



# Supporting Indigenous Caregivers Through Their Post-Secondary Experience

This report identifies the needs of BBF applicants and recipients (between 2017-2020) who are caregivers (n=805). Nearly one third of all Building Brighter Futures: Bursaries, Scholarships, and Awards (BBF) applicants and recipients are caregivers responsible for at least two dependents (children, Elders, partners, etc.)

**KEY TAKEAWAY**  
The findings of this study are useful as proof-of-concept to advocate for increased funding for Indigenous caregivers in PSE, with a focus on targeted mentorship.

*"[T]he Building Brighter Futures Award has given me [the] opportunity to support my family and provide a roof over their head for the duration of a semester. Without the award, financially supporting my children ... would have been almost next to impossible. It provided a financial cushion throughout the academic year."*

**\$3,913**  
Average amount of additional financial need for BBF recipients who are caregivers vs. non-caregivers

**Areas of study lacking funding**  
Academic Upgrading, Business, Interdisciplinary Studies and Law, had the fewest awards allocated for caregivers. They have an increased average financial need average of **\$5,194** compared to those with no dependents.

**Heightened financial constraints**  
Over half of caregivers recipients stated the BBF award helped to relieve financial burdens, whether alleviating the stresses of supporting a family, or helping with rent or childcare.

**18%**  
Percentage of caregiver's financial needs met in this period, as opposed to 25% for non-caregiver applicants

To meet at least 25% of caregiver's need, an increase of **\$4,892,890** in funding for caregivers (**\$1,091 per award**) is required.



WITHIN A GENERATION, EVERY INDIGENOUS STUDENT WILL GRADUATE.

— INDSPIRE'S NORTH STAR

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