

1. Overview

The Town of Edson, in collaboration with the University of Alberta and the Town of Drayton Valley, is pleased to introduce the *Edson TAB Program (Tuition Assistance Bursary)*. This pilot program offers financial support to residents and students connected to Edson who are **pursuing post-secondary education or trades training in 2025**.

This initiative was developed in partnership with the Town of Edson Youth Council and reflects a shared commitment to investing in local talent and supporting future-ready education pathways.

2. Purpose

The purpose of the Edson TAB Program is to:

- Reduce financial barriers to post-secondary education and trades training.
- Encourage community involvement and recognize local youth engagement.
- Promote equitable access to opportunity for Edson-affiliated students entering a diverse range of academic or vocational fields.

3. Structure of the Program

- A total of **10 bursaries valued at \$1,000 each** will be awarded to tuition-based expenses only
- **5 bursaries** will be designated for individuals entering a **recognized trade or apprenticeship program**.
- **5 bursaries** will be designated for individuals entering a **traditional post-secondary institution** (e.g., college, university, or polytechnic).
- All approved funds will be disbursed **directly to the recipient upon the receipt of a legitimate invoice from the institution**
- Funds must be used for program enrollments beginning in 2025 and beyond

4. Eligibility Criteria

Applicants must:

- Be pursuing post-secondary education or trades training commencing in **2025**.
- Applicants must be or have been actively enrolled in an Edson-based school and graduated in Edson **or** reside within the Town of Edson.
- There is **no age restriction** for applicants.
- Submit a completed application form and supporting documents via growth.services@draytonvalley.ca
- Consent to the use of their name and general program details for public recognition and reporting purposes if selected.

5. Application and Adjudication Process

- Applications will be reviewed and awarded on a **first-come, first-qualified** basis until all 10 bursaries have been allocated.
- A **selection committee comprised of Town of Edson staff** will evaluate submissions using a structured point system.
- Priority will be given to applicants who demonstrate the following:
 - **Extracurricular involvement** (e.g., clubs, sports, school committees)
 - **Volunteerism** (e.g., community service, non-profit work)
 - **Work experience** (e.g., part-time or full-time employment)

- **Personal essay** describing how the bursary would make a meaningful difference in the applicant's educational journey and if they intend to return to work back in Edson.

6. Program Timeline

- **Launch Date:** June 30, 2025
- **Close Date:** Open until all bursaries are awarded
- Applicants will receive notification of their status within **four (4) weeks** of submitting a complete application.

7. Reporting and Oversight

- The program is administered by the Town of Drayton Valley, with Town of Edson selecting the winning applicants.
- Final reporting will summarize applicant demographics (non-identifiable), institutions supported, and community impacts.
- This program is considered a **pilot** and will be reviewed after completion to assess impact, interest, and sustainability, both through the Town and the University of Alberta for research purposes.

8. Additional Notes

- Successful applicants will be required to provide proof of enrollment before disbursement.
- Bursaries are non-renewable and non-transferable.
- The Town of Edson reserves the right to amend the Terms of Reference with reasonable notice.

Applicants can fill out the attached form and bring to the town office at 605 50th Street, Edson or send via email to growth.services@draytonvalley.ca. Questions regarding applications can be directed to the Town of Drayton Valley at growth.services@draytonvalley.ca, personal information about applicant will not be disclosed to anyone other than the applicant.