



STAY IN SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

20th ANNIVERSARY

**Making it Possible for Academically Gifted, Economically Challenged Students
to Achieve a Post-Secondary Education.**



ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Stay-In-School (“SIS”) Scholarship Program has 3 key objectives:

1. Support and motivate students who may not have the financial resources to attend a post-secondary educational facility;
2. Encourage students and their parents to investigate educational opportunities available to them after high school; and
3. Introduce the work of Rotary to educators, students and parents and to encourage the development of similar program by other groups.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY

The SIS Scholarship program was initiated by the Rotary Club of Calgary South in the year 2000. The framework was created by establishing a strong financial base, selecting suitable students and recruiting mentors to provide guidance to the scholarship recipients. The Calgary Board of Education recommended two schools for participation in the program and we continue to select a male and female student from each school as our scholarship recipients.

The scholarships have a maximum value of \$30,000 for each student, provided in increments of \$7,500 for each year of post-secondary education, to a maximum of four years.

HOW THE PROGRAM WORKS

Grade 6 students from selected schools are encouraged to apply for the scholarship using a standard application form. Criteria for selection include:

- Demonstrated ability to achieve academic success
- Financial need
- School and community involvement
- School and community references
- The desire to have a successful career

Applications are reviewed by a selection committee of Rotarians, a short list of applicants is selected, and committee members interview the students and their parents. Successful students are notified, and a mentor is assigned to each student. The students and their parents are later introduced to the Rotary Club at a special Stay-In-School luncheon.



MENTOR'S ROLES

The mentorship role is an integral component of the Stay-In-School Program. Mentors encourage and support students in the program and provide guidance in making good academic choices. The commitment of our mentors is extremely important, as they provide ongoing support to their students for ten (10) years. Mentors are in regular contact with their students, receive report cards on a bi-yearly basis and review both grades and attendance to ensure the student is meeting expectations set out by Rotary.

ABOUT OUR STUDENTS

The selection of students for the Stay in School Scholarship is an exceedingly difficult process as many qualified students apply each year. These students often represent a variety of cultural and ethnic backgrounds, with some being new Canadians and others coming from long-established Canadian families. They all have a desire to learn and to achieve the best possible education to ensure their future. The selection committee considers many factors in making their decision and the selected recipients are considered to have the greatest opportunity to succeed in a post-secondary education program, as well as meeting the eligibility requirements set out in the program.

HOW YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE

More than 40 sponsors annually contribute to the success of our golf tournament, with an average of more than \$170,000 raised over the most recent years. All funds from the tournament are held in trust at Richardson GMP, where the funds are invested in safe securities to generate the funding required to meet the commitments to each student as they pursue their post-secondary education.

FUNDING DEVELOPMENT

Corporations or individuals wishing to support the Rotary Club of Calgary at Stampede Park's Stay in School Program can do so by contacting:

Rotary Club of Calgary at Stampede Park



Ernie Yaskowich, Tournament Chair
Ph: 403-651-0308, Email: erniey@telus.net
Web: www.rotarycs.org
SIS Web: <https://www.stayinschool.ca/>
Video Interview from 2019 Tournament:
<https://calgary.ctvnews.ca/video?clipId=1737494&jwsourc=c>