

PHA Canada Scholarship Program

We understand that life with PH can be expensive. That's why PHA Canada offers a Scholarship Program to help reduce costs for PH patients and their caregivers to participate in educational events, such as the PH Community Conference. The scholarship fund provides financial assistance to as many qualified applicants as we can support each year. An anonymous Scholarship Committee makes all scholarship decisions.

Scholarship funds are made available thanks to the support of PHA Canada's sponsors. The Scholarship Program is intended to benefit community members who, without financial assistance, would not otherwise be able to participate in this unique educational opportunity. As such, we encourage those who do not require financial assistance to not apply for a scholarship.

Based on available resources, scholarships will primarily be awarded to cover the costs of hotel accommodation and/or transportation (see guidelines below for further details).

Scholarship Application Timeline – PH Community Conference

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| Scholarship Application Opens | April 1, 2024 |
| Scholarship Application Deadline | May 31, 2024 |
| Scholarship Committee Review Period | June 3 - 14, 2024 |
| Notification of Scholarship Recipients | June 17 - 21, 2024 |
| Scholarship Acceptance Deadline (Cancellation Deadline) | July 5, 2024 |

**After this process is complete (no applications accepted between June 3 - 21), applications will be accepted on a rolling basis if funds remain. However, due to a large number of applications and limited funds, we strongly encourage you to apply before the application deadline. After-deadline application, priority is given to those who are very newly diagnosed.*

**PHA Canada must receive applications by midnight, Pacific Standard Time, on May 31, 2024*

Please review these guidelines carefully before submitting your application:

Scholarship funds will be allocated based on need and the availability of resources. Priority will be placed on supporting newly diagnosed patients/families and community members new to PHA Canada events and the Scholarship Program. We encourage those who can afford to attend the PH Community Conference without financial assistance not to apply for a scholarship.

All decisions will be based on reasonable travel costs per PHA Canada's Travel Policy. The decisions of the Scholarship Committee will be final.

1. **Scholarships for the National Conference are available to Canadian PH patients and primary caregivers living in the Western Region of Canada, including British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Yukon, and the Northwest Territories,**
Conference registration is free, and everyone is welcome.
2. Scholarship applications will be assessed according to the levels of need requested, the total amount of funds available, and the total amount of requests received. Special priority will be given to applications from persons who:
 - a. Have been diagnosed with PH within the last two years
 - b. Have not previously attended a PHA Canada conference/symposium or a similar PH-related event
 - c. Have not previously received a scholarship from PHA Canada
3. The value of individual scholarship awards will be determined based on the particular needs identified by each applicant. There will be no maximum award value per recipient. Applicants from rural communities with high travel costs are encouraged to apply.

Recipients who receive hotel accommodations as part of their scholarship award will have their rooms booked and paid for directly by PHA Canada. Other travel expenses granted by a scholarship award will be reimbursed after the event upon submission of an expense report and receipts*. Reimbursements will be made per PHA Canada's Travel Policy (available in full upon request):

- a. Personal Automobile – mileage reimbursed at \$0.70/km based on distances calculated by Google Maps
 - b. Ground Transfer – taxi, bus, and train fare reimbursed at the lowest available fare by the distance travelled
 - c. Airfare is reimbursed at economy fare by the most direct route
 - d. Accommodations – event-designated hotel at the special negotiated rate
4. Assistance with airfare will generally be limited to a maximum of two persons per household (i.e. patient/caregiver). All patient scholarship recipients travelling by air with a companion will be required to apply to WestJet Airlines' "One Person One Fare" assistance program to try and cover the cost of the companion's airfare. Details on this program can be found at <https://www.westjet.com/en-ca/travel-info/special-needs/seating> (or search WestJet One Person One Fare Program).
 5. We recognize the unpredictable and episodic nature of living with PH and understand that scholarship recipients may need to cancel or alter their participation at the last moment. **We ask all scholarship recipients to make reasonable efforts to participate in the event to the extent their health allows.** In the event of cancellation, PHA Canada will try to reallocate scholarship funds to another qualified applicant.

Thank you for your interest in attending PHA Canada's 2024 PH Community Conference. If you have questions about the event or the Scholarship Program, please contact Kimberly Brunelle, Manager, Support & Education Programs, at kbrunelle@phacanada.ca or 1-877-774-2226 ext. 105.