

December 16, 2024
BGC Big Brothers Big Sisters of Edmonton & Area

Dear King's University Career Centre,

We would like to invite your students to apply to participate as a volunteer in a short-term (pilot) bursary program with BGC Big Brothers Big Sisters of Edmonton & Area (BGCBigs) in our **Mentoring Youth & Young Adults in Care program**. This is an opportunity outside of a practicum and students would be enrolled as volunteers with BGCBigs.

This bursary program is open to 25 post-secondary students, who are based in the Edmonton & Area. The program will award a \$1,000 bursary to all participants upon successful completion of the program.

Space is limited. Deadline to apply is January, 31, 2025.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Mentoring Youth & Young Adults in Care (MYYAC) program is an extension of BGCBigs' Big Brothers Big Sisters program and is designed for young people who have current or previous involvement with Children Services and may be living in alternate arrangements, such as foster homes.

We currently have a waitlist of young adults (ages 16-24) who are waiting to be matched with a mentor. The goal of the MYYAC Mentor program is to reduce this waitlist, while providing post-secondary students a unique opportunity to gain valuable real-world experience.

By participating in BGCBigs' MYYAC Mentor pilot program, **students will gain new experience, build their resume, boost their profile, earn a \$1,000 bursary, and of course make a positive difference in the lives of young adults.**

Volunteer expectations

- Volunteers must be in a place in their own life where they are able to support a marginalized vulnerable person that may be going through a lot.
- Volunteers will mentor a young adult (ages 16-24) from March 2025 through the end of August 2025.
- Volunteers will spend time with their mentee by supporting them through the different challenges and goals that come at these ages, from helping their mentee learn independent living skills (resume building, money management, fitness/wellness) to simply hanging out, becoming friends and increasing their network of support.
- BGCBigs will support the mentoring matches by providing tickets and/or passes to community events, cultural experiences, local festivals or shows across the city.

Successful completion of the program requires:

- Proof of post-secondary enrollment.
- Completion of BGCBigs enrollment and screening process, including the Enhanced Volunteer training to be completed between January and March of 2025.
- Volunteers must remain in good-standing for the duration of the volunteer commitment.

With this letter, **we're hoping you will share this opportunity with your fellow colleagues and students, as our deadline for applications is fast approaching on January 31, 2025.**

Students can learn more by sending an email to Danielle Newman, Volunteer Recruitment Specialist at Danielle.newman@bgcbigs.ca.

To apply today, students can fill out the [online application form at bgcbigs.ca/volunteer](https://bgcbigs.ca/volunteer) and choose "Mentoring Youth & Young Adults from Care" in the dropdown menu when asked what program they are applying for.

We appreciate any help you're willing to provide.

Sincerely,

Danielle Newman, Volunteer Recruitment Specialist
BGC Big Brothers Big Sisters of Edmonton & Area