

# REAP British Columbia Rural Interest Award

## Guidelines and Policies

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It is known that students of rural origin or with strong rural connections and students who have repeated rural exposures during their training are more likely to consider rural locations for their medical practice. These students are under-represented in our medical schools. The cost of post-secondary and medical school education may be part of the barrier to the participation of rural students. The REAP British Columbia Rural Interest Award aims to support rural students in UBC Medical School by providing additional financial support during the years of training. We hope this will encourage these students to consider rural placements and allow ongoing contact with them as they progress through their training which will also encourage eventual rural recruitment.

### ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS & AWARD DETAILS

Applicants must meet one or more of the following eligibility requirements:

- Living in a rural community for at least five of the ten years prior to admission to medical school, with preference given to those who graduated from high school in a rural community.
- Demonstration of other extensive rural connections.
- Demonstration of interest in rural medicine.

Applicants applying upon completion of their 3rd Year Rural Family Practice Clerkship, Integrated Community Clerkship or 4th Year Rural Electives must also have the recommendation of rural physicians, in particular preceptors in the 3rd and 4th year.

Applicants applying upon completion of a 4th Year FLEX project must also have the recommendation of their FLEX Advisor or Activity Supervisor.

Students may apply at several points in their UBC medical school career:

1. upon admittance to UBC Medical School.
2. upon completion of a 3rd Year Rural Family Practice Clerkship in a [Rural Subsidiary Agreement \(RSA\) community](#), with the recommendation of their preceptor.
3. upon completion of an Integrated Community Clerkship, with the recommendation of their preceptor.
4. upon completion of a minimum four-week 4th Year Rural Elective in an [RSA community](#), with the recommendation of their preceptor.
5. upon completion of 3rd or 4th Year and a written explanation of what they have done in the current year to demonstrate an interest in rural medicine.
6. upon completion of a 4th year FLEX project related to rural medicine, with the recommendation of their FLEX Project Advisor or Activity Supervisor.

Up to thirty awards are available each year. Each award is \$5,000.

### APPLICATION PROCEDURE

The British Columbia Rural Interest Award Application along with all the required supporting documents must be submitted by 11:59pm on the application deadline through our [online application platform](#).

Along with your online application, you must upload:

1. A letter detailing the anticipated short-term and long-term impact receiving this award will have on you, and explaining how you meet the eligibility requirements.
2. At least two signed reference letters:
  - For applicants who are applying upon acceptance to UBC Medical School, at least one reference must be from a member of your community (not a classmate or colleague).
  - For 3rd and 4th year applicants, at least one reference must be from your rural preceptor or FLEX Advisor/Activity Supervisor.

### APPLICATION DEADLINES

June 30 - For students applying upon completion of 3rd or 4th Year activities. Selection will be announced by September 30.

September 30 - For students applying upon admittance to UBC Medical School. Selection will be announced by January 15.

Applications will be accepted one month prior to the application deadline.

### QUESTIONS

First, check our frequently asked questions page at <https://rccbc.ca/our-work/reap/bc-rural-interest-award/>.

Still have questions? Email: [REAP.Students@ubc.ca](mailto:REAP.Students@ubc.ca)

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For more information about REAP, please visit: <https://rccbc.ca/our-work/reap/>

For the purpose of this application, rural communities in British Columbia are those included in the Rural Subsidiary Agreement (RSA) or smaller. Rural communities outside of British Columbia will be considered based on geographic location, population and location in relation to the nearest suburban or urban community.

For a list of Rural Subsidiary Agreement (RSA) Communities, please see: [https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/health/practitioner-pro/rrp\\_points.pdf](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/health/practitioner-pro/rrp_points.pdf)