



Brescia University College Students' Council
STUDENT OPPORTUNITY GRANT FUND POLICY

EFFECTIVE: 01-February-2016

SUPERCEDES: Grants Fund Policy,
2014/15

AUTHORITY: Council

RATIFIED BY: Council, as of

RELATED DOCUMENTS: By-Law #1

PAGE | 1 of 3

PREAMBLE:

The BUCSC is passionate about providing financial support for students. There are many fees that students incur throughout that year that are not covered by other scholarships or award initiatives but still place a significant burden on students with constrained financial resources. The BUCSC has established a grants fund that all Brescia University College students may access in order to ease this financial burden. The application process is run through the Financial Aid Office in order to ensure that students have fair access to this opportunity.

1. SCOPE

1. The BUCSC Student Opportunity Grants fund is exclusively open to undergraduate students of Brescia University College.
2. All grant applications must be able to demonstrate that the request is in line with the initiatives listed in section 2.4 of this policy.
3. All grant applications must be able to demonstrate that the student has exhausted other sources of funding and is unable to pursue this initiative without funding from the BUCSC;
 - (1) The BUCSC recognizes that loans place a significant burden on students, therefore students do not need to have obtained loans (such as OSAP) in order to access this grant.

2. ALLOCATION OF GRANT FUNDS

1. Decisions pertaining to grants shall be the sole purview of the Financial Aid Office.
2. The Student Opportunity Grants Fund shall be automatically renewed until April 30, 2018 to ensure that a significant trial period has passed in order to evaluate the effectiveness of this fund;
 - (1) After the trail period, the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) will review the effectiveness of the grant fund and, upon consultation with the Executives and Council, will choose to renew the fund.
3. The Student Opportunity Grant Application process shall be regulated at the discretion of the Financial Aid Office. However, the following criteria must be met:
 - (1) Students must fill out the Student Opportunity Grant Application that has been created by the BUCSC;
 - (2) Students must have a meeting with the Financial Aid Officer in order to discuss their Grant Application.
4. The Student Opportunity Grant shall only fund the following initiatives:
 - (1) Application fees (ie. graduate school applications, letter of permission, police clearance, etc.);
 - (2) Additional certifications (ie. Food Handler's Certificate, First Aid Certification, etc.);
 - (3) Mental health initiatives (ie. counselling, psychotherapy, etc.);
 - (4) Conference fees;
 - (1) Excluding hotel or transportation fees.
 - (5) Opportunities to participate (ie. Brescia Ball, Orientation Week, campaigning costs for Students' Council or clubs' positions, Soph fees, etc.);
 - (6) Tutoring services;
 - (7) Professional resources (ie. business card printing, etc.).

3. OTHER STIPULATIONS

1. Total funding per student shall not exceed five percent (5%) of the total available funding annually;

- (1) At the discretion of the Financial Aid Office, students can apply for funding multiple times during the fiscal year, however the total amount of funding distributed cannot exceed section 3.1.
2. Any unallocated money in the Student Opportunity Grants Fund account at the end of the BUCSC fiscal year shall be transferred to The Blue Jeans Fund;
 - (1) If this amount exceeds \$5,000, then the remainder shall be transferred to the BUCSC Special Projects Fund.

4. PROCEDURAL AUTHORITY

1. Further procedures necessary for the effective and efficient implementation of this policy shall be established and amended as necessary by the CFO in consultation with the Executives;
 - (1) The scope of such Procedures is limited to the scope of this policy;
 - (2) In the event of any conflict, this Policy supersedes any documents created under it;
 - (3) Any new Procedures and amendments to any existing Procedures must be ratified by Council before taking effect.