



Brescia University College Students' Council
STUDENT OPPORTUNITY GRANT

EFFECTIVE: January 2018

SUPERCEDES: N/A

AUTHORITY: Council

RATIFIED BY:
Council as of 2018

RELATED DOCUMENTS:

PAGE | 1 OF 4

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.

1.0 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 (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;
 - (a) 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.

2.0 ALLOCATION OF GRANT FUNDS EFFECTIVE

- (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;



Brescia University College Students' Council
STUDENT OPPORTUNITY GRANT

PAGE | 2 of 4

(a) 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:

(a) Students must fill out the Student Opportunity Grant Application that has been created by the BUCSC;

(b) 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:

(a) Application fees (ie. graduate school applications, letter of permission, police clearance, exchange program course, etc.);

(b) Additional certifications (ie. Food Handler's Certificate, First Aid Certification, etc.);

(c) Mental health initiatives (ie. counselling, psychotherapy, etc.);

(d) Conference fees:

(i) 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.);

(e) Tutoring services;

(f) Professional resources (ie. business card printing, etc.).

3.0 OTHER STIPULATIONS



Brescia University College Students' Council
STUDENT OPPORTUNITY GRANT

PAGE | 3 of 4

- (1) Total funding per student shall not exceed five percent (5%) of the total available funding annually;
 - (a) 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 five hundred (500) dollars.
 - (b) 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;
 - (i) If this amount exceeds \$5,000, then the remainder shall be transferred to the BUCSC General Operating Budget.
- (2) Five hundred dollars (\$500.00) will be reserved (minimum) to senior students for graduation fees including but not limited to:
 - (a) Graduation photos sitting fee;
 - (b) Gown rental fee;
 - (c) Cap rental fee;
 - (d) Graduation fee;
 - (e) Western convocation fee;
 - (f) Brescia convocation fee
- (3) To qualify for the Student Opportunity Grant, the initiative must fall within May (of the previous summer) to April (last day of the winter term).
 - (a) If the initiative falls outside of the range, there must be proof of payment, and approval from Brescia's Financial Aid Officer.

4.00 PROCEDURAL AUTHORITY



Brescia University College Students' Council
STUDENT OPPORTUNITY GRANT

PAGE | 4 of 4

(1) Further Procedures necessary for the effective and efficient implementation of this policy shall be established and amended as necessary by the Board of Directors:

- (a) The scope of such Procedures is limited to the scope of this policy;
- (b) In the event of any conflict, this Policy supersedes any documents created under it;
- (c) Any new Procedures and amendments to any existing Procedures must be ratified by the Board of Directors before taking effect;
- (d) Any decision by the Board of Directors may be overturned by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of council.