined by the Education Committee on a case-by-case basis.

- b. Where possible, learners are encouraged to undertake post-secondary assessments at the chosen institute, which will support their success within their chosen program. A copy of the learners' assessment(s) should be provided to the Education Department to develop learning plans, which are collaboratively developed and may include learner support needed (e.g., tutoring, counselling, access to technology, access to additional books, additional supplies not already included in current funding).
- c. Some learners may not have yet acquired the academic requirements to be accepted into their post-secondary program or may have unique learning needs. These learners should contact the Education Department to develop a learning plan that supports them to obtain the necessary pre-requisites (courses/grades required to enter into a program) with identified support (e.g., tutoring) to realize their education goals.
- d. A wait list will be made each year, based upon varying factors, such as the number of returning learners, number of graduating learners, and the annual Xat'sull Council approved education budget.
- e. Learners registered into a post-secondary program that is more than one year in length must re-apply annually for funding.



Part 2 – Selection Criteria

- a. The Education Committee is responsible for ensuring a fair and transparent process, which includes identifying priorities for post-secondary education program funding.
 - a. All Education Committee Members and any Education Department staff that support In this process have signed an Oath of Confidentiality and are held to that oath.
- b. Education funding priorities may change from year to year, based upon the current understanding of community need.
- c. The following priorities will be used as a guideline to select eligible learners for post-secondary funding.
 - i. Continuing learners – learners already enrolled in eligible programs that are already being funded by Xat'sull Government,
 - ii. New applicant already studying at the post-secondary level that may have completed part of their program, but were not previously funded by the Xat'sull Government,
 - iii. Learners who have not applied, or been funded, in the past due to limited funding,
 - iv. Returning learners that stepped out of their post-secondary studies and now wish to return,
 - v. Recent post-secondary graduates who wish to further their studies,
 - vi. Waitlisted applicants, and
 - vii. Part-time learners.
- d. The unique conditions and circumstances of learners will be considered for all applications.

It is important to note that the Education Committee is bound to Xat'sull First Nation confidentiality requirements and as such the Education Department maintains a numbering system in the Education Committee selection process to ensure transparency, fairness and confidentiality.

Committee confidentiality requirements are affirmed annually through a signed Oath maintained as confidential by the Education Director.



Part 3 – Frequency of Sponsorship

In order to permit the highest possible number of students for post-secondary sponsorship, the following limitations have been implemented:

- **Certificate programs:** A certificate program may be sponsored for a maximum of one consecutive twelve-month period. There will be a two (2) year non-sponsorship period before the next application can be considered.
- **Diploma programs:** A diploma program may be sponsored for a maximum of three (3) years. Unless the student transitions directly into a bachelor's program which is a continuation of the diploma, there will be a two (2) year non-sponsorship period before the next application can be considered.
- **AUBP or UCEP programs:** An AUBP or UCEP program may be sponsored for a maximum of two years. The student can then transition to a Bachelor program.
- **Bachelor's degree:** A Bachelor's degree may be sponsored for a maximum of five (5) years. The student can then transition to a Master's program. Otherwise, there will be a four (4) year non-sponsorship period before the next application can be considered. If a student elects to change majors during the course of their studies, only the balance of the years not sponsored will be considered, regardless of how many years the new program needs to be completed. If a student discontinues studies without valid reason, such as medical or hardship issues with supporting documentation, there will be a four (4) year non-sponsorship period before the next application can be considered.
- **Master's degree:** A Master's degree may be sponsored for a maximum of three (3) years. The student can then transition to a Doctorate program. Otherwise, there will be a three (3) year non-sponsorship period before the next application can be considered. If a student elects to change majors during the course of their studies, only the balance of the years not sponsored will be considered, regardless of how many years the new program needs to be completed. If a student discontinues studies without valid reason, such as medical or hardship issues with supporting documentation, there will be a three (3) year non-sponsorship period before the next application can be considered.



- **Doctorate program:** A Doctorate degree may be sponsored for a maximum of seven (7) years. There will be a three (3) year non-sponsorship period before the next application can be considered. If a student elects to change majors during their studies, only the balance of the years not sponsored will be considered, regardless of how many years the new program needs to be completed. If a student discontinues studies without valid reason, such as medical or hardship issues with supporting documentation, there will be a three (3) year non-sponsorship period before the next application can be considered.

Any situation not outlined above may be considered by the Education Committee without the obligation to extend funding.

Part 4 – Eligible Programs

3.1 University and College Entrance Preparation Program (UCEPP)

- a. The intent of UCEPP is to provide financial support to eligible learners to obtain the required academic pre-requisites for degree and diploma programs, offered at eligible institutions.
- b. The delivery method of any chosen UCEPP may be in-classroom, e-learning, distant learning, or hybrid if it can support learners to obtain the necessary pre-requisites to enter a learners chosen post-secondary program, as outlined in their education plan included in their application. As described earlier, if a learner would like support to develop their education plan and/or UCEPP application they can access this support from the Education Department.
- c. Learners are required to provide a written statement from the institution confirming that upon completion of their College preparatory program they will have the prerequisites needed for entry into their post-secondary program of choice.
- d. The UCEPP and Post-Secondary Programs allows financial support for the following:
 - tuition and other student fees,
 - initial professional certification and examination fees,
 - books and supplies required by the learner for their program of study,
 - official transcript fees, and
 - application fees.



The following funding is also available, with more details on each provided in later sections of this manual:

- living expenses, including for dependents, if applicable,
 - expenses associated with travel for mandatory in person classes or residency as outlined in their education plan (and estimated budget), travel home, including for dependents, if applicable, utilizing the most cost effective means possible,
 - supplemental tutorial, guidance and counseling services,
 - childcare, as needed, and
 - scholarship and incentive payments.
- e. Funding support may not be retroactive.
- f. All learners must opt out of institution medical and dental programs to reduce costs, where they have FNHA medical and dental coverage (Blue Cross).

3.2 Post-Secondary Program

- a. The objective of the Post-Secondary Program is to support eligible learners to realize their post-secondary education goals, as outlined in their education plan within their application.
- b. The UCEPP and Post-Secondary Programs allows financial support for the following:
- tuition and other student fees,
 - initial professional certification and examination fees,
 - books and supplies required by the learner for their program of study,
 - official transcript fees, and
 - application fees.

The following funding is also available, with more details on each provided in later sections of this manual:

- living expenses, including for dependents, if applicable,
 - expenses associated with travel for mandatory in person classes or residency as outlined in their education plan (and estimated budget), travel home, including for dependents, if applicable, utilizing the most cost effective means possible,
 - supplemental tutorial, guidance and counseling services,
 - childcare, as needed, and
 - scholarship and incentive payments.
- c. Assistance is provided for eligible community colleges, and universities, in Canada and abroad, as well as First Nations designated and directed institutions.



3.3 Full Time/Part Time Status Determination

- a. The institution the learner is enrolled in will assign them full-time or part-time status based on the number of courses they are enrolled in.
- b. Xat'sull First Nation requires proof of registration and proof of full or part-time status (as determined by their institution) at the point of application and identified in their learning plan.
- c. Only full-time learners are eligible for living allowance.
- d. If a learner wishes to drop a course, which may affect their full or part-time status, the learner should notify the Director of Education as soon as possible.



Part 5 - Eligible Institutions

- a. Eligible post-secondary institutions are those that are degree, diploma, or certificate-granting institutions in Canada, recognized by a province, or a First Nations-designated and directed institutions (e.g., Nicola Valley Institute of Technology or Native Education College).
- b. A list of eligible institutions in BC by going to www.gov.bc.ca and searching “EAQ Designated Institutions (EQA stands for Education Quality Assurance).
- c. All funding for private institutions will be paid at a comparable rate charged by the nearest Canadian public institution (to the learners’ place of residence), with the learner responsible to pay the difference, if any. Any difference in costs and how the difference will be paid must be included in a learner’s education plan and budget.

Institutions Outside of BC and Canada

- d. Learners may receive tuition funding and travel support for an out of province/ foreign post-secondary institution program, when there is no comparable program available at a local institution and when the tuition rate is the same or comparable to the tuition rate charged by Canadian institutions nearest to the learner’s place of residence at the time of application, where a comparable program is offered.
- e. Learners are responsible for the moving costs associated for institutions outside of BC and Canada.
- f. Funding for learners attending foreign institutions will be funded based on a comparable rate charged by the nearest Canadian public institution, and will only be funded in Canadian dollars, only to the maximum limits permitted with the learner responsible for any variance. The learner is responsible to calculate conversion rates (that may change from the time of submission) and outline these conversions and any associated banking fees in their education plan budget and application.



Part 6 – Education Financial Support

- a. The Education Department provides education support funding for eligible learners (home and away from home) who wish to undertake part-time or full-time higher learning at an eligible post-secondary institution when they are committed to maintaining a grade level of C or higher.
- b. Tuition, fees, and mandatory costs for learners are generally paid directly to the institute unless determined otherwise by the Education Committee. The intent of this process is to support learners to focus on their studies, rather than coordinating payments.
- c. Due to ISC funding limits the funding support for full-time learners is intended to assist with, not replace, the costs associated with learners who are committed to maintaining a grade of C or higher, to achieve their education goals. Funding support, as outlined in this section of the manual, includes:
 - i. Application and Tuition,
 - ii. Books and Supplies,
 - iii. Living Allowances,
 - iv. Tutoring and/or Counselling,
 - v. Travel, and
 - vi. Other costs (e.g. special clothing).
- d. Part-time learners are learners who take part-time courses(s) that are less than three courses per semester are eligible for tuition, fees, books, and supplies, but are not eligible for living allowances, travel (excluding bus), or incentives unless determined otherwise by the Education Committee.
- e. Annual department post-secondary funding is based upon the annual funds provided by ISC, and allocated education budget approved by Council.
- f. Individual learner applications will be dependent upon their needs, and the number of applications received per year. At any time, as determined by ISC, the *maximum* amount payable per full-time learner cannot exceed \$53,000 per year. The maximum amount payable per year for a learner in an advanced or professional degree program or a master's or doctoral program, may exceed \$53,000 up to a maximum of \$90,000, which will be determined by the Education Committee on a case-by-case basis. No learner is automatically entitled to these *maximums*.



- g. Where needed, learners can include in their education plan and budget a request for support for tutoring, guidance and counselling support, professional certification and examination fees, and childcare, if needed. These will be included in the review process by the committee and if approved be added to the total approval amount.
- h. Learners must report on all monthly income and expenses in the Post-Secondary Application package as is reflective of the time of application. Learners who purposefully misrepresent their income or expenses may be subject to disciplinary action, as determined by Chief and Council.
- i. Learners are required to maintain regular attendance, a GPA of C or better, adhere to this Education Policy, and their post-secondary institutional policies. If a learner is unable to adhere to these standards for any reason they must advise the Education Department. Learners who knowingly do not report having met these standards may be subject to discipline by Chief and Council.
- j. It is important to note that learners who cannot adhere to their institutional policies may be subject to discipline, as determined by the institution they are attending. Any institution discipline must be reported to the Education Department
- k. All learners are required to provide copies of their transcript to the Education Department within ten business days of transcripts being issued to verify that they are maintaining grade levels and attendance as required by the institution to succeed in their program. If a learner is unable to maintain program grade and attendance requirements, they are encouraged to meet with the Education Department as soon as possible to plan and secure supports, as needed.
- l. If a learner is challenged in a Post-Secondary Program, the learner may be funded for UCEPP for re-entry, as determined by the Education Committee.
- m. Funding cannot be backdated for any funds expended before a learner is approved for support.

5.1 Application Fees, Tuition, Books & Compulsory Fees, Supplies and Costs

- a. Approved learners can apply for funding support for the costs of application fees, tuition, books, compulsory fees, and/or any other compulsory supplies/costs, and must provide documented evidence of fees with their application.



- b. Tuition, application, books, and compulsory fees will be paid directly to the post-secondary institution unless direct payment is requested by the applicant in their application and approved by the Education Committee.

5.3 Living Allowances

Living Allowance will be reviewed annually by Chief and Council with the support of the Director of Education, to establish rates that reflect the current economic costs that may impact a student's ability to focus on their schooling. In cases where funding is limited, Chief and Council may provide additional funds to cover living allowance.

- a. Full-time learners are eligible to receive funding for a living allowance to supplement but not cover all living costs, based upon current Education Department funding that includes limits established by ISC, and allocations determined by Chief and Council. Living allowance is for learners who have a demonstrated need, as outlined in their application.
- b. Learners may apply for support to assist with the costs of dependents. To be eligible to receive additional living allowance for dependents, the dependents must be living in the same residence as the learner. If a learner claims a dependent, they must provide the names of those dependents on their application.

The following are the **maximum** monthly rates as of May 2025:

Student without dependents: \$1,750.00

Student with:

1 dependent	\$1,900.00
2 dependents	\$2,050.00
3 dependents	\$2,200.00
Each additional dependent	\$150.00

- c. All costs for mandatory in-person courses or residency requirements must be outlined in the learner's application and budget.
- d. The living allowance is guided by the funding outlined in the [Canada Student Loans and Grants](#) or [Canada Student Financial Assistance Programs](#), and only paid in Canadian dollars.



- e. Living allowances are paid in monthly installments on the 20th of each month.
- f. The Director of Education will assess requests for additional support in the event of an emergency on a case-by-case basis.

5.4 Tutoring and Counselling

- a. Learners may request tutoring or counselling support for any courses that support their success in completing their education goals, as outlined in their application or determined on a case-by-case basis as needed, by the Education Committee.
- b. Learners may submit multiple applications as needed, for consideration by the Education Committee.
- c. Costs for tutoring and/or counselling will be paid directly to the tutor/counsellor, based upon approved written quotes submitted in their application, or submitted as needed.
- d. Any urgent or emergency counselling costs (e.g., anxiety, mental health issues) or needs will be addressed on a case-by-case basis by the Education Director, which is confidentially reported (all personal information such as names are removed) to the Education Committee.

5.5 Travel

- a. Travel support may be provided, upon approval by the committee. Learners are encouraged to include any potential travel needed for their program in their annual Post-Secondary Application. This may include travel support for:
 - i. Post Secondary Orientation Travel – Learners may request support for travel through a written travel request (including all anticipated costs for travel, meal, accommodation, etc.) at rates not to exceed those outlined in current *Xats'ull First Nation Travel Rates*, Education Department, for learner planned post-secondary institute orientation visits, where attendance to such an orientation is a requirement of the institution or supports the learners wellbeing and success. All orientation travel funding is approved by the Education Committee, or on an interim basis by the Director of Education to be reported to the Education Committee at the next regularly scheduled meeting.
 - ii. Mandatory In Person Education/Residency Travel – Learners may receive travel funding support for any mandatory in person or residency requirements, which must be outlined in their Post-Secondary application.



- iii. Daily Travel – A learner may receive a daily travel allowance for the full or partial costs of a monthly bus fare or monthly parking costs if needed, as outlined in the learners written in their Post-Secondary Application.
 - iv. Emergency Travel – In the event of a death or illness in the family learners may request in writing emergency travel funding, at the most economic means for approval by the Education Director.
- b. Full-time learners and their dependents that choose to enroll into a program with an institution that offers degrees, diplomas, or certificates recognized in Canada, and that are in other parts of Canada or the world, must pay for their own relocation costs.
 - c. Full-time learners attending a post-secondary institution will receive a \$300.00 travel bonus in December and March of each school year. Travel support does not include the cost of moving.

Part 7 - Incentives and Awards

- a. Xat'sull Government is committed to honoring the hard work, dedication, and academic achievements of learners. To do this the following incentives and awards may be provided, when funding permits:

- i. Incentives and Awards

- Where possible the Education Department will provide a choice of small gifts in appreciation of a learner being accepted into a program of their choice.
- A one-time graduation award will be awarded to learners who are graduating from post-secondary programs. For this award the learner must confirm that they are graduating.

▪ Certificate	-	\$750.00
▪ Diploma	-	\$1,000.00
▪ Bachelor	-	\$1,500.00
▪ Masters	-	\$2,000.00
▪ Doctorate	-	\$3,000.00

The above amounts will be regularly reviewed by Chief and Council.

- Incentives and awards will be awarded upon receipt of a photocopy of the learners' final transcript and degree.
- Confirmation of completion can be sent to the Education Director as a copy with any additional information that may be requested.



- Once a year there will be a celebration and appreciation dinner held to honour the learners who have graduated in the past year.
- Those learners living away-from-home that are unable to attend in person will be able to connect to this celebration remotely.

Part 8 - Education Support Services

- a. The Education Department strives to provide a safe space for learners (physically and emotionally). This includes respecting and empowering learners to identify as they choose, both gender identification (two-spirited), role model pursuing the educational goals regardless of age, and where they are comfortable to share their protocol introduction or family of origin. The intent of this is to celebrate and empower learners and meet their needs through barrier free approaches and meet our learners where they are at, with provide wrap around services.
- b. The Education Department provides educational support (free of charge) services that includes, but are not limited to:
 - i. One-to-one support to review and complete applications,
 - ii. Education and career counselling, resources, and referrals,
 - iii. Support to complete education planning and financial planning,
 - iv. Support to coordinate meetings and site visits with post-secondary institutions, including connection with organizational support systems.
 - v. Advocacy with educational institutions to support learners, and educational institutions to respect learners' rights as outlined in UNDRIP.
 - vi. Xat'sull First Nation will fully support learners to apply when necessary or requested for Canada Student Aid, scholarships, subsidies, grants, bursaries or awards. Any scholarships or bursaries that are awarded to the learner by an outside agency or their educational organization will be over and above the funding provided by the Xat'sull Nation and will be retained by the learner in full.
- c. At any time, a learner who experiences emotional, or mental health challenges are encouraged to reach out to Xat'sull First Nation's Counsellor as soon as possible to receive support utilizing a wraparound approach to provide them with a safe place to confidentially talk, access advocacy support, or other support(s) they may need. If requested an individual plan can be developed with the learner with the support of the Education Department that will include regular check-ins as determined by the learner to support their emotional and mental health.



Additional well-being supports:

1. **Here2Talk:** A free, confidential counselling and community referral service available 24/7 for all post-secondary students in B.C. Students can access support via phone, chat, or the Here2Talk app
 2. **Health Link BC:** Provides up-to-date information about health-related resources in B.C., including mental health services. Dial 8-1-1 or visit Health Link BC
 3. **310 Mental Health Support:** Toll-free provincial access to emotional support, information, and resources specific to mental health. Dial 310-6789
 4. **9-8-8 Suicide Crisis Helpline:** Canada-wide number for suicide prevention and crisis support. Call or text 9-8-8
 5. **1 800 SUICIDE:** Confidential, 24-hour toll-free crisis line for people feeling suicidal or needing emotional support. Dial 1-800-784-2433
 6. **Kids Help Phone:** Provides 24/7 support for youth aged 5-25 across Canada. Call 1-800-668-6868 or text "686868"
 7. **YouthSpace:** Free online crisis and emotional support chat service for youth under 30 across Canada. Visit YouthSpace or text 778-783-0177
- d. If a learner has on-going absences from attending classes advanced notice should be given to the Education Department when possible. Where medical assistance is required, learners are encouraged to reach out to the Xat'sull First Nation Education and Health departments for any available supports. Where a medical or absence note may be required to be provided to the post-secondary institute instructors, the same documentation must be sent to the Education Department of the Xat'sull Nation.
- e. At any time, a learner who experiences challenges maintaining a grade level of C or higher is encouraged to contact the Xat'sull Education Department as soon as possible, and explore all potential supports services (e.g., tutoring), and develop an individual learning plan.

Part 9 – Application Process & Funding Allocations

- a. A learner must prepare and submit a completed application package (see Appendix A) to the Education Director with the second week of May being the first annual approval dates, with applications submitted after being reviewed on a case-by-case basis.



- i. Applications received after this deadline may be considered for approval at a lower priority than those submitted beforehand.
 - ii. The Education Director has a responsibility to inform membership of the deadlines at least two months in advance of the date.
- b. If at any time a learner would like assistance with completing their application package the Education Director will ensure that assistance is provide in a timely manner.
- c. Funding will only be provided for education applied and approved for by the Education Committee.
- d. The Education Department will accept applications annually in the order received, and on an on-going basis, as determined by the Education Committee.
- e. Applicants requesting a living allowance must include a monthly budget detailing all income and expenses, and evidence of costs (e.g., rental agreement, dorm costs as outlined by the post-secondary institution).
- f. Post-secondary funding applications can be submitted in a variety of ways, including:
- In-person: Xat'sull Nation Education Department
3405 Mountain House Road
 - E-mail: education@xatsull.com
 - Mail: Xat'sull First Nation
3405 Mountain House Road, Williams Lake, BC V2G 5L5
- g. Applications will be date stamped, and verified for completeness, eligibility requirements, and inclusion of invoices/receipts where applicable, by the Xat'sull Education Director and department staff. If incomplete, Xat'sull Education Director or department staff will notify the applicant what information is missing to complete the application for consideration by the Xat'sull Education Committee.
- h. The Xat'sull Education Committee will review eligible and completed applications and decide on funding (in whole or in part) or make recommendations, based upon the applicant's submitted information. To ensure fairness and equality the Education Director will ensure that all applications have personal information removed.



- i. The Xat'sull Education Director will notify all applicants of the Education Committee's decision within five (5) working days of the decision being made. This written letter will include next steps and details for support they have access to.
- j. Based on availability, funding will be provided for eligible expenses as outlined in the funding portion of this policy.
- k. Learners have the right to appeal decisions through the Education Committee. The detailed Appeal Procedure is outlined in the appeals section of this manual.
- l. The Education Department will maintain a confidential waitlist as needed, which will be updated annually.



Part 10 –Responsibilities

This section outlines the responsibilities of the learners and education department, supported by a circle of committed to empowering learners to achieve their education goals. This circle of support also includes the Education Committee, Administrative Team, and Council.

A copy the Education Committee Terms of Reference is available upon request.

9.1 Director of Education & Education Department Responsibilities

- a. The Director of Education is recognized as the delegated representative of the Xat'süll Government as their lead to the Education Department and is responsible for the following:
 - i. To ensure that the education department and programs are administered according to existing Xat'süll First Nation policies,
 - ii. To ensure learners are provided opportunities to access post-secondary education,
 - iii. To encourage and support learners to realize their education goals,
 - iv. Curriculum development and updating as pertaining to the Education Department through constructive and pro-active networking with available parties from time to time,
 - v. Enhance cultural learning opportunities
 - vi. In fulfilling her/his/their role the Director of Education will protect the personal information of all applicants, in accordance with Xat'süll First Nation policies, based upon the Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act (PIPEDA), and
 - vii. Work as a liaison between the learner, the Education Committee and Council, as needed.
- b. The Director of Education and Education Committee may utilize any unspent funds from a prior year to a subsequent fiscal year.
- c. The Director of Education is responsible for ensuring regular reporting to Chief and Council, community and funding agencies.



Part 11 – Appeals

- a. All who are applying for University and College Preparation Program or Post-Secondary Program have the right to appeal an Education Committee decision (other than for refusals of assistance on the grounds of insufficient department funds) to the Education Committee who will follow this Education Policy.
- b. All appeals will be reviewed by the Education Committee and Education Director promptly.
- c. Any Education Committee appeal will be determined by the Education Committee with a written decision provided to the applicant within ten (10) business days of receipt of the application.
- d. All applicants have the right to pursue and appeal to Council if they are still not satisfied with the committees decision.

Part 12 – Amendments

- a. The Education Director is responsible for ensuring that this Policy is reviewed annually prior to the end of the fiscal year, or as needed, with the Education Committee to ensure its effectiveness in supporting learners to realize their education goals.
- b. Where procedural interim policy edits are required due to ensure alignment with Xatsúll First Nation laws and policies, funding agreements, or applicable legislation the Education Committee may advice procedural edits to Chief and Council.
- c. This policy and any future substantive policy edits that affect the spirit and intent of this policy (including financial budgets) must be completed by the Education Department, for approval by Chief and Council.
- d. The Education Director is responsible for ensuring that all changes, procedural or substantive, will be brought before the nation prior to approval.



Appendix A: Scholarships and Bursaries

Scholarships and bursaries are an important way to help fund your education. In BC, every year, thousands of dollars in scholarship and bursary funding aren't distributed, due to a lack of applications. The following is a list of scholarships and bursaries available to Indigenous learners in BC:

Xat'sull

- [New Relationship Trust Scholarships and Bursaries](#) provide awards for BC First Nations Students from the diploma to the doctoral level of studies.
- [BC Scholarship Society's Indigenous Awards](#) are open to all Indigenous students. Award amounts range from \$1000 to \$5000.
- The [First Citizens Fund](#) provides financial assistance to Indigenous students enrolled in post-secondary education programs. Students may qualify for one of the two funding streams: \$2,000 (based on financial need) or \$700 (if receiving a living allowance from your Nation).
- [Indspire Bursaries and Scholarships](#) are available for Indigenous students across Canada. There are awards for all areas of study, from trades to health careers.
- Indigenous Services Canada has as [Indigenous Bursaries Search Tool](#). You can search for bursaries by keyword, location, program of study, or Indigenous group.
- Indigenous students with disabilities can also locate supports and awards through the [British Columbia Aboriginal Network on Disability Society](#).
- Students studying in the United States can access [Pell Grants](#) and the [Canada-US Fullbright Program](#).
- The [Health Sciences Association \(HSA\)](#) provides two \$1500 bursaries to Indigenous students from BC who are continuing or proceeding in any HSA-related field.
- The [Urban Spirit Foundation](#) provides secondary and post-secondary scholarships based on need and ability, to persons of Aboriginal descent who are pursuing post-secondary studies in fields that will help meet the specific needs of First Nations, Inuit, or Métis peoples and communities.