EMERGENCY MEDICAL ASSISTANTS EDUCATION FUND

Application Package

Justice Institute
BRITISH COLUMBIA

Administered by the Justice Institute of British Columbia
Financial Aid and Awards Office

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Financial Aid and Awards

THE EMA EDUCATION FUND

The Emergency Medical Assistants (EMA) Education Fund began in 2007 as the result of a $3 Million donation from the Emergency and Health Services Commission to the Vancouver Foundation, with the mandate that the Vancouver Foundation would utilize those funds to support the training and development of paramedics in British Columbia, particularly those in rural and remote British Columbia communities.

To that end, an advisory committee was created, consisting of representatives from the BC Ambulance Service, the Ambulance Paramedics of BC (Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) Local 873), BC health authorities, and the Union of BC Municipalities. The role of the EMA Education Fund Advisory Committee is to determine how best to utilize these funds, develop criteria for the disbursement of those funds, and to select the candidates who will receive those funds.

Currently, the EMA Education Fund provides funding to individuals who wish to pursue training leading towards certification and licensure as Primary Care Paramedics (PCP) and Advanced Care Paramedics (ACP) in British Columbia. Bursaries for the PCP program are $6,000, while bursaries for the ACP program are $22,000.

GOALS OF THE FUND

The EMA Education Fund is tasked with achieving the following goals:

- Increase the number of PCP-licensed paramedics living and working in rural or remote areas of British Columbia.
- Increase the number of ACP-licensed paramedics in all areas of British Columbia

These goals will be achieved by providing the financial support necessary for paramedic students to obtain their PCP or ACP licenses.

AWARD SELECTION

All applicants will be notified via email of the results of their application.
Unfortunately, there are limited funds available each period and we are unable to assist all of the eligible applicants. If you are not successful, however, you are encouraged to re-apply for the next eligibility period.

AWARD DISBURSEMENT

If you are selected for an EMA Education Fund Award, instructions for receiving your funding will be included in the notification letter.

Applications for PCP are accepted three times a year and ACP applications are accepted once a year for the EMA Education Fund Awards administered by the Justice Institute of British Columbia (JIBC)

Email completed applications to financialaid@jibc.ca or mail to:
Financial Aid and Awards
Justice Institute of British Columbia
715 McBride Boulevard
New Westminster BC V3L 5T4

Last updated December 4, 2024

APPLICATION DEADLINES:

Application Deadline	Notification to students	Disbursement period
February 27, 2025 (PCP only)	By March 31, 2025	April 2025
June 30, 2025 (ACP/PCP)	By July 31, 2025	August 2025
October 30, 2025 (PCP only)	By November 30, 2025	January 2026

Complete one application only for each deadline.

Award Eligibility Criteria:

- Applicants must be enrolled in a full or part-time PCP or ACP program in BC that is approved by the EMA Licensing Board and at a school that is a qualified donee as defined by the Canada Revenue Agency.
- Preferential consideration will be given to BCEHS employees who are currently working in the public sector in rural, remote, and northern BC.
- ACP applicants must be an employee of BCEHS.
- Applicants must provide proof of participation in student and/or community activities.
- Applicants must be Canadian citizens, permanent residents or protected persons who are residents of BC.
- Applicants must document financial need by completing an application form and signing a declaration.
- Applicants who have received the EMA EF Award for PCP and were required to withdraw/exit are ineligible to re-apply for the award for retaking that program. Applicants who have received the award for ACP and were required to withdraw/exit will only be eligible for the amount not awarded during the first attempt at the program.

Applicants may be required to submit additional documentation to verify financial need.

EMA Education Fund Advisory Committee selects students for awards. Decisions of the EMA Education Fund Advisory Committee are final.

How will I find out if I have been selected for an award?
Award funds are limited; therefore, we are unable to assist all applicants. An email will be sent to the email address provided on the Award application notifying you of the results of your application. Applications take time to process, however if you are not contacted within 4-6 weeks of the Application Deadline, please contact financialaid@jibc.ca for information on the status of your application.

If I qualify for an award, when will I receive my funds?
An award notification letter sent to your email address will include additional instructions regarding your funds. Typically, funds are credited to your student account and are used toward tuition fees. Payments toward tuition are normally applied in two or more installments and a living allowance award made near the end of the program. How your funds will be allocated will be outlined in your notification letter.

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Students who are not yet accepted to or enrolled in a program must provide proof of enrollment at time of Award approval, for any funds to be released. Proof of enrollment consists of a copy of your acceptance letter from the institution you will be attending.

How long will my funds be available?
Depending upon when you apply for an award, we recognize your program may not start right away and your award will be applied when you start the program, or term, for ACP students. Applicants who have received the EMA EF Award for PCP and were required to withdraw/exit are ineligible to re-apply for the award for retaking that program. Applicants who have received the award for ACP and were required to withdraw/exit will only be eligible for the amount not awarded during the first attempt at the program.

In what denominations are awards granted?
Students could be eligible for up to $6,000 each for taking the Primary Care Paramedic Program and up to $22,000 each for taking the Advanced Care Paramedic Program. ACP Funds are disbursed incrementally to cover tuition and other program related expenses at the time these expenses are incurred.

Why are PCP students who live and work in, or are willing to work in rural, northern or remote areas of British Columbia being favored to receive an award over those in urban centres?
There is a severe shortage of primary care paramedics working in rural, northern and remote areas of the province. The EMA Education Fund Awards were established to address this shortage by encouraging more people to consider living and working as primary care paramedics in these areas of BC.

Are ACP students favored to receive an award in the same way as PCP students?
No. There is a severe shortage of advanced care paramedics working in **all** areas of BC so those in rural, northern or remote areas are not favored to receive an award over those in urban centres.

Are there other sources of awards available?
Do you or your family have affiliations with service clubs, organizations or athletic teams? They may offer awards or bursaries. Employers sometimes provide bursaries for employees or dependents of employees. There are also bursaries offered through the government for students entering Health Care fields. JIBC offers bursaries to eligible JIBC students who demonstrate financial need. JIBC's Financial Aid office has information on private bursaries offered by organizations. Check the Student Services Website at http://jibc.ca/student-services/financial-aid-awards for more information.

Note: Any misrepresentation of your financial need will result in a penalty, which could include, but is not limited to, ineligibility to be considered for future awards and forfeit of any outstanding award.

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Please ensure that every question is answered. Failure to complete all sections could result in disqualification of your application.

Personal Information

Last name **First name**

Address

City/Province **Postal code**

Date of birth *(yyyy/mm/dd)* **Email**

Primary phone number **Alternate phone number**

Residency

Have you resided in BC for the past 12 months? ❑ Yes ❑ No

How long have you resided in your current community _____

List other BC communities and the dates you have resided there.

_____ _____ _____

Do you currently work for BCEHS? ❑ Yes ❑ No

If yes,

What is your current employment status? ❑ Full-time ❑ Part-time

Will you be receiving funding from BCEHS for your training? ❑ Yes ❑ No

What is the location of your station and how long have you worked for BCEHS?

_____

Marital/Family Status:

- ❒ Single with no dependants
- ❒ Married/common law with no dependants
- ❒ Married/common law with dependants
- ❒ Sole support parent
- ❒ Other: _____

Number of children in your custody: _____ Ages: _____

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Education, Goals & Community Involvement

You have applied to/enrolled in the:

❒ Advanced Care Paramedic Program (ACP) ❒ Primary Care Paramedic Program (PCP)

Educational Institution at which you applied to/enrolled _____

Program start date: _____/_____/_____ (yyyy/mm/dd)

Student number from institution in which you applied to/enrolled: _____

Which community in the province of British Columbia do you plan to work in after program completion and why (attach additional page if necessary)? What is your career goal? **Please be as specific as possible.**

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Do you speak a second language? If so, what language and at what level do you communicate (beginner, intermediate or expert)?

_____

_____

_____

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Please provide information of your education and training, including degrees, diplomas, certificates, etc.

High School	Name of School:	Level Achieved:
	Date Range Attended:	
College / University	Name:	Level Achieved:
	Date Range Attended:	
Vocational / Trade / Technical	Name:	Level Achieved:
	Date Range Attended:	
Other Licenses / Certificates	Name:	Level Achieved:
	Date Range Attended:	

Provide a summary of your volunteer work and/or community activities **for the 6 months** prior **to your program start** (attach additional page if necessary).

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Financial Information

You have applied for ❒ **OR** received ❒ (for this program):

❒ Government Loans /grants: $_____ Province of Issue: _____

❒ Bank line of credit/loan: $_____

If you have not applied for a student loan/line of credit, please explain.

_____

_____

If you do not qualify for a student loan, please explain.

_____

_____

TUITION

What are your estimated tuition costs, including books and supplies, for this program? **$** _____

Assets: Include vehicle(s), home(s), property, stocks, bonds, RRSPs, TSFA, savings, etc.

Asset	**Date Purchased**	**Market Value**	**Amount Owing**

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Please itemize your anticipated income and expenses for your period of study, per month. **Married or common-law students must list *entire* household income and expenses.**

INCOME (**monthly**)	Prior to program start	During program
Work net income	$	$
Spouse's net income	$	$
Income from government source (EI, HRDC, etc.)	$	$
From family/sponsor/employer	$	$
Child support/spousal support	$	$
Daycare subsidy	$	$
Other income (band funding/ investments/interest/etc)	$	$
(A) TOTAL MONTHLY INCOME	**$ (A)**	**$**

Please provide your additional income, as of the date of this application. Do not include assets listed above.

Additional Income

Savings after tuition costs	$
Student loans (family/bank/government)	$
Grants/Scholarships/Awards/Bursaries	$
Other (specify) _____	$
Total Additional Income	**$**

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EXPENSES (**Monthly**)

Rent/Mortgage and Utilities	$
Food	$
Transportation	$
Miscellaneous	$
Daycare (including subsidy)	$
Loans/credit payments	$
Medical/dental premiums	$
Insurance (car/house/life)	$
Glasses/contacts	$
Car repairs	$
House repairs	$
Non-refundable medical costs	$
Other (specify) _____	$
(B) TOTAL MONTHLY EXPENSES	**$ (B)**

Total Monthly Income (A) - Total Monthly Expenses (B) = $_____

Although you may not have exceptional circumstances, the EMA EF Adjudication committee requests you would indicate rationale how the award would financially help or impact your life. Please explain here (attach additional page if necessary).

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

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Declaration

Any misrepresentation of my financial need will result in a penalty, which could include, but is not limited to, ineligibility to be considered for future awards and forfeit of any outstanding award. Furthermore, the Registrar's Office at the institution in which I am enrolled maintains the right to withhold grades and official transcripts and to put a notation on my permanent record.

I hereby declare that the information given on this Application is, to the best of my knowledge, correct and that I have read and understood the directions at the beginning of this Application. I authorize the Registrar's Office at the institution in which I am enrolled to verify any or all the above statements if deemed necessary.

The Emergency Medical Assistants Education Fund respects your privacy. Personal information that you provide is collected pursuant to provincial privacy legislation. It is collected for the purpose of administering applications for bursary awards and for the purpose of statistical reporting to the Advisory Committee, donors and government agencies. If you have questions, please contact the Fund administrator at 604.528.5762.

I understand that:

1. The EMA Education Fund Advisory Committee will review my application.
2. Should I be successful in obtaining an EMA Education Fund Award, I agree to write a "Letter of Appreciation" to be given to the donor.
3. If selected, I consent to the release of my information pertaining to the award to be used by BCEHS, the Donor, or JIBC for publicity purposes.
4. JIBC is responsible for issuing a T4A for the EMA Education Fund Award. Therefore, if selected, I will be asked to provide my SIN.

I must maintain satisfactory completion of courses in my program.
I give permission to the Registrar's Office at the institution in which I am enrolled:

1. To use the information from my Student Loan Application and Assessment to verify information on my EMA Education Fund Application (if applicable);
2. To check my transcripts for the purpose of ascertaining my academic standing and cumulative credits; also, to confirm my status as either part time or full time, and to confirm my field of study;
3. To share information included on the EMA Education Fund Application with the EMA Advisory Committee for the purpose of selecting recipients for Awards.

_____ _____

Signature of Student Date

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