

**VANCOUVER ISLAND UNIVERSITY**  
**Lieutenant Governor's Medal Program**  
**For Inclusion, Democracy and Reconciliation**

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**General Information:**

- Annual deadline for completed application / nomination forms to be submitted is **April 30, 2021**
  - Incomplete or unsigned forms will not be considered
  - Consideration will be given to students **completing and graduating** from their program between **May 1, 2020** through **April 30, 2021**
  
  - Fully completed and signed applications must be submitted by **NOON on April 30, 2021** to:  

**Financial Aid & Awards Office**  
**Building 200, Room 205**  
**Nanaimo Campus**
  
  - Students and their respective program Chairs will be notified if they have been selected by **May 31<sup>st</sup>**.
  - Medal will be presented at Convocation to be held in June of each year
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**Application / Nomination Instructions:**

Students interested in having their name considered for the Lieutenant Governor's Medal are required to print the application form and complete all information requested in the student section.

Students must attach an essay speaking to one of the topics as outlined in the "Award Guidelines" of this application. Essay should be a maximum of 750 words, and students may speak to more than one topic if applicable.

Students will submit their completed and signed application, along with their essay to their respective Program Chair.

The Program Chair will be required to verify student progress and/or grades, provide any additional supporting comments, and complete and sign the appropriate section.

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**New Medal Program Criteria:**

Effective January 24, 2019, eligibility for the Lieutenant Governor's medal program was expanded from students enrolled in one-year certificate programs only, to also include **two-year diploma** and **four-year undergraduate degree** programs at public post-secondary institutions in British Columbia. Eligible students include British Columbia residents, out-of-province and international students enrolled in their last year of studies who will graduate during the academic year.

Institutions will now nominate students who demonstrate outstanding contributions in support of Inclusion, Democracy and/or Reconciliation on campus or in their communities.

**Award Administration:**

Institutions remain responsible for conducting their own nomination processes and procedures to identify recipients for the Lieutenant Governor's medal award.

The Ministry will send each institution **one medal** annually in January to be awarded to a student that year. Institutions may nominate only one student annually for the medal award, and are encouraged to submit identified award recipients, together with any requests for the Lieutenant Governor to present the award, within three months of a call for nomination. This information will be shared with Government House for congratulatory letters to be sent from the Lieutenant Governor to award recipients, and for consideration of the Lieutenant Governor's participation at award presentation ceremonies.

## **Award Guidelines:**

The Lieutenant Governor's medal program is a prestigious badge of recognition for recipients granted for outstanding contributions in support of Inclusion, Democracy, and/or Reconciliation. While academic excellence and community contributions were determining criteria for the award in years past, institutions may now nominate students for contributions made that demonstrate any one of these three award criteria.

### **Inclusion:**

Inclusion and Diversity are sources of strength and at the heart of the success of B.C. communities. This award criterion recognizes students who have promoted diversity and inclusion on campus or in their community. Students must demonstrate strong collaboration and unifying efforts, through the promotion and display of tolerance, and respect for others. Institutions may wish to consider the significance, impact and outcome of a student's contribution, and the personal example set by the student, when making nominations under this category.

#### *Examples:*

- A student may be recognized for their work in building community through the organization and coordination of events, activities or services, that contribute to a more welcoming and supportive environment on campus; OR
- A student may be recognized for their work organizing a community response to an act of intolerance.

### **Democracy:**

This criterion recognizes students who have strengthened democracy through civic engagement or the advancement of human rights. Students must demonstrate recognition of the fundamental rights and dignity of all persons at a local, national or global level. Institutions may wish to consider the significance, impact and outcome of a student's contribution, and the personal example set by the student, when making nominations under this category.

It is important to note that the Lieutenant Governor's medal program for Inclusion, Democracy, and Reconciliation is a non-partisan award. Activities directly tied to or coordinated by a political party or movement are not considered grounds for nomination.

#### *Examples:*

- A student may be recognized for their contribution to student governance or promoting social change and public discourse on campus, in their community or online; OR
- A student may be recognized who has supported, advocated or empowered minority rights and/or the most vulnerable in society such as those with mental health or addiction challenges, the homeless, new immigrant youth or refugees.

### **Reconciliation:**

In 2015, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada urgently called Canadians to take action to transform society by establishing a renewed relationship with indigenous peoples.

This criterion recognizes students who have answered this call to Reconciliation and are undertaking important efforts to heal their communities. Institutions may wish to consider the significance, impact and outcome of a student's contribution, and the personal example set by the student, when making nominations under this category.

#### *Examples:*

- A student may be recognized for their collaboration with a local Indigenous community to start a for-profit business where proceeds support programming for indigenous women.
- A student may be recognized for teaching indigenous ways of knowing and doing (an indigenous language, law, dance, or another custom) to other students.

In granting this award, institutions may also give consideration to students who have overcome significant personal challenges and/or may be members of historically disadvantaged groups that face sociocultural barriers to full participation in BC society. For example: single mothers, members of the LGBTQ+ and two-spirit students, or students with refugee status.



**To be completed by student:** (Please print clearly in ink)

\_\_\_\_\_

First and Last Name

\_\_\_\_\_

Student Number

\_\_\_\_\_

Street Address

\_\_\_\_\_

City, Province

\_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code

\_\_\_\_\_

Email Address

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number

**Community / School Involvement:** (current & past 5 years only)

Describe your activities and the position you held, the time commitment and dates of involvement. If you have a current resume please feel free to attach it.

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Time (i.e. 2 hrs/wk)</b>

**Attach a short essay (maximum 750 words) on how you have made a positive contribution to the life of the university and/or your community, and how you meet the criteria of "Inclusion, Democracy or Reconciliation" as outlined in the criteria above.**

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**Student Declaration:**

If awarded this medal, I authorize the Financial Aid & Awards office to release the following information to the donor, if it is requested: first & last name, telephone number, address, items listed in the personal data section, information relative to the special requirements of this award.

I hereby declare that the information provided is, to the best of my knowledge, true and correct.

\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

Date