

Spitz Family Awards and Fellows Program for Indigenous Women

The vision of the Spitz Fellows Program is to foster the conditions for each Fellow to achieve educational goals and beyond by eliminating financial barriers to success.

About

The Spitz Fellows Program is a unique opportunity for Indigenous (First Nation–Status and Non-Status–, Inuit or Métis) women pursuing a Bachelor of Commerce degree at the UBC Sauder School of Business. The Program is open to direct entry (from high school); post-secondary transfer students; and current students who demonstrate academic achievement, community engagement, tenacity, leadership skills, and service to others. A cornerstone of the Spitz Fellows Program is the Spitz Family Awards for Indigenous Women, an award of at least \$10,000 per academic year, which may be renewed until the Fellow graduates from the UBC BCom program. Applications for this award must be received by February 23, 2026 at 11:59pm Pacific Time for consideration.

A Spitz Fellow defined

Spitz Fellows are engaged in their community. They have a deep commitment to their pursuits and to others. They express care, creativity, and a strong sense of self. Above all, they are looking to become the leader they envision of themselves. Recipients of a Spitz Family Award are welcomed as Spitz Fellows for the duration of their BCom degree, provided they remain in good academic standing.

What it means to become a Spitz Fellow

The Spitz Fellows Program is meant to provide a number of opportunities for recipients of the Spitz Family Award. Spitz Fellows are eligible for the following:

- Additional funding to cover student expenses (this can include housing, food, childcare, tutoring, and discretionary travel; funding for experiential opportunities such as Go Global exchange or Co-op— program eligibility requirements must be met). Eligibility for this additional funding is based on proof of financial need
- Funding to attend University orientation programs such as Jump Start (for incoming first-year students only)
- Guaranteed acceptance to the Ch'nook Scholars program in two of the four years of their degree

Eligibility

To be considered for this program and award, candidates must:

- Be a Canadian
- Self-identify as a woman
- Self-identify as an Indigenous person in the online application to UBC (First Nations, Métis or Inuit). Preference will be given to applicants from remote communities.
- Be in financial need, as demonstrated by budget information required in the application package.
- Either:
 - Be admissible to, and entering the UBC Sauder Bachelor of Commerce program as a first choice in the 2026 Winter Session (September 2026). Note that both direct entry and Year 2 or Year 3 transfer students are eligible or;
 - Be currently enrolled in the UBC Sauder Bachelor of Commerce program.
- Be committed to becoming the leader they envision, in both the UBC Sauder and wider community.

Instructions

There are six sections to the application:

Section A: Biographical Information Section

Section B: Reflections

Section C: Student Financial Information

Section D: Description of Circumstances

Section E: Family Financial Information Section

Section F: Student Declaration

Any questions can be directed to Elsa Doxtdator-Jansson (elsa.doxtdator-jansson@sauder.ubc.ca). Submit your completed award application to Elsa by email by 11:59pm Pacific Time on February 23, 2026.

Please do not include extra material, such as certificates, news clippings or a resume.

Award recipients will be notified by April 20th, 2026.



Section A: Biographical Information

Name:

Student #:

Birthdate:

Indigenous Status (optional):

First Nation

Métis

Inuit

Band/Nation Affiliation (optional):

Section B: Reflections

Please find below three questions which embody the broader spirit of the Spitz Fellows Program, the comprehensive Program that encompasses the Spitz Family Award. The Spitz Fellows Program is about fostering the conditions for you to pursue your educational goals and beyond. It is about who you are and your vision for yourself. In this spirit, please write a short response to each question below (max. 300 words per question).

1. Do you have a saying and/or story that guides you or keeps you on your path?



Section B: Reflections cont'd

2. Describe any formal or informal ways you connect with your Indigenous community (urban or on-reserve). If you have yet to connect with your community, what steps are you taking to reconnect?

3. It is five years from today. Share your story of who you are now, what you are most excited about and what you are proudest of.



Section C: Financial Information

Education related costs*	Anticipated expenses
Tuition	\$
Student fees	\$
Books/supplies	\$
Educational support	Sources of support
Band funding/education	\$
Other scholarships	\$
RESP	\$
Total educational costs	\$
Living related costs	Anticipated expenses
Includes rent or on-campus housing	\$
Utilities	\$
Technology (i.e., cell, laptop, etc.)	\$
Meal plan	\$
Groceries	\$
Health & personal (haircuts, toiletries)	\$
Move-in costs	\$
Living related support	Sources of support
Personal Savings	\$
Anticipated income	\$
Parental support	\$
Band funding/sponsorship for living expenses	\$
Total living expenses	\$
Transportation	Anticipated expenses
To/from UBC (if you are living off-campus)	\$
To visit parents/family (if they are located outside of the Lower Mainland)	\$
Other (anticipated exchange/income from co-op)	\$
Total transportation expenses	\$
Scholarship, emergency and other	Anticipated expenses
Emergency funding or other request	\$
Other sources of support	Sources of support
Other scholarships or funding	\$
Total transportation, emergency and other expenses	\$
Total anticipated expenses	\$



*You will find the UBC first-year calculator helpful in predicting some expenses:
you.ubc.ca/financialplanning/cost/. Please note that the total you submit here may differ from the amount that is disbursed.

Section D: Description of Circumstances

Provide a written statement outlining you and your family's financial circumstances that make it necessary for you to apply for the Spitz Family Award. The Description of Circumstances should be approximately 250-500 words.



Section E: Family Financial Information

Please note that this section only needs to be completed if you are considered a dependent (you are living with your family and/or relying on them for financial support). Ask your parent(s) or guardian to complete the section below if this applies to you.

The following section should be completed by the applicant's family/guardian where applicable.

Number of children in your family attending a post-secondary institution (including the applicant)

Number of children in your family ages 18 and younger not attending a post-secondary institution

Sources of annual income before taxes and deduction	Amount for January - December
Parent/Guardian name: <input type="text"/> Occupation: <input type="text"/> Employer: <input type="text"/>	\$
Parent/Guardian name: <input type="text"/> Occupation: <input type="text"/> Employer: <input type="text"/>	\$
Income assistance (welfare) and/or disability assistance	\$
Employment Insurance benefits (Service Canada-HRSDC)	\$
Employment program for people with disabilities (EPPD)	\$
Child	\$
Other including income from investments, rental properties, pension, family business, etc. Please specify: <input type="text"/>	\$
Total income (January-December)	\$



Section E: Family Financial Information cont'd

Assets	Amounts
Total amount of all money you have saved in your bank accounts*	\$
Total net value of RRSPs*	\$
Total net value of term deposits, GICs, stocks, bonds, mutual funds, etc. Do not include RRSPs.*	\$
Total net value (your share) of any assets such as boat, RB, revenue/holdings, recreational properties. Do not include your principal residence or principal vehicle as an asset.	\$
Total assets	\$

* Do not include 2025 income in your assets. Amounts in your savings accounts, RRSPs and other term deposits do not include the money you contributed to them from your 2025 employment earnings.

Exceptional expenses	Amounts
Expenses due to unforeseen circumstances, such as emergency health related expenses, emergency home repairs or an expense which contributed to a financial shortfall. Please specify: <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 80px; width: 100%;"></div>	\$
Total exceptional expenses	\$

All financial information included in this application will remain confidential and will only be used by the Award Adjudication Committee for the purposes of the adjudication of the award. The information will not be released to any parties outside of UBC.

Parent/Guardian Declaration for Dependent Applicants

I, _____, hereby declare that the information in this form is, to the best of my knowledge, correct and complete. I understand that UBC retains the right to verify information in this application.



Section F: Student Declaration

I, _____, hereby declare that the information included in this application is, to the best of my knowledge, correct and complete. I understand that UBC retains the right to verify information on my application. If I am the recipient of the award, I understand that by signing this declaration on this date _____, I authorize UBC to: release to Award Adjudication Committee members the information provided in this application form; prepare a brief biographical profile to be used for award presentation ceremonies and receptions; release to award donors my name, contact information, year and program of study, and other information relevant to the requirements of the award, for the purpose of maintaining donor relations and informing donors about the outcomes of their gifts.

Once you have completed all sections including the Student Declaration, save the document and email it to Elsa Doxtator-Jansson (elsa.doxtator-jansson@sauder.ubc.ca) by 11:59pm Pacific Time on February 23, 2026.

