

Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership

Competitive. Innovative. Resilient.

Agriculture Skills Student Bursary Program Guidelines

2023-2024



Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership

The Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (Sustainable CAP) is a five-year (2023-2028), \$3.5-billion investment by federal-provincial and territorial governments to strengthen competitiveness, innovation, and resiliency of the agriculture, agri-food and agri-based products sector. This includes \$1 billion in federal programs and activities and \$2.5 billion in cost-shared programs and activities by federal, provincial, and territorial governments.

In Nova Scotia, \$46 million will be invested through a federal-provincial partnership that is linked to five program streams: 1) Building Sector Capacity, Growth and Competitiveness; 2) Climate Change and Environment; 3) Market Development and Trade; 4) Science, Research, and Innovation; and 5) Resiliency and Public Trust.

We support the development of diverse and inclusive industries. We welcome individuals from all equity-deserving communities including but not limited to women, persons with disabilities, Black and African Nova Scotians, First Nations, Indigenous peoples, 2SLGBTQI+ and racialized individuals, to apply to programming.

Program Objectives

The intention of the Agriculture Skills Student Bursary program is to introduce agriculture to students as a viable career option and helps address the labour gap for agriculture producers in Nova Scotia. Students gain important skills by working on registered farms.

Eligibility

To be eligible, you must:

- be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada
- be a resident of Nova Scotia
- be enrolled in an accredited post-secondary institution in September (of the program year)
- be employed (or have been employed) by a Nova Scotia registered farm guaranteeing a minimum work term of 250 to 500 hours between May 1, 2023 to September 10, 2023. (Farm registration will be confirmed by Programs staff)

Financial Assistance

A student who has worked 250 hours can receive a:

- Bursary of \$500 in year 1
- Students returning to farming work for a 2nd year and any subsequent years will receive \$750 for each year beyond year 1 (for the duration of the program)

A student who has worked 500 hours can receive a:

- Bursary of \$1,000 in year 1
- Students returning to farming work for a 2nd year and any subsequent years are eligible for a \$1,500 for each year beyond year 1 (for the duration of the program)

Requirements

- The application must be signed by the applicant. If the applicant is under the age of 19, a parent or legal guardian is to sign.
- The application must also be signed by the registered farm representative.
- A Record of Employment(s) (ROE) for the hours worked between May 1, 2023 and September 10, 2023. We understand students may continue working past these dates, however the program relies on a ROE to support Bursary payments. Applicants may be required to supply a copy of their T-4 for audit purposes.
- Confirmation of Enrollment in an accredited post-secondary educational institution. Student ID must be supplied.

Note 1: If approved, the Award will be issued to the Accredited Post-Secondary Educational Institution in which the applicant is enrolled.

Note 2: Students who are employed by their family farm are eligible to apply.

Note 3: All program funding is subject to funding availability.

Application Process

To apply for the Agriculture Skills Student Bursary Program:

1. Submit a complete Application including the supporting documentation listed in the requirements section on page 3 to the Programs office.
2. Submit a complete Program Funding Registration Form (for Farms)
3. Eligible hours will be recognized within the activity period stated in the below table.

Application Intake	Activity Period
September 1, 2023 – November 30, 2023	May 1, 2023 –September 10, 2023

Approval Process

1. Applications are assessed based on the information and supporting documentation provided. If an application requires further assessment or information, Programs will follow up with the applicant.
2. If approved, applicants will receive confirmation that identifies the funding assistance granted.

Authority

Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture (NSDA) shall have the authority to deny an application if there is evidence of misrepresentation of pertinent information or if NSDA believes that an application does not conform to the spirit of the Program.

Evaluation and Audit

Review and evaluation of projects may be carried out by NSDA, Government of Canada or other parties chosen by NSDA for the purpose of audit, analysis, evaluation, program development and determining financial assistance. This review and evaluation process may be conducted prior to project commencement, during work or upon project completion. Applicants may be asked to complete an evaluation survey related to their final claim.

Confidentiality

Applicants consent to the release of their name and the amount of support received under the Program. This specific information is deemed to be public information, to be actively disseminated by NSDA. NSDA may provide any information from an applicant to another public body or a law-enforcement agency in Canada to assist in an investigation, undertaken with a view to a law-enforcement proceeding or from which a law-enforcement proceeding is likely to result. Any other information provided, unless disclosed in the manner and for the purposes stated above, will be subject to the confidentiality and disclosure provisions of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPOP) Act.

Contact Information

Please submit all documents related to the Agriculture Skill Student Bursary Program to Programs at the address, email, or fax number below. For more information about the Program, please contact Nova Scotia’s Department of Agriculture programs office or your regional office.

**Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture
Programs Office**

74 Research Drive
Bible Hill, Nova Scotia B6L 2R2
Fax: 902-893-7579
Email: prm@novascotia.ca

Programs: Telephone: 902-893-6377 Toll Free: 1-866-844-4276		
Western Region Offices	Cornwallis	902-638-2395
	Kentville	902-679-6021
	Lunenburg	902-634-7575
Eastern Region Offices	Truro	902-893-6575
	Antigonish	902-863-7180
	Sydney	902-563-2000