



Help Fill A Dream has introduced the “Rick Thomas Memorial Scholarship” in honour of Rick Thomas, a BC Transit Driver who founded Help Fill A Dream in 1986. In the years since its inception, Help Fill A Dream has assisted over 3,800 families on Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands whose children live with a life-threatening / critical condition.

The Rick Thomas Memorial Scholarship will assist Help Fill A Dream family members with the financial responsibility of paying for post-secondary education, and recognizes the resilience and perseverance that our families have faced due to their own or their family member’s life-threatening / critical condition.

In 2022, the first scholarship of \$3,500 was awarded in celebration of Help Fill A Dream’s 35th Anniversary and Rick’s Legacy. Funding amounts will be considered on a yearly basis going forward.

## QUALIFYING FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP

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- The applicant or their immediate family members must have received support from Help Fill A Dream through a Dream or Financial Assistance (through the “Financial Assistance Program” or legacy “Quality of Life” program).
  - Immediate family of a Dream Child includes: The Dream/Family Assistance recipient, a parent or guardian, or a sibling. Applicants who do not live with the Dream Child may be considered, but must be an immediate family member.
- Must provide proof of acceptance to an accredited post-secondary institution, including a University, College, Technical or Trades Training School/Program. Applications for programs outside of Canada will be considered.
- Must provide a reference letter from someone other than a family member (eg. Teacher, Employer, Medical Professional, Coach) who can speak about your qualities in relation to the spirit of this award.
- Must not be a previous recipient of Rick Thomas Memorial Scholarship.

## APPLYING FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP

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Applications will be available as of April 1 of each year, with the application period closing May 15. Please ensure you meet the above criteria prior to requesting an application.

1. Request an application on or after April 1 by emailing [contact@helpfilladream.com](mailto:contact@helpfilladream.com)
2. Complete the application electronically, or print and complete by hand. Alternately, the application can be completed by video or audio if written output is a challenge or there are other accessibility concerns.
3. Include supporting documentation (at minimum a letter of reference and proof of acceptance).



4. Submit the completed application package by May 15 by email to [contact@helpfilladream.com](mailto:contact@helpfilladream.com) or by mail to **4085D Quadra Street, Victoria, BC V8X 1K5**. If sending an audio or video file use [www.wetransfer.com](http://www.wetransfer.com) and enter [contact@helpfilladream.com](mailto:contact@helpfilladream.com) as the "to" address. Preferred file formats are: PDF for a document, MP3 for audio and MOV or MP4 for video. By submitting this application, Help Fill A Dream will not publish your personal information. Any personal information provided is kept confidential, but information will be shared with the scholarship review committee, comprised of directors from the Help Fill A Dream board.

Note: If you have applied for the scholarship in the past three years but have not been a successful applicant, please email [contact@helpfilladream.com](mailto:contact@helpfilladream.com) between April 1 and May 15 with a request to be reconsidered and any applicable updates. If it has been more than three years, you will need to obtain and complete a new application.

## **SCHOLARSHIP SELECTION**

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Once the application has been received it will be reviewed for completeness. If any clarification is required, Help Fill A Dream will contact the applicant and expect a response within five days for the application to be considered.

The Scholarship Committee review all qualifying applications and the successful applicant will be notified in June.

Funds will be disbursed directly to the academic institution once proof of enrolment has been provided, and in accordance with the institution's fee schedule.

If you have any questions about the guidelines or application, please contact [contact@helpfilladream.com](mailto:contact@helpfilladream.com) or 250.382.3135.