



Adult Learner Awards Program Report

April 2025 - March 2026

Program Goal

The goal of our Adult Learner Awards Program is to reduce the financial stress many adults face when going back to school. Many recipients balance school and work while caring for children, partners, or aging parents. This program helps cover basic needs such as rent, food, transportation, and utilities, allowing learners to focus on their education and create a better future for themselves and their families.

Adult Learner Awards 2025-2026

We offered two types of financial support through bursaries and scholarships during this past fiscal year. We worked with our community partners to ensure that the application and selection process was fair, clear, and accessible. Priority was given to vulnerable learners.

Bursaries—\$750 per adult learner

Bursaries were for adults working toward their Canadian Adult Education Credential (CAEC) grade 12 equivalency. We awarded 16 bursaries this year.

Scholarships—\$1500 per adult learner

Scholarships were for adults who have completed their CAEC and are now working toward a college diploma. We awarded three scholarships through the Holland College Foundation this year.



This year, we awarded \$16,500 in financial support to 17 adults returning to school, empowering them to build the confidence and skills needed to thrive in school, at work, and in their communities.

Thank you to our 2025-2026 funders and partners





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Benefits of Adult Learning

Adult learning improves job opportunities by helping people gain new skills and meet workforce needs. It reduces skills gaps for both individuals and industries and helps address social inequities by increasing access to education and employment. *(OECD, Survey of Adult Skills)*

Adult learning also benefits communities by supporting better mental health, building confidence and social skills, reducing crime, and encouraging greater community and civic engagement. *(ABC Life Literacy)*



“I am grateful to be returning to school after having two young children to pursue a career supporting children with disabilities. My youngest child has a disability, and the professionals who supported our family inspired me to take this step.”

- Amy, Scholarship Recipient 2025

“This bursary will show the people around me - especially my kids, who mean the world to me - that I’m doing something positive. It will also ease the financial pressure so I can keep moving toward my CAEC.”

- Sarah, Bursary Recipient 2026



The PEI Literacy Alliance is a charitable organization founded in 1990 and governed by a board of directors and 50+ member organizations. We deliver free literacy programs for children, adults, and families across PEI. We also work to raise awareness of the important of literacy for individuals and our community as a whole. **Please visit www.peiliteracy.ca.**