Alberta Student Aid

International Language Teacher Bursary
Value - Up to $4,200

Protected A (when completed)

Year 2026-27

The International Language Teacher Bursary was created as part of the Language Teacher Bursary program by an endowment to the Alberta Heritage Scholarship Fund as part of the Government of Alberta's Economic Development Strategy. It was established so Kindergarten to Grade 12 teachers may improve their language proficiency, pedagogical skills and knowledge through an educational immersion experience, and to help Alberta school authorities enhance their current language teaching capacity.

The program will assist certificated Alberta Kindergarten to Grade 12 teachers, language consultants or administrators to take a summer post-secondary program in a language other than English or language pedagogy course at an institution outside of Canada.

Kindergarten to Grade 12 students will benefit from the enhanced teaching and language skills of their teachers, encouraging them to experience learning an international language and culture.

Eligibility Criteria

Applicant Eligibility Criteria

Applicant must:

- be a Canadian Citizen, Permanent Resident, or Protected Person (visa students are not eligible),
- be an Alberta resident and to be considered an Alberta resident one of the following conditions must apply:
  - Alberta is the last place the applicant has lived for twelve (12) consecutive months immediately prior to commencing post-secondary studies, or
  - the applicant's spouse or partner has maintained permanent residence in Alberta for twelve (12) consecutive months prior to the person attending post-secondary.
- hold a valid Alberta permanent professional teaching certificate,
- be a teacher, language consultant or school administrator,
- demonstrate a background in language learning, or have recently initiated the study of this language, and
- plan to take a summer program of at least three weeks duration in a language or a language teaching methodology other than English outside of Canada.

Program Eligibility Criteria

The summer language development program must be:

- a **minimum** of three weeks in duration,
- a **minimum** of three hours daily scheduled classroom instruction, with an expectation of additional scheduled, structured activities (e.g. language conversation, tutorials, cultural activities), and
- an accredited university course, or a language/culture/pedagogical development program, in a language other than English that is offered by a post-secondary institution, or an organization recognized by its local government (e.g. Goethe Institute, Cervantes Institute) outside of Canada.

Note: Priority will be given to first time applicants, however, recipients who received a bursary five or more years previously or earlier can re-apply.

Selection Process

Recipients will be chosen on the applicant's statement of intent, course rigour, school authority endorsement, and the potential benefit for the teacher, the school authority, and students. The references from the school authority and the supervisor are an essential part of the application process and should reflect the applicant's experience and suitability. The decision will be made on information submitted with the application and any changes may jeopardize the receipt of payment of the bursary. Alberta Education and Childcare will make every effort to represent various grades and languages from across Alberta. Preference will be given to applicants working in a language program in the upcoming school year.

Successful recipients will receive their bursary after submitting proof of course completion.

Deadline and How to Apply

- **Application Deadline:** February 26, 2027
- **School Authority Nomination Deadline:** Applicants must contact their school authority for School Authority Nomination deadline dates. School authorities may have internal deadlines for applicants to submit application forms with all other information complete.
- **Application Submission:** Applicants may submit to Curriculum Division directly after receiving School Authority Nomination with permission of the school authority. School authorities may choose to submit applications directly after completing School Authority Nomination forms.

Applicants should discuss submission protocol with their school authority. Applications may be submitted electronically to ecc.languagebursary@gov.ab.ca.

For more information:

- **Contact:** ecc.languagebursary@gov.ab.ca
- **Visit:** https://www.alberta.ca/language-teacher-bursary-program.aspx

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Application Process

Application packages include:

1. **Completed and Signed Application Form:** Including Signed School Authority Endorsement Forms (Part 1 and Part 2) Each section must be completed by a different supervisor: Part 1 by the direct supervisor, and Part 2 by another supervisor (e.g., such an Area Director or Superintendent).
2. **Résumé including education and work history**
3. **Statement of Intent:** Attach a statement (one page maximum) explaining your reasons for taking the program.
   - How will this particular program:
     - benefit your current or future employment as a language teacher in Alberta?
     - fit into your professional development or growth plan?
     - if not currently teaching a language other than English, indicate when you would be ready to teach the language you will be studying.
   - How do you plan to share your acquired knowledge with colleagues?
4. **Professional Development Summary:** Attach a brief summary outlining all relevant professional development you have completed in the last five years. Ensure to outline your recent efforts to enhance/develop:
   - Skills in this language, and
   - Pedagogical or leadership skills in the area of language teaching.
5. **Course Syllabus:** Attach a brochure or syllabus, in English, describing the focus of the course; its duration and intensity.

Additional Information

- Up to ten (10) bursaries of up to $4,200 each are available.
- Please note that receipt of a bursary does not imply recognition of the course by Teacher Qualifications Service.
- As the International Language Teacher Bursary is more than $500, recipients will receive a T4A from Alberta Education and Childcare. The amount is printed in Box 105 of the T4A and must be declared on tax returns.

Alberta Student Aid

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Personal, Citizenship and Residency Information

Last Name (current legal name) | First Name (current legal name) | Middle Initial

Apartment/Box Number | Street Address (add direction, e.g. S, NW, SE, if applicable)

City/Town | Province/State | Country | Postal/ZIP Code

Mobile Number | Telephone Number

Gender ◯ Male ◯ Female ◯ X Choose X if you do not identify as male or female, or choose to self-identify as X.

Previous Last Name (if applicable) | Email Address (mandatory)

Status: ◯ Status Indian/First Nations ◯ Non-Status Indian/First Nations ◯ Métis ◯ Inuit ◯ Not Applicable

Providing personal information on First Nations, Métis and Inuit students will help measure the effectiveness of student financial assistance programs in relation to First Nations, Métis and Inuit students and to research programs and services to improve student success rates. If you wish to declare your First Nations, Métis and Inuit heritage, please check the box that applies to you.
NOTE: This is mandatory for awards which require First Nations, Métis and Inuit status as part of the eligibility, voluntary otherwise.

Social Insurance Number | Date of Birth: Year | Month | Day

Citizenship Status ◯ Canadian ◯ Permanent Resident ◯ Protected Person*

***If you are a Protected Person, including Convention Refugee,** you must submit:

- A copy of your Social Insurance Number card **AND**
- A copy of **one** of the following:
  - Notice of Decision, or
  - Verification of Status Document (VOS)

The documentation must be valid on your Program of Study Start Date.

Alberta Residency

Did you live in Alberta for at least 12 consecutive months immediately prior to commencing post-secondary studies? (Do not include time attending post-secondary studies or vacations.)

◯ Yes ◯ No

If no, was your spouse or partner an Alberta resident immediately prior to you commencing post-secondary studies?

◯ Yes ◯ No

Additional Information

Alberta Professional Teaching Certificate Number

Name of University from which you received your teaching degree

Year of Completion

Number of Years Teaching

- In Alberta: Full-time: Part-time:

Note: A valid Alberta permanent professional teaching certificate is required.

- Outside Alberta: Full-time: Part-time:

Proposed Studies

Program Name

Language of Study

Commencement Date yyyy-mm-dd

Completion Date yyyy-mm-dd

Country

Name of Institution Offering Program

Address of Institution Offering Program

No. of Days per Week

No. of Weeks

No. of Hours of Instruction per Day

Focus of Studies

Improving language proficiency: ☐ Oral ☐ Written

☐ Gaining cultural knowledge

☐ Enhancing pedagogy

Estimated Expenses:

All dollar amounts should be in Canadian funds.

The bursary will be used to cover firstly tuition, secondly travel, and thirdly accommodations.

- Include a separate sheet to explain any exceptional or unusual expenses or other financial conditions that you would like to bring to Alberta Education's attention.
- Travel points, reward miles, or loyalty program credits used to purchase airfare are not eligible for reimbursement.

Are you applying for funding from another source to participate in this program? ◯ Yes ◯ No

If yes, indicate amount: $

and type of support, e.g. in-country accommodation: _____

Do you anticipate receiving funding from another source to participate in this program? ◯ Yes ◯ No

If yes, indicate amount: $

Additional Information Continued

Language Teaching Experience

List all language courses and grade level you have taught in the last five years beginning with your current teaching assignment:

Courses/Grade Level	Description	School Year

Language Learning

List your formal language learning, e.g. language courses, program, degree(s) completed, etc.:

Courses/Program	Offered By	School Year

Check all boxes that apply to you:

☐ New to additional language teaching ☐ Returning to teach a language after some time ☐ Currently teaching this language

☐ New to learning this language* ☐ A fluent speaker ☐ A language expert (language lead/master teacher)

*must have begun study of this language in Alberta

Language Background

What is the language you are most proficient in? _____

Indicate level of proficiency in all languages (including English): Excellent, Good, Fair, Needs improvement:

Language	Listening	Speaking	Reading	Writing

Declaration of Applicant

I have read and understand the instructions, and declare that:

- all information provided in this application, including any supplemental information required to establish my eligibility (the "Application"), is true and complete and I understand that the information is subject to review and audit.
- I have read and understood the eligibility requirements and obligations of the scholarship and/or award as stated in the scholarship and/or award application and requirements.
- I will immediately notify Alberta Education and Childcare – International languages, in writing if I withdraw from studies or of any changes to my name, address, academic status or study period, or to any other information contained in the Application in accordance with the instructions relating to changes of information found on the Alberta Student Aid website, studentaid.alberta.ca.

Disclosure of Information

I understand that Alberta Education and Childcare and Advanced Education may disclose and exchange my personal information pertaining to my high school and post-secondary academic records, academic progress, and enrolment status with any of the following:

- provincial and federal government departments; the educational institution(s) named in the Application; boards; and any third party or third party organizations involved in the selection of the recipient.

I understand and agree:

- to provide all information requested by Alberta Education and Childcare and Alberta Student Aid which, in Alberta Student Aid's sole discretion, is required to verify any statements made in this Application.
- if I receive a scholarship my name, award, and city/town may be released publicly to promote the program. My name, the name of the scholarship and the scholarship amount may also be published on the Government of Alberta Grant Disclosure Portal. However, my consent to the publication of this personal information is not a criterion for eligibility, and if I do not want to be identified, I will contact Alberta Student Aid and request that it not be disclosed.

Today's Date yyyy-mm-dd	Signature of Applicant

Please review your application to make sure you have completed all the required fields and that the information is accurate.
Incorrect or incomplete information will delay processing.
Your application and all supporting documentation must be received by the application deadline.

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To be Completed by Applicant's Current Supervising Administrator

Name of Applicant

What is the anticipated assignment of this applicant in the upcoming/next academic school year (e.g. courses, grade, etc.)?

Will the applicant be teaching a language other than English? ◯ Yes ◯ No

If yes, indicate what language: _____

If not teaching a language other than English, how will the applicant's participation benefit your school and the school division?

The applicant will be (select one):

◯ returning to the same school ◯ teaching at another school: _____

◯ taking on a new assignment ◯ returning to the same assignment

◯ unsure at this time ◯ other

How long has this applicant been under your supervision? _____

What language programs, projects or initiatives has this applicant led or assisted with while under your supervision?

To be Completed by Applicant's Current Supervising Administrator Continued

This school needs (select the most appropriate):

◯ a lead/master teacher in this language ◯ this teacher to refresh/enhance skills ◯ a teacher for this additional language

This applicant is (select one):

◯ a lead/master teacher in the chosen language ◯ a teacher returning to teaching languages

◯ new to teaching this language ◯ new to language learning

How will students in your school benefit from the applicant's experience?

How will this summer language program fit into this teacher's professional development plan and how will it fit into your school's language plan?

Name of School

School Location

School Principal

Phone

Print Name of Current Supervising Administrator

Position

Date yyyy-mm-dd

Signature

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School Authority Endorsement - Part 2

The personal information collected by Advanced Education and Education and Child Care through this form is for determining eligibility for a scholarship or program; to administer scholarships and awards programs (including research, statistical analysis, and evaluations); and to apply and enforce requirements of scholarships and awards programs, in accordance with the *Alberta Heritage Scholarship Act* and regulations thereunder. This collection is authorized by section 4 c) of the *Protection of Privacy Act*.

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To be Completed by Applicant's Superintendent or School Jurisdiction Key Contact

Name of Applicant

This applicant's participation in the described language program will support the school authority's language plan by (check appropriate statement(s) and attach additional information as needed):

- ☐ enhancing the language expertise already available in the district
- ☐ beginning to develop district expertise in this language
- ☐ providing much needed leadership to this school
- ☐ meeting a staffing need through in-service development of this teacher's language skills
- ☐ beginning the journey of developing language programming

How will the experience and skills acquired by this applicant participating in this particular program benefit the school and school authority?

What is important for Alberta Education and Childcare to know about:

- this applicant
- the language program needs for your school authority
- the language staff needs of this school
- other key considerations

School Authority Name

Phone

Print Name of Superintendent or School Authority Key Contact

Position

Date yyyy-mm-dd

Signature