Dr. Geoff Pawson Legacy Scholarship Guideline

Effective: November 2026 Next Review Date: November 2030

1. Purpose

The Dr. Geoffrey Pawson Legacy Scholarship was established to honour the enduring impact of Dr. Geoffrey Pawson's vision, leadership, and unwavering belief in the potential of children, youth, and families.

This scholarship is intended to support individuals as they pursue education, training, or personal development goals, while also celebrating the strength it takes to overcome adversity and move forward with purpose. In keeping with Dr. Pawson's legacy and his support of learning, the award reflects a commitment to dignity, possibility, and the belief that every person deserves the chance to thrive.

2. Eligibility

This scholarship is open to individuals who have resided at Ranch Ehrlo as part of their programming, either currently or in the past, as a child, youth, or adult. This may include, for example, participation in group and supported living programs, family treatment programs, or treatment foster care programs.

The scholarship supports a wide range of pathways, including post-secondary education leading to a certificate, diploma, or degree; apprenticeship programs; micro-credentials; trade schools; and other specialized or career-focused training opportunities.

In keeping with Dr. Pawson's legacy, emphasis will be placed on recognizing potential, honouring individual journeys, and supporting pathways toward hope, stability, and belonging.

3. Value

The value of the Dr. Geoffrey Pawson Legacy Scholarship may vary each year based on available funding and the number of applicants selected. Individual awards may range, with the intent of supporting multiple recipients whenever possible.

As a general guideline, the typical annual scholarship value is not to exceed $5,000 per recipient per year. To reflect different types of learning opportunities, awards may be tiered as follows:

a. Up to $2,500 for micro-credentials and certificate programs.
b. Up to $5,000 for degree, diploma apprenticeship, or trade programs.

These amounts are intended as guidelines rather than strict limits. In exceptional circumstances, and where funding permits, the total scholarship amount may be increased up to a maximum of $10,000 per recipient per fiscal year, at the discretion of the selection committee.

Scholarship funds may be applied toward tuition, program fees, books, supplies, tools, and other education and training-related expenses.

4. Tenure

In recognition that growth and education often take place over time, the Dr. Geoffrey Pawson Legacy Scholarship may be renewed annually for recipients who are continuing to pursue their goals and demonstrating ongoing effort and progress. Renewal is dependent on continued eligibility and available funding.

5. Administration

The administration of this scholarship reflects a commitment to reducing barriers, honouring individual journeys, and creating meaningful opportunities in a manner that is respectful, inclusive, empowering, and relationship-centered.

Applicants can submit their responses in the format that works best for them, including written, video, or audio submissions. We place the highest value on personal stories, goals, and lived experiences, rather than formal academic records. What matters most is effort, growth, and clear intention, not perfect writing.

Resumes or transcripts are not required, though they may be included if helpful. The focus is on the applicant's personal responses and journey.

Recipients may be eligible to renew the scholarship annually, using a simple form to highlight their progress and next steps. Updates may also be shared to celebrate achievements and maintain connection, rather than to create administrative burden.

6. Review and Selection

Applications for the Dr. Geoffrey Pawson Legacy Scholarship will be reviewed by a committee approved by the CEO, reflecting a range of perspectives connected to Ranch Ehrlo and Dr. Pawson's legacy. The committee will include:

a. Representatives from Ranch Ehrlo program leadership;
b. A representative from the Ranch Ehrlo finance team; and
c. Alumni, family, or community members familiar with Dr. Pawson's legacy and Ranch Ehrlo programs (where possible).

Reviewers will use the Dr. Geoffrey Pawson Legacy Scholarship Application Scoring Rubric when assessing applications. Individual scores and comments will be brought forward to the full committee for discussions. The committee will convene to review and finalize decisions, ideally meeting in person or virtually; however, when a meeting is not feasible, deliberations and decisions may be conducted via email. The committee will then identify recipients and determine the amount awarded to each individual, within available funds and established guidelines.

Applicants will be notified of the committee's decision by the committee's administrator.

a. Successful applicants will receive:
    i. Written confirmation, as well as a phone call, regarding their successful application.
    ii. The amount of funding approved and information on how and when funds will be disbursed.

iii. Information about renewal and how to share progress and stay connected.

b. Applicants who are not selected will be offered:
   i. A brief explanation.
   ii. Information about re-applying in future cycles and, where possible, other potential resources or supports.

7. Stewardship and Sustainability

To ensure the long-term impact of the scholarship, the fund will be managed carefully with a goal of maintaining a minimum fund balance of $150,000.

To protect the fund and support future recipients an annual cap on the total value of scholarships awarded each fiscal year will be $10,000. This cap is intended to balance meaningful support for recipients with the need to preserve the fund over time, and may be reviewed periodically based on:

a. The overall fund balance;
b. Interest earned and other revenue; and
c. The number and type of applications received.

Ongoing promotion and storytelling will help raise awareness, celebrate recipients, and support the scholarship's growth. In this way, the Dr. Geoff Pawson Legacy Scholarship can continue to provide meaningful opportunities for generations to come, honouring Dr. Pawson's vision and legacy.

President/CEO Signature	November 4, 2026 **Date Approved**