

DARTMOUTH GENERAL HOSPITAL FOUNDATION BURSARY FOR AFRICAN NOVA SCOTIAN STUDENTS

to Support Healthcare
Education in People of
African Ancestry

One \$8,000 bursary
for youth, renewable
up to 4 years

Presented by:

J & W Murphy
FOUNDATION

2026 HONOUREE:

Rose Fraser



This bursary has a rotating acknowledgement to a different person of African ancestry, to promote knowledge of Black excellence and Black history to the Dartmouth General Hospital and the community. This year's acknowledgement goes to Rose Fraser, a respected nurse, community advocate, and leader whose lifelong service has strengthened health and wellness across African Nova Scotian communities.

Bursary Description Our goal is to build cultural competency within the healthcare system, specifically within the Dartmouth General Hospital (DGH). By supporting learners of African ancestry, we are building future capacity and recruitment.

The Dartmouth General Hospital Foundation (DGHF) Bursary to Support Healthcare Education in People of African Ancestry, presented by the J&W Murphy Foundation, aims to be accessible to African Nova Scotian and Black high school learners who, through the application process, demonstrate interest in a health-related field. Our bursary selection committee is composed of African Nova Scotian and Black community members.

This bursary has rotating acknowledgement to a different person of African Ancestry, to promote knowledge of Black excellence and Black history to DGH and the community. This year's acknowledgement goes to **Rose Fraser**, a retired Registered Nurse and dedicated community leader from North Preston, Nova Scotia. Rose Fraser is very pleased and deeply honoured to be named this year's honouree. A proud member of the North Preston community, she devoted more than 28 years to providing compassionate mental health support at the North End Clinic and throughout the Dartmouth area. Over the course of her nursing career, she became known for her calm presence, thoughtful leadership, and unwavering commitment to equitable care.

Beyond her professional work, Ms. Fraser has consistently offered volunteer nursing services and faith based grief counselling within the communities of North Preston, East Preston, Cherry Brook, and Lake Loon. Her work has supported individuals and families navigating loss, trauma, and life transitions, always grounded in dignity, cultural understanding, and compassion. Recognized as a trusted community leader and active church member, Ms. Fraser is widely respected for her steady and rational guidance in challenging situations. Her commitment to service extends to governance and advocacy, including her recent role as an active board member of the Health Association of African Canadians (HAAC), where she contributed to advancing culturally responsive health initiatives.

Rose Fraser's lifelong dedication to community wellness, mentorship, and faith centred care reflects the spirit and purpose of this bursary. A cherished health advocate and community leader, her commitment to compassionate care and mental health support has strengthened generations of families across Preston and the Dartmouth area. As a trusted mentor and steady voice of guidance, she continues to champion culturally responsive care and inspire future generations pursuing careers in health care within African Nova Scotian communities.

This bursary is intended for:

- African Nova Scotian high school students with interest in health care - one \$8,000 bursary available, renewable for up to four years

Eligibility

- Must be of African Ancestry
 - *DGH recognizes that African Nova Scotians are a distinct people whose histories, legacies and contributions have enriched that part of Mi'kma'ki known as Nova Scotia for over 400 years. They descend from free and enslaved Black Planters, Black Loyalists, Black Refugees, Maroons and other Black people who inhabited the original 52 land-based Black communities in that region. Examples include, but are not limited to, the Preston Township.*
- Must be a citizen, permanent resident, landed immigrant or newcomer to Nova Scotia.
- Must be enrolled in a health-related program at a recognized post-secondary educational institution.

Application must include:

1. Updated CV
2. Proof of acceptance into a recognized post-secondary educational institution
3. Description of African Nova Scotian community involvement (250 words)
 - Examples include, but are not limited to, volunteering, extracurriculars, research, community-related work, involvement in supporting recreation and sports, faith or community organizations, committees, etc.
4. Two (2) references
 - Including one reference demonstrating a commitment to the African Nova Scotian community
5. Essay (500 words)
 - Describe your journey, why you are choosing to pursue a career in healthcare (or a health-related field), your career goals, how your program of study will impact the African Nova Scotian community, and/or any other information you feel is necessary for this application.
6. A statement outlining financial need, describing how this award will support your ability to continue education.

Important to note that **the top 3 applicants will be asked to participate in an interview** which will include a 15-minute presentation about their essay topic - this is tentatively scheduled for the **first week of June**.

Please note that the successful bursary recipient will be expected to participate in promotional material related to this bursary for the Dartmouth General Hospital Foundation.

Applications with required accompanying information are to be submitted to the Dartmouth General Hospital Foundation at mariam.sulyman@dghfoundation.ca on or before **May 15th, 2026**.

BURSARY APPLICATION (Page 1 of 2)

Student Name:

Address:

City/Province:

Postal Code:

Home/Cell Phone:

Email:

Please select one of the following:

☐

I am African Nova Scotian/Black Nova Scotian – born and/or raised in Nova Scotia with at least one parent from the 52 historical Black Communities of Nova Scotia*

**African Nova Scotians are a distinct people whose histories, legacies and contributions have enriched that part of Mi'kma'ki known as Nova Scotia for over 400 years. They descend from free and enslaved Black Planters, Black Loyalists, Black Refugees, Maroons and other Black people who inhabited the original 52 land-based Black communities in that region. Examples include, but are not limited to, North Preston, East Preston, Cherry Brook, Lake Loon, Africville, Beechville, Birchtown, etc.*

☐

I am African Canadian/Black Canadian, born and/or raised in Nova Scotia without familial ties to the historical Black communities of Nova Scotia.

☐

I am African Canadian/Black Canadian, born and/or raised outside of Nova Scotia.

High school:

Intended area of healthcare study:

Intended post-secondary institution:

BURSARY APPLICATION (Page 2 of 2)

Please attach the following to your application:

- Updated CV
- Proof of acceptance into a recognized post-secondary educational institution
- Description of African Nova Scotian Community Involvement (250 words)
 - Examples include, but are not limited to, volunteering, extracurriculars, research, community-related work, involvement in supporting recreation and sports, faith or community organizations, committees, etc.
- Two (2) References
 - Including one reference demonstrating a commitment to the African Nova Scotia community
- Essay (500 words)
 - Describe your journey, why you are choosing to pursue a career in healthcare (or a health-related field), your career goals, how your program of study will impact the African Nova Scotian community, and/or any other information you feel is necessary for this application.
- A statement outlining financial need, describing how this award will support your ability to continue education.

☐

By checking this box, I am agreeing that my name may be published to promote the bursary program. I also agree to participate in promotional material for the DGH Foundation, related to this bursary.

By signing below, you confirm that all the information provided above is true and accurate

Signature

Date