AIRO Scholarship Information & Application

**AIRO (Annapolis Investments in Rural Opportunity)** is a private company dedicated to stimulating economic development in Annapolis Royal and Annapolis County. We do that by making small loans to entrepreneurs who want to start – or expand – their business.

Founded by Jane Nicholson in 2016, AIRO’s vision is simple – we want to make Annapolis Royal and Annapolis County **the** place of choice to work, live, play and thrive in Nova Scotia. The young people in our community are key to this vision. Leaving your community to further your education and experience can be life-altering – but coming back home some day and sharing that knowledge is critical to rural Nova Scotia’s future. **That’s why AIRO is offering this $2,000 scholarship – we are investing in you.**

AIRO Scholarship Program Guidelines

The annual **AIRO Scholarship** will be awarded to the high school graduate who best meets the requirements set forth in this application and who will be a good ambassador for Annapolis Royal and its surrounding district at his or her post-secondary school of choice. Scholarship awards must be used to cover tuition and fees at the school of the recipient’s choice and monies will be paid directly to the educational institution in the student's name.

The application form consists of seven (7) questions – four (4) of those are essay questions and answers should be approximately 300 words (do not exceed 500 words) typed directly into the answer boxes beneath each question. Feel free to be bold and creative with your answers! **Your application should be submitted by email in DOC or PDF file formats or, if you prefer, mail a hard copy to our office by May 31st of each year.** Do one or the other, but not both.

AIRO will review and score all submitted applications and may choose to interview applicants as part of the decision-making process. Applicants’ references may be contacted by telephone.

The scholarship will be presented at graduation each year.

**Who can apply:**

* Graduates of Annapolis West Education Centre (AWEC) pursuing any type of trades program at an institute in Nova Scotia, or with a plan to start their own business upon completion.
* Graduates of Annapolis West Education Centre (AWEC) pursuing business education programs in a 2- or 4-year program format at an institute in Nova Scotia. For example, Business Administration or Bachelor of Commerce degrees.

**Please note: Answers to questions with a red asterisk (\*) are required.**

Question 1 – Your Personal Information:

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| ***Contact Information*** | |
| ***\**** *Date of Application Submission:* |  |
| ***\*****Your Full Name:* |  |
| ***\*****Your Date of Birth:* |  |
| ***\*****Your Home Phone Number:* |  |
| *Cell Number:* |  |
| ***\*****Email:* |  |
| ***\*****Your Mailing Address:* |  |
| ***\*****Your Parent(s) or Legal Guardian(s) name(s):* |  |
| ***\*****List all schools and programs you have applied to:* |  |
| ***\*****Name of school and program you have been accepted to:* |  |

**\*** Question 2 – Your Post-Secondary Education:

Why are you taking the program you have applied to? Why have you chosen the school you plan to attend? What do you hope the outcome will be?

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**\*** Question 3 – Your Community:

Tell us what you love about Annapolis Royal and its surrounding communities AND what you dislike, or think could be improved. What do you like AND dislike about your years at AWEC? What is your favourite memory growing up here or during the time you have lived here?

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**\*** Question 4 – Your Story:

What do you do for fun? Do you volunteer or have a hobby? What is the last book you read or movie you watched? Why do these things appeal to you?

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**\*** Question 5 – Your Future:

Do you plan to return to this area after graduation? If yes, please describe your tentative plans. If no, why not? What do you feel would need to be in place here to change your mind?

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Question 6 – Your Additional Info:

If you have additional information you wish to submit with your application, please list here and then attach to the end of your application. For example, a letter of reference or your resume.

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**\*** Question 7 – Your References:

Please provide three (3) references that can speak to your character, community involvement, and work ethic. These could include a teacher, pastor, employer, neighbour, community leader, etc.

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| ***Contact Information*** | |
| **\*** Name of Reference #1: |  |
| **\***Phone number: |  |
| Email (if available): |  |
| **\***Their connection to you: |  |
| **\*** Name of Reference #2: |  |
| **\***Phone number: |  |
| Email (if available): |  |
| **\***Their connection to you: |  |
| **\*** Name of Reference #3: |  |
| **\***Phone number: |  |
| Email (if available): |  |
| **\***Their connection to you: |  |

Please email or mail your completed application form to:



[ConnectWith@ruralopportunity.com](mailto:ConnectWith@ruralopportunity.com)   
AIRO

PO Box 456

Annapolis Royal, NS B0S 1A0

Any information you share with us will be kept confidential.