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First Nations Forestry Training Program

Application Package for Sponsorship

INSTRUCTION DOCUMENT

In partnership with:



BCTS
BC Timber Sales



PROJECT OVERVIEW

The First Nations Forestry Training Program (FNFTP), also known as Study + Work Forestry Scholarship Program, was established in 2012 and is delivered in partnership with:

- **BC First Nations Forestry Council (FNFC)** – program coordination and student support;
- **Government of BC** – funding support;
- **BC Timber Sales (BCTS)** – Industry sponsor providing work experience and mentorship; and
- **Aboriginal Skills and Employment Training Strategy (ASETS)** – student support and mentorship provided to guide and assist the students with coordination of their academic training.

The program is designed and operates as a cooperative two to four-year post-secondary academic scholarship program or management tree program at an accredited academic institution (or delivered locally by accredited training organizations), and includes work experience and guidance of a one-on-one BC Timber Sales mentor who provides individually structured training and support throughout the academic and work term.

The mentor offers guidance, counseling and support in the form of pragmatic and objective assistance. The funds are given out on a first come, first serve basis.

PROGRAM MODULES

The FNFT program has three training development modules, all within a forestry or natural resource related fields:

- 1) **Forestry Technician Stream:** Academically ready to enter a Forestry Technician Diploma Program. The student must have the prerequisites: Grade 12 diploma, Math 11, Biology 11 and English 12.
- 2) **Forestry Management:** Academically ready to enter a Forestry or Natural Resource Management Program. The student must have the appropriate prerequisites and may be laddering from a technical diploma to a university degree.
- 3) **Upgrading / Laddering:** Those who might want to enter a tech or university program but are not academically ready. This program may help students with an upgrading or laddering program toward accredited forestry training programs.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for support in this program, you **must** meet the following criteria:

- 1) Be of First Nations (status/non-status) or Metis descent currently residing in British Columbia.
- 2) Be **accepted** into and willing to pursue **full-time** studies per semester in a forest sector related program and in an accredited institution.
- 3) Possess a valid Driver's licence (or at a minimum a Learner's designation).

**NOTE: Individuals without a valid driver's license may not be hired by BCTS and may be ineligible to receive funding*

The student must connect with an ASETS office and 1) be interviewed by BCTS and 2) accept a summer work-term position in order to be eligible for funding.

APPLICATION PROCESS AND ACCEPTANCE

There are two parts to the application:

- Part A - Scholarship Application
- Part B - ASETS Sponsorship

Part A: Scholarship

- a. Completed application with all the required information:
 - i. You **must** declare if you are receiving funding from other sources (your Nation, other scholarships, grants, award, etc.)

Part B: Aboriginal Skills and Employment Training Sponsorship

- a. You must contact your local ASETS office (see attached map of locations). The ASET office will review your application and sign you up as a client
- b. Part B of the application will be signed by the ASET you are working with:
 - i. The ASETS will provide you support during your application process
 - ii. The ASETS will work with you to allocate your scholarship funds and tuition payments

When **Part A and B** are completed and approved by the B.C. First Nations Forestry Council you will receive verification of your sponsorship into the First Nations Forestry Training Program.



REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

You will need to attach the following documents in order to complete your application:

1. **Unofficial transcript of more recent academic record**
2. **Acceptance letter from recognized accredited post-secondary institution**
3. **Resume**
4. **Copy of status card or membership registration**
5. **Copy of valid driver's license**

Eligible Scholarship Expenses

The FNFTP provides funding assistance in the following categories:

- Tuition costs and fees
- Books and supplies
- Work / field gear (first year only)
- Field trips
- Travel costs (moving from one city to another for school)
- Living allowance (academic portion of the year)

This program and scholarship funding is limited and successful applications are dispersed on a first-come, first-serve basis until the funds have been exhausted.

*Submit your completed application and all required documentation to **workforce@forestrycouncil.ca** as soon as possible to ensure your entry into the program.*