

Acadia Chapter 49 (NS/PEI) Pioneers Scholarship Guide General Information and FAQ

Acadia Chapter 49 (NS/PEI) Pioneers is one of three Chapters in the Atlantic Provinces of the Canadian Pioneers Volunteers.

Establishment of the Scholarship Program

This Scholarship Program has been established to further the education focus of the Bell Aliant Pioneers (NS/PEI) and its efforts to build healthy communities through individual and family involvement and commitment to community service. The Scholarship Program provides Pioneers a means to help prepare young citizens to live healthy and productive lives.

The Pioneers has long been a fraternal and service organization with an emphasis on giving back to its communities. The Scholarship Program is designed to meet a community need and to provide a membership benefit to members of the Pioneers organization. This Program applies only to Chapter 49 (NS/PEI) family members and is not open to the general public.

Program Description

This Scholarship Program has been established by the Society/Chapter to provide two scholarships annually to Pioneer family members who are residents of NS or PEI. Only one scholarship per Pioneers family member will be awarded each academic school year.

The scholarship program is awarded based on applicant involvement in community service, school and leadership activities and academic achievement.

Each scholarship is a one-time award of \$2,000. The funds are payable to a post-secondary institution. The funds are provided to assist students with tuition, required registration or other fees.

Eligibility

Family members of Pioneers are eligible to apply. The student need not be a dependent of nor live in the same residence with the Pioneers member but must be a resident of NS/PEI and be a Canadian citizen.

The student must be a family member of a regular, dues-paying Pioneers member of Acadia Chapter 49 (NS/PEI), a Life Member, Associate or Honorary member as defined by the Pioneers By-laws. The student must be entering their first year at the post-secondary institution and be considered a full-time student by the institution.

Application Process

Eligible students must complete the scholarship application and submit the requested documentation certifying community service, school involvement and an essay describing the applicant's involvement in volunteerism, his/her accomplishments and the importance of volunteerism. The applicant must also submit a certified copy of the most current high school cumulative grade transcript.

Applications will be accepted after November 1st each year but before July 31st of the following year. The application and all supporting documentation can be submitted by email to, Acadiapioneers@gmail.com but originals must be sent to the address provided on the Application and must be postmarked by July 31st of each year.

The application must be submitted with original signatures of the student applicant and the related Pioneers member. Applications are evaluated on the information supplied. Therefore, applications not including all requested information by the due date are ineligible for consideration. All information received is considered confidential.

Each applicant will be notified via email or phone of the organization's receipt of their application. Only the successful applicants will be notified of the final selection.

Selection Process

Applications will first be sorted by the Selection Committee. The recipients will be selected on the basis of performance in three key areas. Each of the three areas is

assigned a point value. Each applicant may receive from 0 up to the total points allotted in each category:

1. Community Service and School Involvement – (50 points)

The applicant is requested to provide no more than 2 one-page letters of documentation from non-family members describing the applicant’s involvement and accomplishments. One of the letters should describe community service and one should describe school activities and the applicant’s impact on the project.

2. Academic and Leadership Activities in School – (25 points)

The applicant is required to indicate cumulative GPA or cumulative numerical grade along with a copy of the most current high school grade transcript and describe leadership roles while in high school.

3. Written Essay – (25 points)

Essay describing in 1,000 words or less what has been the most rewarding community service activity the applicant has participated in and why it was important to the applicant. The essay should include 5 basic points:

- The applicant’s role in the project.
- Time spent on the project – hours, days, etc.
- Is the project a one-time or an ongoing effort?
- Impact of project on applicant.
- Why student feels his/her involvement in the project qualifies them to apply for this scholarship.

Each of the three performance areas will be assigned a point value by individual committee members, and then summarized for a final result. Highest total scores win.

The successful applicants will be notified they have been awarded a scholarship. Successful applicant notification will also be posted on the Acadia Chapter Pioneers Facebook Page by **August 15th**.

Individual feedback about the committee members’ evaluation will not be provided. The decision of the Selection Committee is final.

Selection Committee

Committee will be comprised of three representatives from the Acadia Chapter 49 (NS/PEI).

Recipient Notification and Presentation

Scholarship recipients will be announced by August 15th of each year. A letter of notification will be forwarded to the scholarship recipients.

Acadia Chapter 49 (NS/PEI) Pioneers Scholarship Application Form

Please refer to the Guide and the Q & A when completing this Application to ensure appropriate details and references are provided.

Full Name: _____

Address (Apartment, Street, City, Postal Code): _____

Telephone: _____

E-mail address: _____

Resident of NS or PEI (yes or no)? _____

Canadian Citizen (yes or no)? _____

Name of Secondary School and Location: _____

Year of Graduation: _____

Awards or Honours Received: _____

Pioneers Member Name: _____

Pioneers Member Address: _____

Pioneers Member Telephone: _____

On separate pages, please:

1. List hobbies, interests, community involvement activities.
2. Write a short paragraph on academic and career goals.
3. Write an essay describing your involvement in volunteerism, your accomplishments, and the importance of volunteerism.

Estimate of Cost for Academic Year:

Description and Cost:

Total Costs:

I hereby give permission to the Selection Committee of the Acadia Chapter 49 (NS/PEI) Pioneers Scholarship to make contact with individuals providing references, and at educational institutions named:

Signature

Date

Pioneers Member Signature

Date

Attachments:

1. Two letters of documentation: (1) educational letter of recommendation and (2) community letter of recommendation.
2. Letter of acceptance from post-secondary educational institution.
3. Hobbies, interests, community involvement activities.
4. Paragraph on academic and career goals.
5. Essay.
6. Certified copy of the most current high school cumulative grade transcript.

Application and supporting documentation to be submitted to:

Acadia Chapter 49 Pioneers
Chapter 49 (NS/PEI) Scholarship
C/O Tanya Snair
21 Snair Ln,
Queensland, NS B0J 1T0

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. Who can apply for this scholarship?

A. Family members of Regular, Life, Associate and Honorary Pioneers members. The student must be entering their first year at the post-secondary institution.

Q. How are family members defined?

A. Family member is defined in the broadest sense and includes immediate and extended family — children, grandchildren, stepchildren, nieces, nephews, brothers and sisters.

Q. How many scholarships will be awarded?

A. As with any program, changes may occur over time as circumstances, funding, administration and other key factors critical to the scholarship program change. Up to two \$2000 scholarships will be awarded annually based on established criteria.

Q. Are scholarship awards based on financial need?

A. No. Scholarship awards are based on the three key areas defined in the selection process.

Q. Will the number of scholarships awarded change?

A. As with any program, changes may occur over time as circumstances, funding, administration and other key factors critical to the scholarship program change.

Q. How are the scholarships funded?

A. A partnership had been formed between the Telecom Pioneers Society (a Pioneer Group established to operate the Gift Shop in the A.G. Bell Museum for fundraising purposes) and Acadia Chapter 49 (NS/PEI) Pioneers. Funds raised by the Chapter along with the funds raised and turned over from the Telecom Pioneers Society to the Chapter are utilized to fund the Scholarships.

Q. Is there an appeal process?

A. There is no appeal process. The scholarship awards are based on criteria established by the Pioneers and all decisions are final.

Q. Can multiple family members submit an application during the same period?

A. Yes. A Pioneer may have multiple family member applications submitted as long as each applicant is entering their first year of post-secondary education and meets all other established program criteria for submitting an application.

Q. Can parts of the application be submitted at different times as long as all information is in by the deadline?

A. No. All information to be considered as part of the application MUST be submitted together. Information received with the application will be considered the entire submission and will be evaluated solely on that information.

Q. Will scholarships be payable to the applicant if career plans change and the applicant does not enter an accredited institution as defined in the program?

A. No. Scholarships will not be payable to individuals. The scholarships are designed to assist scholarship recipients with expenses associated with school tuition, required registration and other fees and, as such, the cheque is made payable only to the institution.

Q. How long must I have been a Pioneer before my family members may be eligible to apply for a Pioneers scholarship?

A. Immediately upon authorizing payroll deductions for your Pioneers membership dues, your eligible family members may apply.

Q. Does Pioneer Member have to be a resident of NS/PEI?

A. The applicant must be a resident of NS/PEI. The student must be a family member of a regular, dues-paying Pioneers member of Acadia Chapter 49 (NS/PEI), a Life Member, Associate or Honorary member as defined by the Pioneers By-laws.

Q. How do I become a Pioneer?

A. See the Bell Aliant Pioneers Website -
<http://www.aliantpioneers.com/membership.shtml>

Q. Does the Applicant have to be attending a post-secondary institution in NS or PEI?

A. No. Any post-secondary institution is acceptable.

Q. How do I make contact if I have further questions?

A. Via the email address established for the Scholarship Program -
acadiapioneers@gmail.com