



Title	Awards
Policy No.	D.2.2
Approval Body	Board of Governors, Education Council (advice)
Policy Sponsor	Vice President, Academic & Research
Last Revised/Replaces	April 30, 2009 (combines D.2.1 Student Academic Medal Awards)
Effective Date	May 30, 2018

CONTEXT AND PURPOSE

Vancouver Community College (VCC; the College) offers a variety of awards, scholarships, bursaries, prizes and medals that recognize academic achievement, student leadership and other qualities or criteria as defined by individual awards.

This policy establishes institutional practices regarding financial awards, medals and non-monetary presentations to students who demonstrate high achievement or financial need.

SCOPE AND LIMITS

This Policy applies to all student awards offered by Vancouver Community College. This policy does not cover in-class or departmental prizes given to students in class for specific accomplishments related to a course or set of courses.

STATEMENT OF POLICY PRINCIPLES

1. The total value of awards disbursed each fiscal year will be determined by the funds made available through the VCC Foundation.
2. Award eligibility and selection criteria will not include any condition defined as discriminatory under the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms or the British Columbia Human Rights Code, except when the award or the condition, at the time of establishment, can be reasonably viewed as intended for the benefit of the members of a disadvantaged group. An award accepted under this provision will be reviewed each year by the College Foundation (and donor, if applicable) to determine whether the restriction can be dispensed with as a result of the position of disadvantage having been eliminated.
3. The College will apply consistent processes for establishing awards, accepting nominations and selecting award recipients.

DEFINITIONS

Award: A generic term that describes an item of monetary or other value that may be presented to a person or persons based upon specific criteria and issued through the Financial Aid and Awards Office.

Bursary: A monetary award allocated to a student on the basis of proven financial need. Bursaries may include other qualifying criteria such as academic performance and community/leadership contributions.

Donor: A person or organization that makes a contribution to the College.

Financial Aid and Awards Office: The office responsible for coordinating information from departments related to specific awards as well as issuing cheques for award recipients.

Full Course Load: Defined using the same criteria that students must meet for student loan eligibility. Generally, this equates to 9 credits per term. Students with disabilities who have been identified as such may be considered full time students at a reduced course load. Determinations will be made through the Financial Aid and Awards Office.

Good Standing: A VCC student who is in full compliance with the College's student policies on academic and non-academic conduct and who is not under penalty for academic or non-academic misconduct.

Governor General's Bronze Medal: Awarded to the student who achieves the highest overall average upon graduation from a minimum two year, full time diploma level program.

Leadership Award: An award based on satisfactory or superior academic achievement as well as a demonstrated commitment to community or leadership skills within one or several spheres of society.

Lieutenant Governor's Silver Medal: Awarded to a graduate who has completed a certificate program one year or less in the previous fiscal year, on the basis of superior academic achievement and community contribution.

Prize: Acknowledgement, which may be monetary or an object, given to a student in class or on a department basis, for a specific type of accomplishment (e.g., the highest score on an essay) related to a course or set of courses. Departments should establish clear guidelines for the disbursement of prizes.

Scholarship: An award given to a student based on superior academic achievement in a course, a combination of courses or a program. Scholarships may be based solely on academic performance or on a combination of academic achievement and additional criteria, other than financial need.

Student Awards Committee: The College committee that manages for all aspects of students awards and medals. The committee is made up of members of the VCC Foundation, Marketing, Financial Aid and Awards Office, and the Office of the Registrar.

VCC Foundation: The fund raising arm of VCC which works to stimulate financial support for the students and programs at the College. The VCC Foundation administers funds provided to the College for student awards as well as maintaining relationships with our Donors.

RELATED LEGISLATION & POLICIES

Legislation:

British Columbia Human Rights Code
Immigration and Refugee Protection Act

Policies:

- A.3.6 Standards of Employee Conduct and Conflict of Interest
- C.1.1 Grading, Progression and Withdrawal
- C.1.3 Granting of Credentials
- D.4.3 Student Code of Conduct (Non-Educational Matters)
- D.4.5 Student Educational Conduct

RELATED PROCEDURES

Refer to D.2.2 Award Procedures.