

What is the Youth Community Service Award?

Columbia Basin Trust's Youth Community Service Awards are designed to reward and encourage the volunteerism of Columbia Basin students. These awards are not based on academic achievement but rather volunteer community service activity. Community service refers to a significant contribution of volunteer time, energy and/or talent that fosters community well-being. Columbia Basin Trust (the Trust) uses the term "community" to also include rural areas of the Basin that are not defined as cities, towns or villages, and areas of interest.

What are the eligibility criteria?

The emphasis for award selection is on impactful and meaningful volunteer service that fosters community well-being. Added weight will be given to activities that focus on providing benefit to Basin communities, but other volunteer service will be considered.

Who can apply?

- The applicant must be a Basin student graduating from a Basin Public School or Independent School (or other program) in 2023 that grants Ministry of Education-recognized graduation diplomas;
- The applicant must be no more than 20 years of age; and
- The applicant must currently live within the [Columbia Basin Region](#).

When is the application deadline?

Apply online by April 12, 2023 at 3:30 p.m. PT / 4:30 p.m. MT.

What is the application process?

- All Basin students who will graduate from a Basin Public School or Independent School (or other program) in 2023 that grants Ministry of Education-recognized graduation diplomas are eligible for the award.
- Use the amount of space provided to answer each question; be clear and to the point.
- Letters of support must be included with the application.
- The Application will ask you to select the Basin Public School that you attend, or the one nearest to where they live if you attend another school/program.
- All applications are reviewed by a committee of the Public School and all applicants will be considered regardless of whether they attend the Public School or another school/program.

What should be included in a letter of support?

- Contributions to strengthening the community through volunteer service (describe the activity, history of applicant's community activities, major accomplishments);
- Special leadership qualities (ability to inspire and encourage others);
- Ability to achieve outcomes (such as problems solved, numbers of people reached, measurable change, dollars saved); and

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- Any extraordinary effort made by the applicant, and any challenges or obstacles that were overcome in making these contributions.

What is the selection process?

- Recipients of the awards will be selected based on their completed applications and letter(s) of support.
- The selections are made by committees organized by the Basin Public School.
- Successful candidates will be notified by their school.

How are the funds distributed?

- Where it has been determined there are no successful/qualified candidates in a community, the award will not be offered.
- Public schools will notify Columbia Basin Trust of the recipient(s).
- Recipient must contact the Trust with their Social Insurance Number and the Trust will then issue and mail a cheque.
- Award recipients may use the funds, worth \$2,000, at their discretion; the award is not tied to post-secondary education.

How do I apply?

- Download the Program Guide and the Worksheet from [Youth Community Service Award Student \(ourtrust.org\)](https://ourtrust.org)
- Review the Program Guide for direction and advice on how to complete the application form.
- Use the worksheet to develop your application offline if you so choose.
- Complete the online application form at [Youth Community Service Award Student \(ourtrust.org\)](https://ourtrust.org).

If you are unable to apply online, or if you have any questions about the application process, please contact Trust staff at scholarship@ourtrust.org or 1-800-505-8998.

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Basin public schools

Note: Applications are grouped and reviewed by the Basin Public School that the applicant attends, or to the one nearest to where they live.

Castlegar: Stanley Humphries Secondary	Cranbrook: Mt. Baker Secondary
Crawford Bay: Crawford Bay Secondary	Creston: Kootenay River Secondary
Elkford: Elkford Secondary	Fernie: Fernie Secondary
Golden: Golden Secondary	Invermere: David Thompson Secondary
Kaslo: JV Humphries Secondary	Kimberley: Selkirk Secondary
Nakusp: Nakusp Secondary	Nelson: LV Rogers Secondary
New Denver: Lucerne Elementary Secondary	Revelstoke: Revelstoke Secondary
Salmo: Salmo Secondary	South Slocan: Mount Sentinel Secondary
Sparwood: Sparwood Secondary	Trail: JL Crowe Secondary
Valemount: Valemount Secondary	

Questions?

For further information contact:

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