



# CEU announces 2009 annual bursary competition

March 2009

The Compensation Employees' Union (CEU) has a bursary fund totaling \$3,000. If you are a CEU member in good standing, your close relatives may be eligible to receive bursary funding. For the purposes of this competition, a close relative is a mother, father, spouse, common-law spouse, son, daughter, brother, sister, grandparent or equivalent in-law, any other person who has acted in loco parentis or any other relative living under the same roof. Reference: Article 44, Serious Family Illness, of the CEU Collective Agreement.

## **Who is eligible to apply?**

Applicants must meet the entrance requirements for their first year of studies at a post secondary educational institution. Only students entering their first year of post secondary education are eligible. The CEU's definition of first year post secondary education does not include programs that provide equivalency to high school diplomas and pre-apprenticeship programs (also known as Early Entry Trades Training). However, students who have formally registered in an apprenticeship program are eligible to apply.

## **What do applicants have to do to apply?**

The Communications Committee will judge applicants on the quality of their submissions for the assignments outlined in Parts I and II below.

### **Part I – Activist essay**

Interview a current or former union activist in a union or labour organization.

- The union activist you interview could be (or have been) a shop steward, elected officer of a union, elected officer of a labour council, elected officer of a labour federation, or an employee of a trade union or labour organization in the role of business agent, staff representative, union organizer, communications officer, etc.

#### ***It cannot be someone from the CEU.***

- You could interview a union activist in an industry that you plan to work in. (This is not required. You may interview a union activist from any industry or type of work.)
- You may conduct the interview in person or by telephone.
- Verbatim transcripts of the interview will not be accepted.

You must analyze, summarize, and discuss the information you gathered in the interview in a 500 to 750 word essay on:

- How and why that person became a trade union activist
- How long the person has been (or was) an activist
- What activities that person engages (or engaged) in as a trade union activist
- Your views on trade union activism
- What you learned about trade unions and trade union activists as a result of conducting the interview

### **Part II – Unions and Social Justice Issues**

In a 1000 to 1200 word essay, discuss this statement:  
***Why are social justice issues important to trade unions?***

In your essay:

- State whether you agree or disagree with the statement, "Unions are advocates for social justice issues affecting us all."
- Explain why you agree or disagree with this statement.
- Describe your views on the whether the trade union movement has influenced the general public's attitudes toward social justice issues.
- Identify at least one example of a social justice issue and discuss what unions do to promote it. How does union support of this social justice issue influence government(s)?
- What steps do you think trade unions must take to broaden and strengthen public support, especially for those aged 18 – 30, for social justice issues?

You could also ask the activist you interview for Part I about his or her views on this topic and include them in your Part II essay.

### **What does the completed application consist of?**

To be complete, your bursary application must include:

#### **Part I – Activist essay**

- Title page with the name of the person you interviewed.
- The essay on your interview.
- The contact information for the person you interviewed.
- A list of any other references you consulted or people you spoke to in preparing your essay.
- Information on whether the activist gives his or her permission to post your essay on the CEU web site. The CEU often posts the winning submissions (or excerpts from the submissions) on its web site. If the activist gives permission for the essay to be posted on the CEU web site, you must submit a note signed by the activist stating this. If the activist does not give permission to post your essay on the CEU web site, please state this on the title page of your essay.

#### **Part II – Essay on, "Why are social justice issues important to trade unions?"**

- Title page
- The essay
- A list of all the media you read, listened to, or viewed in researching your essay
- A list of other references you consulted or people you spoke to in preparing your essay

***Remember, you must complete both  
Parts I and II of this assignment.***

**Other requirements**

You must also include the following with your application:

- A completed application form (included with this announcement)
- A transcript of your most recent marks
- A list of your estimated expenses for your first year of post secondary education

**Criteria for judging submissions**

Both essays must:

- Be organized and coherent
- Have a point of view
- Demonstrate proficiency in grammar, punctuation, and spelling

*Incomplete submissions are subject to a penalty (i.e., loss of points).*

Individual award amounts will vary depending on the

quality of the submissions. All submissions become the property of the CEU.

Additional application forms may be obtained by contacting the CEU office or a shop steward. Completed application forms and submissions must be returned no later than **May 15, 2009** to:

Communications Committee  
c/o the Compensation Employees' Union  
200-8120 Granville Avenue  
Richmond, BC V6Y 1P3

Applications and essays may also be sent through the WCB interdepartmental mail by the applicant's relative. Faxed or e-mailed submissions will not be accepted.

Bursaries will be issued to the successful applicants 10 days after they have commenced enrollment at a recognized university, college, or vocational institute.



**APPLICATION FOR 2009 BURSARY**  
**Deadline: May 15th, 2009**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Related CEU Member: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Their Position: \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_

School Presently Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

School Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Which institue will you be attending? \_\_\_\_\_

What degree/diploma do you plan to work towards? \_\_\_\_\_

What other bursaries or scholarships have you been granted? \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated total expenses (attach breakdown) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

