

IVMA of BC Bursary Application

OPEN TO ALL STUDENTS CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN POST-SECONDARY STUDIES RELATED TO NATURAL RESOURCES OR VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

The Integrated Vegetation Management Association of B.C. (IVMA) is a recognized organization dedicated to the responsible practice of all aspects of vegetation management throughout the province. Our members are vegetation management professionals working for government, private industry, equipment and chemical suppliers, and academia. They represent a wide range of sectors within the province, including forestry, gas, electrical utilities, transportation (including highways and railways), and invasive plant management. The main mandate of the IVMA is to promote protection of human health and the environment by ensuring that vegetation management programs are responsible and professional, and that all workers are properly trained. The IVMA is the Continuing Education Credit Coordinator for Aerial, Forestry General, and Industrial Vegetation applicator certification categories helping to ensure that all herbicide applicators in B.C. receive the training they require.

An objective of the Association is to promote and support continuous improvement in the industry through development of improved methods, careful regulation, responsible execution of vegetation management activities, and by supporting training and education of people working at all levels in the industry.

In keeping with this objective, the IVMA will be awarding **up to four bursaries of \$1,000 each per year** to students who are enrolled in natural resources or vegetation management-related programs within British Columbia post-secondary institutes. In addition to the bursary, the winners will receive a complementary admission and paid accommodations to the current IVMA biennial forum. The forum is an excellent opportunity for students to interact with representatives from the vegetation management sectors.

To qualify for consideration the applicants must:

- 1. Be enrolled in a biology, agriculture, environmental studies, forestry, or other program related to natural resources or vegetation management.
- 2. Have completed a minimum of one full year of the program and have maintained a passing average mark (copy of digital transcript is required).
- 3. Graduate and undergraduate candidates will be accepted.
- 4. Prepare a 1 to 2-page (500–1000 word) written submission detailing the student's interests, achievements, or experience in a vegetation management-related field. Some examples could include silviculture/stand tending, urban forestry/arboriculture, invasive plant control, or control of weeds in industrial facilities. Also upload any other information that may support the application. This document must include the applicant's signature.
- 5. Have never previously been awarded this Bursary.
- 6. Indicate whether they intend to stay in B.C. to pursue their career (preference will be given to such candidates)
- 7. Be available for a possible interview either virtually or in person.



To apply, please complete the application on the <u>IVMA.com</u> website and upload your written submission and a copy of your most recent digital transcript.

All documentation must be received by the IVMA between September 1 and December 15 each year.

The submissions will be reviewed and judged, and winners chosen at the sole discretion of the Board of Directors of the IVMA. The IVMA reserves the right to publish the winning essays and the names of the winning applicants publicly, including on the Association website. The IVMA reserves the right to refuse any application without bias.

The bursary winners will be notified within four weeks after application deadline (by January 15). Requests for extension to the deadline for submission will NOT be considered.

For more information or to contact the IVMA, please see our website at <u>IVMA.com</u>.