

## **Criteria for Celtic Travel Bursary Awards:**

1. Applicants must be residents of the Province of Nova Scotia, or students pursuing a course of Celtic Studies in Nova Scotia, or an extended family member with identified and sustained association with Nova Scotia for a prolonged period of time.
2. Applicants must be between the ages of 18 and 29. If revenue from the fund permits, and parents of minors assume all responsibility for the child, applicants under 18 could be considered eligible in special circumstances e.g. to take a Gaelic Immersion Course or attend a special workshop in music or dance.
3. Applicants must provide evidence of serious interest or leadership in Celtic culture as demonstrated by courses at the university or high school level or under home or community learning in language, music, dance, genealogy or Celtic Studies. Preference will be given to Gaelic learners. At least one award will be given to a Gaelic learner currently enrolled in a Gaelic learning program. If the applicant is a home or community learner a test as to Gaelic competence will be administered.
4. Applicants must provide three letters of reference from professors, teachers or other recognized leaders in the support, promotion, preservation and maintenance of our Celtic culture and heritage regarding the applicants' sincerity, maturity, sobriety, and responsible behavior. References from applicant's family members are not permitted and is considered conflict of interest.
5. Applicants must provide a program or plan of quality activities they intend to undertake or study while abroad identifying, where, what and how they plan to achieve their objectives and for what period of duration.
6. Applicants must indicate their resource ability to provide for themselves, while abroad in such matters as passport, driver's license, health card or insurance, financial ability for bed and board, plan for keeping in contact with next of kin and/or dependents.

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7. Preference will be given to Gaelic speakers and those currently studying Gaelic at the beginner or intermediate level and who are also proficient in one or more expressions of the culture in song, dance (step, Highland, Scottish country), fiddle, pipes, piano, genealogy or history of Cape Breton and other Scottish settlements or knowledge and/or interest in the history of their homeland or country to be visited.
8. Upon the return to Nova Scotia successful applicants will be required to render an account of their “stewardship” while abroad by submitting a written report of activities accomplished or by giving a lecture or presentation at some designated centre of Gaelic culture or study.
9. Applicants are reminded they will be unofficial ambassadors of Nova Scotia and are thereby expected to be responsible and mature in their behavior and deportment.
10. Applications for awards will be made to the selection committee under the Chairmanship of the Celtic Studies Department at St.F.X. by March 31. The committee will strive to arrive at a consensus, failing a consensus a vote will be taken. To eliminate potential conflict of interest in the selection committee process when a potential candidate is a friend or student of a member of the selection committee, that member must remove himself or herself from the voting.
11. Successful applicants will be notified by April 15.
12. All successful applicants will be required to sign of a letter of commitment promising to fulfill the terms of their proposal.