Ontario Processing Vegetable Growers

BURSARY APPLICATION

The OPVG is offering 3 bursaries to provide financial support and recognition to individuals pursuing post secondary education with an interest in a career in the Ontario processing vegetable industry. The successful recipients will be selected by a committee comprised of industry officials. Two bursaries will be awarded in memory of farm leaders in the processing vegetable industry, Jim Whitson and Ken Epp, while the third award is an Industry bursary.

The **Jim Whitson Bursary valued at $2,000** will be awarded to a student attending Ridgetown Campus in their 2nd year.

Eligibility Requirements for Jim Whitson Bursary

- Applicants must be a Canadian citizen and resident of Ontario
- Registered as a full-time student in their 2nd year of study in commercial field agriculture/horticulture at Ridgetown Campus
- Preference will be given to those applicants who have recent work experience (summer or full-time) and/or community involvement in Ontario agriculture, specifically field crop horticulture
- Must include official transcript of most recent marks; average of at least 70%
- Must include an essay describing education and career goals within the Ontario processing vegetable industry (maximum 2 pages)

The **Ken Epp Bursary valued at $2,000** will be awarded to a student attending an eligible college or university in their 2nd, 3rd, 4th or post-graduate year of study.

Eligibility Requirements for Ken Epp Bursary

- Applicants must be a Canadian citizen and resident of Ontario
- Registered as a full-time student in their 2nd, 3rd, 4th or post-graduate year of study in commercial field agriculture/horticulture, food manufacturing, etc. that closely relates to the processing vegetable industry, at one of the following universities/colleges: University of Guelph, Trent University, Fanshawe College, Fleming College, Conestoga College, Algonquin College, Olds College, University of Saskatchewan
- Preference will be given to those applicants who have recent work experience (summer or full-time) and/or community involvement in Ontario agriculture, specifically field crop horticulture
- Must include official transcript of most recent marks; average of at least 70%
- Must include an essay describing education and career goals within the Ontario processing vegetable industry (maximum 2 pages)

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The **Industry Bursary valued at $1,000** will be awarded to a student attending an eligible college or university in a program of study that relates to the processing vegetable industry (agriculture/ horticulture/food manufacturing).

Eligibility Requirements for Industry Bursary

- Applicants must be a Canadian citizen and resident of Ontario
- Registered as a full-time student in their 2nd, 3rd, 4th or post-graduate year of study in commercial field agriculture/horticulture, food manufacturing, etc. that closely relates to the processing vegetable industry, at one of the following universities/colleges: University of Guelph, Trent University, Fanshawe College, Fleming College, Conestoga College, Algonquin College, Olds College, University of Saskatchewan
- Preference will be given to those applicants who have recent work experience (summer or full-time) and/or community involvement in Ontario agriculture, specifically field crop horticulture
- Must include official transcript of most recent marks; average of at least 70%
- Must include an essay describing education and career goals within the Ontario processing vegetable industry (maximum 2 pages)

Beginning November 6, 2026, applications can be emailed or mailed by the **February 5, 2027** deadline to:

via email at opvg@opvg.org

OR

via postal service to
OPVG
4026 Meadowbrook Drive unit 122
London, ON
N6L 1C7

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Applicant Information

Personal Information:

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____

_____

Phone: _____

Birth Date: _____

Education:

College/University:

_____

Program of Study:

_____

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Employment Information:

Provide details of past and/or current involvement including company name, length of employment, a reference, and a brief description of the job. Maximum 1 page

Community Involvement:

Provide a brief description of your involvement in your community including number of years of involvement and capacity (ie. volunteer, coach, leader). Maximum 1 page

Education and Career Goals:

Provide an essay describing education and career goals within the Ontario processing vegetable industry. Maximum 2 pages

I certify that all the information provided in this application form and in all the documents accompanying it, is true, accurate and complete.

I authorize the post secondary institution to release any information to the selection committee required to support/confirm information contained in this application.

Date: _____ Signature of Applicant: _____

Checklist:

- ☐ Application completed in full, signed and dated
- ☐ Employment Information attached
- ☐ Community Involvement attached
- ☐ Essay attached
- ☐ Official transcript of marks attached

The Bursary Committee reserves the right to award bursaries at their discretion.