



**RTO
ERO**

(Formerly known as **RETIRED TEACHERS OF ONT.**)

DISTRICT 46 – MUSKOKA

Invites applications for a bursary of \$3,000, to be awarded to a student who is in need of financial support and who will graduate from a Muskoka secondary school in June, 2024*.

- **This money is to be used for post secondary school education, including apprenticeships**
- **Notification will be in late May, 2024**
- **If you have questions, contact Mrs. Pat Schofield at dpschofieldstream@cogeco.ca**

TO APPLY:

- **Write an email to Mrs. Pat Schofield, Chairperson of the RTOERO Bursary Committee, explaining your need**
- **State your reasons for requesting the money and outline your long term goals and plan for success**
- **Include a letter of support from a teacher or principal**
- **Applications should be sent in **pdf format** to be reviewed/marked by a panel of judges from RTOERO Muskoka.**
- **Send to: Mrs. Pat Schofield dpschofieldstream@cogeco.ca**
- **Be SURE to include current contact information AND make sure to also include contact information that will still be valid when the money will be sent to the winner (upon proof of enrollment).**

DEADLINE: (applications **MUST** be received NO later than)

Tuesday, APRIL 30, 2024

* Students who took a gap year (2023/24) may also be considered if you include information as to why you needed the gap year and how you have used it to prepare for your further studies.

Note: This is a bursary supplied by the District of Muskoka branch of RTOERO and is only for graduates from one of the four Muskoka High Schools.

These are some ideas of the type of things the RTOERO judges are looking at when judging the applications. Make a STRONG case.

1. It is not necessary to be going into the education field to apply, any post secondary schooling /program will be considered as long as the applicant has clear realistic goals.
2. The bursary is for **need** not necessarily academics but we need reasons beyond just that "university is expensive" in order to establish that.
We would really like to help a student who is not necessarily going to get scholarship money and other funding, whose family may have limited resources/ is struggling for various reasons, but who does have the potential and ability to complete a useful post secondary program.
3. Being well rounded and/or a contributor to the community or school helps. What has he/she been involved in both in and/or out of school that is noteworthy? **What difficulties/limitations has he/she overcome?**
4. Has the student been limited by lack of resources at home (e.g. no computer or internet, lack of transportation options etc.) or a need to financially help support the family or by the unusual need to fill more family obligations such as caring for an ill parent etc. ? How does that show he/she can manage time effectively (an important skill for success)?
5. Since we are basing it on need, what is the student doing to help fund him/herself? Is there some or limited parental or family financial support available?
6. In the student and reference letters we are looking at the characteristics of someone who will complete what he/she starts, will work through challenges/ obstacles, knows how to balance life in order to succeed, has a strong desire to complete this path of education, and who demonstrates the type of character that teachers would be proud to sponsor. Etc.
7. Basic writing skills also play a part - **Did he/she include contact information?** Was the application complete and addressed correctly? Was it in on time? Was the writing clear and the case well organized and well presented and free of spelling and grammar errors?

Also please note:

A winner of a RTOERO bursary may be asked for a photo and permission to put that photo and their name in our Muskoka RTOERO newsletter to let our members know who received the bursary. **If this is a problem** we understand, but please let us know in your application submission.(It will not count against you!)