




# **Generation for Equality: Applying to Post-Secondary School in Nunavut**

**October 2025**





Disclaimer: This toolkit is intended to provide general advice for Indigenous youth pursuing post-secondary education in Canada. Everyone is responsible for using their own discretion when preparing, applying, and attending post-secondary education.

The Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC) is a national Indigenous organization representing the political voices of Indigenous women in all their diversities in Canada. NWAC advocates for and works with First Nations – on- and off-reserve, status, and non-status, disenfranchised – Métis, and Inuit peoples across Canada. As an aggregate of Indigenous women's organizations across Canada, NWAC works to enhance, promote and foster the social, economic, cultural, and political well-being of Indigenous women, in all their diversities, within their respective communities.

## Generation for Equality

NWAC's Generation for Equality (G4E) is a platform for Indigenous youth to gather information, ask questions, and connect with others working towards gender equality and gender diversity. The G4E platform represents an Indigenous youth-led movement which provides a critical space for Indigenous youth to engage on issues impacting them the most. The G4E platform includes, and celebrates, the voices and experiences of Indigenous youth of all genders and gender expressions advocating for gender equality and gender-diversity.

With funding from Women and Gender Equality (WAGE), NWAC was able to explore the barriers to post-secondary education and employment. In response, NWAC developed this supplementary document to go alongside the "Generation for Equality: Applying to Post-Secondary School Toolkit," to provide specific information for Inuit youth in Nunavut.



# Nunavut Arctic College

Founded in 1995, Nunavut Arctic College is the only post-secondary institution in the territory, offering degree, diploma, and certificate programs to students. The College also offers apprenticeship, trades and adult basic education programs (Macleans, 2025). These programs fall under seven categories:

- Health and Wellness
- Education
- Law
- Business
- Inuit Culture
- Art
- Trades and Technology

Located across the territory, the school has five campuses and 25 community learning centres. This includes campuses in Rankin Inlet, Cambridge Bay, and Iqaluit (Nunavut Arctic College, n.d.).



## Student Services

The Nunavut Arctic College offers an array of services to support students throughout their educational journey. This includes access to student counselling, career development officers, learner success facilitators, student tutoring services, childcare supports, and financial services (Nunavut Arctic College, n.d.).

## Admissions

At Nunavut Arctic College, the minimum admissions requirement for all certificate, diploma and degree programs is a high school diploma. However, some programs may require the successful completion of specific high school courses with a minimum average. When applying, students must submit the following documents:

1. The Application Form
2. Official High School/Post-Secondary Transcript or Education Assessment Test
3. Letter of Intent
4. Three Letters of Reference
5. Request for Accommodation form (should you need to attend school away from home) (Nunavut Arctic College, n.d.).

## Contact Information

### **Kivalliq Campus**

PO Box 876  
Rankin Inlet, NU X0C 0G0  
(867) 645-4170

### **Kitikmeot Campus**

PO Box 54  
Cambridge Bay, NU X0B 0C0  
(867) 983-4533

### **Nunatta Campus**

502 Niaqunngusiaruaq Rd, Iqaluit,  
NU X0A 2H0  
(867) 979-7200



# Nunavut Sivuniksavut

Opening in 1985, Nunavut Sivuniksavut (NS) offers a comprehensive educational experience to Inuit students in the heart of Ottawa. The program is affiliated with Algonquin College (1989) and Carleton University (2003), allowing NS to be accredited but remain independent in their program delivery. Each year, NS welcomes 60 students into their 1st and 2nd year certificate programs (Nunavut Sivuniksavut, 2025). Each year of the certificate program offers several different courses to students, including:

First Year	Second Year
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land Claims</li> <li>• Inuit History</li> <li>• Inuit-government Relations</li> <li>• Inuktut</li> <li>• English</li> <li>• Cultural Studies</li> <li>• Contemporary Inuit Issues</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Circumpolar Studies</li> <li>• Community Development</li> <li>• Research Methods</li> <li>• Land Claim Implementation</li> <li>• Political Science*</li> <li>• Northern Public Administration*</li> </ul>

*\* Courses are university level courses*

To study at NS, there are a few entry requirements students must meet:

- Be at least 17 years old when classes begin
- Have completed high school or an equivalent qualification
- For year 2 applicants, have taken the year 1 program previously

## Contact Information

Nunavut Sivuniksavut  
 450 Rideau St, Suite 201  
 Ottawa, ON K1N 5Z4

(613) 244-4942  
[info@nsstaff.ca](mailto:info@nsstaff.ca)



# Financial Assistance

Part of preparing for post-secondary school is understanding the costs associated with attending. Students should understand the costs of tuition, school supplies, living expenses, food and other costs they may incur during the academic year. To help alleviate the financial stress associated with pursuing additional education, students may be eligible for a mix of financial loans and grants to help cover education expenses. Financial aid generally comes in two forms:

**Grants** Money received for a specific purpose, such as financing your education, which does not have to be repaid.

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**Loans** Money borrowed to help pay for your education, loans must be repaid with interest (TD Bank, n.d.).

The Government of Nunavut has two streams of funding for student aid - Financial Assistance for Nunavut Students (FANS) and Adult Training and Learning Supports (ALTS). These financial assistance programs are crucial to supporting student success.

## Financial Assistance for Nunavut Students (FANS)

The FANS program was designed by the Government of Nunavut to ensure financial need is not a barrier to accessing higher education. The program is intended to offset some of the costs of attending post-secondary school (Department of Education, n.d.). Accordingly, FANS should be the first point of contact for Nunavut students pursuing post-secondary education, as the program can guide students to appropriate funding streams. To be eligible for FANS benefits, students must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Canadian Citizen or have permanent resident status.
- Nunavut resident (living in Nunavut for 12 continuous months before the date of acceptance).
- Accepted in a designated program of studies at an approved post-secondary institution as either a full- or part-time student.
- The program you are taking leads to a degree, diploma or certificate.
- You are not receiving student financial assistance from another provincial, territorial, or federal program.
- You do not have any outstanding debt owing to the Government of Nunavut.

Through the FANS program, students have access to several grant and loan opportunities, including:

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**Basic Grant**

- Assist with tuition, books and fees and includes one return airfare for students and dependents to travel between their home community and school.
- Provides up to \$9,885 each academic year.

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**Supplementary Grant**

- Monthly grant intended to assist with daily living expenses.
- Funding starts at \$1,032 per month and increases with the number of dependents.
- 70% of the grant is paid on the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month, with the remaining 30% paid on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.

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**Rent Supplement Grant**

- Monthly grant to assist students living away from home with rental costs.
- Funding can range depending on location and number of dependents.

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**Disability Grant**

- Assists students with permanent disabilities who face extraordinary costs associated with attending post-secondary school.
- Students must provide the FANS program with a medical or learning ability assessment from a certified medical professional.
- Eligible students may receive up to \$8,000 for reequipment and services related to their education

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**Part-time Study Grant**

- Intended to assist part-time students with their tuition, books, and fees.
- Part-time students may receive up to \$4,943 each academic year.

### **Needs Assessed Loan**

- Available to students who demonstrate additional financial need.
  - Students may receive up to \$165 a week while attending school.
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### **Course Reimbursement**

- For reimbursement of pre-paid and successfully completed online courses taken at an accredited Canadian university or technical institution.
  - Assists with tuition, fees, postage, and textbook costs for courses through distance education.
  - Students may receive up to \$1,000 per course, with a lifetime limit of \$10,000.
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### **Scholarship**

- Provided to students based on academic achievement, scholarships include:
- Grade 12 Scholarship (\$500)
- Undergraduate Scholarship (\$750) Master's Scholarship (\$1,000)
- Doctorate Scholarship (\$1,500)

## Applying to FANS

The FANS application form can be found [online](#), after which students can fill in the form physically or digitally. After completing the FANS application, students must submit the form via email to [FANS@gov.nu.ca](mailto:FANS@gov.nu.ca) (for Nunavut Inuit enrolled under the Nunavut Agreement) or [FANSLoans@gov.nu.ca](mailto:FANSLoans@gov.nu.ca) (for students not enrolled under the Nunavut Agreement). To ensure you receive funds without delay:

- Apply as soon as you decide to go to school, even if you have not yet received an acceptance.
- Fill in your application completely (or as fully as possible)
- Sign and date the Release Agreement and Declaration in the FANS application form (Department of Education, 2024).

FANS applicants must also submit a copy of their transcript from their previous year of study or proof of acceptance to a program alongside their application. Students may have to provide the FANS program with these documents after submitting their initial application. Moreover, the FANS program requires students to provide the following information:

- Permanent Nunavut Address
- Social Insurance Number
- Health Card Number
- Date of Birth
- Information on Previous Loans
- Spousal and Dependent Information (if applicable)
- Program/Institution Information
- Banking Information

Students should also be aware of FANS application deadlines, as missing a deadline could result in limited or no financial aid.

<b>FANS Application Deadlines</b>	
<b>Program Start Date</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
Fall (starting between August 15 and October 1)	July 15
Winter (starting in January)	November 5
Spring/Summer (starting between April 15 and May 31)	March 1
All other start times	6 weeks before start date.

### Contact Information

Email: [fans@gov.nu.ca](mailto:fans@gov.nu.ca)

Phone: 1-877-860-0680 and ask to speak to a FANS officer

## Adult Learning and Training Supports (ALTS)

The ALTS program helps support individuals undertake training or upgrading courses. Generally, the ALTS program funds programs that are a year, or less, in duration. The expected outcome of the program is to support individuals in finding and maintaining jobs through skills development (Department of Education, n.d.). As a result, the ALTS funds two forms of training:

- Training that directly leads to employment after completion
- Work readiness or upgrade training.

Like the FANS program, there are several eligibility requirements that must be met before entering the program. Criteria for ALTS includes:

- Canadian Citizen or have permanent resident status
- Resident of Nunavut
- Needs skills training to be competitively employable
- Be 16 years of age or older
- The academic or training program must not be post-secondary or eligible for the FANS program
- The program must be full-time (not less than 30 hours per week)

## Scholarships and Awards

Through the Department of Education, students can access a wide range of scholarships available to them in Nunavut. However, students should consider using resources like [scholarshipscanada.com](http://scholarshipscanada.com) to identify potential scholarship opportunities available to them.



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