Last Revised: October 2026

Niagara Falls Public Library Board Youth Volunteer Award Conditions and Eligibility

About the Award

The Niagara Falls Public Library Board Youth Volunteer Award recognizes graduating secondary school students who have demonstrated significant commitment to community service through volunteer work with the Niagara Falls Public Library.

Beginning with the 2025/2026 school year, five awards of $500 each are awarded annually, one intended for a student from each publicly funded secondary school in Niagara Falls, subject to eligibility and availability of qualified applicants.

The award is intended to support students who have made meaningful contributions to the Library and its community through consistent volunteer service.

Eligibility

To be eligible to apply, applicants must:

- be enrolled in Grade 12 or Grade 12B at a publicly funded secondary school in Niagara Falls at the time of application;
- have completed either:
    - a minimum of 15 volunteer hours with the Niagara Falls Public Library, through any Niagara Falls Public Library location or Library-approved off-site volunteer opportunity or
    - at least one year of consistent volunteer service with the Niagara Falls Public Library;
- submit a reflection describing the impact of their volunteer experience at the Library using the medium of their choice - written, recorded audio or video or in person conversation/interview with Library staff; and
- meet all application requirements by the stated deadline.

Students completing Grade 12B may apply in both years but may receive the award only once.

How to Apply

Student volunteers must submit a completed application package by the annual deadline set by the Library.

Applications must include:

- the completed application form;
- the reflection (length and format will be specified in the application form); and
- any additional documentation requested by the Library for that year.

Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.

Selection Overview

Award recipients are selected by an internal Library committee based on established program criteria. These include factors such as:

- length and consistency of volunteer service;
- quality and impact of contributions to the Library;
- reliability and conduct as a volunteer; and
- the content of the written reflection.

Schools are not involved in the selection process.

All award decisions are final.

Conditions of the Award

Recipients may be required to:

- consent to the Niagara Falls Public Library publishing their name and school for award recognition purposes; and
- participate in reasonable recognition activities, such as acknowledgement at a Library Board meeting or school ceremony.

The Library reserves the right to withhold or withdraw the award if eligibility requirements are no longer met or if information provided in the application is found to be false or misleading.

General Conditions

The Library reserves the right to verify volunteer service records and application information.

Providing false or misleading information will result in disqualification or withdrawal of the award, even after a recipient has been selected.

The Library is not responsible for technical issues, lost or misdirected applications, or submissions received after the deadline.

The award program may be amended, suspended, or cancelled by the Niagara Falls Public Library Board.

Privacy

Personal information collected through the application process will be used solely for the administration of the award program and will be handled in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.