

# The Southdale Education Fund

## About the Fund:

The Southdale Education Fund seeks to alleviate the financial challenges of pursuing post-secondary education while living in poverty.

Each year, the Southdale Education Fund will distribute, at minimum, a \$1000 bursary to a deserving student from a single-parent family, facing financial challenges and living in the Westminster community of London, Ontario.

The bursary is intended to support students in whatever way that they need – whether it be tuition, textbooks, food, or bills.

## What makes the Southdale Education Fund unique?

The reality is, many students, specifically those coming from low-income families, fall between the cracks when it comes to accessing financial support for College or University. So many scholarships and bursaries look for students with straight As, measureable community involvement and/or high achievement in extracurricular activities. And all of these things deserve to be recognized.

But what happens to the student who can't stack up because they're spending their time outside of school working to support themselves, their family or save money for College/University?

What happens to the student who can't afford transportation to participate in volunteer opportunities? Or who can't afford to participate in music programs, sports, etc.?

What about students that have to go home everyday to take care of their siblings, or those that have to attend any and all outings to provide language translation for their parents or grand-parents?

The Southdale Education seeks to address this gap. We want to support and celebrate those students who are balancing life's challenges of living in poverty, while still planning to pursue post-secondary education. **We want to shift our community's perspective on what it means to achieve greatness while in highschool.**

## Eligibility Requirements:

The student must:

- Be graduating from Sir Wilfrid Laurier Secondary School with plans to pursue post-secondary education the following Fall semester
- Be pursuing post-secondary education at a College or University
- Reside in the [Westminster community](#) in London, Ontario
- Reside in a single-parent family, facing financial challenges

## Character Traits

The award recipient is a student who:

- Demonstrates resilience in the face of adversity
- Is actively interested in and has the desire to learn
- Demonstrates drive and ambition to pursue, and achieve, their goals (this can be demonstrated inside the classroom, at home, in the community or at work)
- Shows up, is present, and does the best that they can with what they have

For more information please review the [inspiration behind the fund](#).

---

Thank you so much for your time and consideration in nominating the student you feel is the best fit for the Southdale Education Fund 2020 award.

Sincerely,

Sienna Jae Taylor  
Founder  
Southdale Education Fund