



**Vancouver Soaring Association
& Soaring Association of Canada
YOUTH FLIGHT BURSARY**

Imagine yourself at the controls of a glider learning to fly!

If you are under 25 years old and have an interest in learning to fly, this opportunity is for you.

This Vancouver Soaring Association (VSA)/Soaring Association of Canada (SAC) Youth Bursary provides an opportunity for a youth to both participate in the volunteer activities of our association and to learn how to fly gliders. All flight training takes place at the Hope Airport.

BURSARY PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Funding:

The program provides a bursary, totalling \$1000 - \$501 from the Vancouver Soaring Association and \$499 from the Soaring Association of Canada. Please note that this is not a cash bursary; the awarded money will be applied directly to flying credits. Successful applicants will be required to pay a reduced Youth Membership fee of \$125.00 prior to flight-training, as the bursary only covers direct flying expenses. If the student wishes to continue flight training beyond the life of the bursary (towards flying solo and earning their Glider Pilot License) the remainder of the membership fee and additional gliding/tow credits must be purchased.

Flight Training:

In the event that a bursary is awarded, the VSA will provide 10 instructional flights to bursars with a qualified instructor in VSA's 2-seat gliders. Flight training occurs primarily on weekends but is highly dependent on weather. The Club uses a roster to schedule flights for all its students, including bursars. Up to three students can be scheduled on a given day when there is one instructor. On rare occasions two instructors and two twins are available for training. On a typical flying day, a maximum of two flights can be expected by each student, which means 10 flights could take approximately 2 – 3 months to complete. All flights must be completed in the same year the bursary is awarded.

Ground School:

The VSA instructors will provide pre and post flight briefings, and instruction on completing daily inspections of gliders, radio license training and some self-directed ground school topics including air regulations, theory of flight, meteorology and basic navigation.

VSA Expectations:

The VSA will provide a full training program with supervision in order that the student can perform the above activities in a safe manner.

Student Expectations:

For all intents and purposes, the bursary holder will be an ordinary flying member of the club, the same as any other student member. A self-learning package will be provided which will list required reading for students to complete on their own time. In addition, the student, like any member, is expected to contribute to volunteer activities of the VSA. Some examples of these volunteer activities include timekeeping (recording glider up and down times), flight line activities (wing running, glider ground handling), general grounds maintenance, and clubhouse upkeep.

Parent/Guardian Expectations:

If the successful bursary candidate is under legal age then the parents/legal guardians of the youth will have to sign a release waiver on behalf of their son or daughter prior to any airfield activities. Some financial commitment is required to cover the \$125 reduced youth membership fee; this fee is not covered by bursary funds. All activities will take place at the Hope Airport, and most flying occurs on the weekends. Note that the bursary will cover 10 instructional flights that are meant to be an introduction to flying only. Once those flying credits are used, then the student will have to purchase additional gliding/towing credits, as well as the remainder of the membership fee, to fly solo and to complete their Glider Pilot License.

Application process:

Bursaries may be awarded each year, but may be limited by VSA budgetary constraints as well as SAC bursary assistance availability constraints. Applications for bursaries may be submitted between February 1st until March 31st each year, after which time successful applicants will be selected for that year. Available bursaries are not guaranteed.

In addition, we ask that you send us a short covering letter explaining why you are interested in flying gliders and contributing to the volunteer efforts of the Vancouver Soaring Association. Tell us how you will rise to the challenge and why we should choose you! The VSA Bursary Program directors will then review all applicants and make their selection.

If you are less than 19 years old please review and fill out the application form with your parents or legal guardians and ensure that one of them also signs the form.

The Vancouver Soaring Association has been operating continuously from the Hope Airport since 1966. The VSA is an all-volunteer organization and is a registered association under the Societies Act of B.C. All VSA instructors are certified by Transport Canada. The membership of the VSA is quite diverse with members coming from a wide variety of backgrounds.

The unique aspect of soaring is that it is almost impossible to do alone and is dependent on people working together in a cooperative manner to ensure that each person can fly. This aspect creates a unique atmosphere where the usual barriers of age and social background are removed.

We all come together to "HAVE FUN AND TO FLY GLIDERS SAFELY" which is the VSA's most important rule.

For an online application form, or if you have any questions about this bursary please visit our website vancouversoaring.com/youth or, please feel free to email us at vancouversoaring.youth@gmail.com

Please go to our website at www.vsa.ca for information about our club.

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Applying for Year: _____ (Registration deadline is March 31 each year)

Applicant to Complete this Section:

Date of application: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Age: _____ Applicant must be under 25 years of age on Jan 1 of the year of membership

Please attach a cover letter describing:

- a) Why you wish to learn to fly gliders and,
- b) How you will contribute to the volunteer efforts of the Vancouver Soaring Association.

I _____, (applicant) understand that:

- a) A reduced Youth Membership Fee of \$125 must be paid by the successful applicant prior to the onset of training.
- b) Bursary funds will not result in the completion of all requirements necessary for a Glider Pilot License. Additional funds will be required to continue flying beyond the life of the bursary.
- c) Prior to flight instruction, pre-reading and study will be expected.
- d) A brief interview may be part of the selection process.

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Legal Guardian to Complete this Section (if applicant is under 19 years old)

I _____, as Parent/Legal Guardian of _____ (applicant) understand that:

- a) Bursary funds do not include the reduced Youth Membership Fee of \$125. This fee must be paid by the successful applicant prior to the onset of training.
- b) Parents/legal guardians of the successful applicant will have to sign a release waiver on behalf of their son/daughter prior to any airfield activities.
- c) Bursary funds will not result in the completion of all requirements necessary for a Glider Pilot License. Additional funds will be required to continue flying beyond the life of the bursary.

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please send completed applications to: vancouversoaring.youth@gmail.com