



Canada Student Loans and Grants



Getting a university, college or trade school education has never been more important.

Canada Student Loans and Grants, together with provincial or territorial student assistance programs, make getting an education more affordable for students from low- and middle-income families.

Recent changes to federal student financial assistance mean more money is available in grants, so you will have less debt to repay and more flexibility in how and when you repay your loans. Grants do not need to be paid back.

What's available in loans?

- » Up to \$210 per week in federal loans for full-time students. (Provincial and territorial governments also offer student loan programs.)
- » Up to \$10,000 in federal loans for part-time students.

What's available in grants?

- » **New!** \$250 per month of study for full-time students from low-income families.
- » **New!** \$100 per month of study for full-time students from middle-income families.
- » \$1,200 per year in grants for part-time students from low-income families.

These grants can be combined with those available for students with permanent disabilities and for students with dependants.

Am I eligible?

To be eligible, you must be:

- » a Canadian citizen, permanent resident or a protected person; and
- » accepted to or enrolled in a degree, diploma or certificate program of at least 12 weeks at a designated post-secondary institution.

Canada Student Grants for students from low- or middle-income families are available each year of an undergraduate university, college or trade school program that is at least two years (60 weeks) in duration.

Visit CanLearn.ca or contact your provincial or territorial student aid office for details on all eligibility criteria.

Are Canada Student Loans and Grants available where I live?

Canada Student Loans and Grants are available across Canada, except for students whose permanent address is in Quebec, the Northwest Territories or Nunavut.

Canada Student Loans and Grants are integrated with provincial programs in Saskatchewan, Ontario, New Brunswick, and Newfoundland and Labrador. The name may be different, but the same level of federal assistance is available.

How do I apply?

- » Apply through your provincial or territorial student aid office. Visit CanLearn.ca for links and contact information.
- » Submit the application directly online, or print the application, complete it by hand, and submit it as directed.
- » Paper forms may be available at your educational institution or provincial or territorial student aid office.
- » Read all the instructions before you start filling out the application.

When you qualify for a loan, your eligibility for Canada Student Grants will be automatically assessed. (A separate application is needed only for the Grant for Services and Equipment for Students with Permanent Disabilities.)

Some things to remember before you apply:

- » You only need to pay back loans, not grants.
- » While in school, you can earn up to \$50 a week without it affecting how much assistance you can get.
- » Merit-based scholarships (up to \$1,800 per school year) and certain bursaries do not affect the amount of loans and grants you can get.

How much money can I get?

Use the Student Loan Estimator on CanLearn.ca to get an idea of how much you may qualify for.

The amount of money from loans and grants you get depends on:

- » the province or territory in which you reside;
- » your education-related costs, such as tuition and fees, books and supplies, and computer-related costs; and
- » sources of funding such as savings, scholarships and bursaries, earnings from a summer job, and expected parental or spousal contributions.

When do I repay my student loan?

- » You begin repaying your student loans six months after you graduate or stop going to school on a full-time basis.
- » During this six-month grace period, you will not be asked to make loan payments, but interest will accumulate on your loan.

If you have difficulty paying back your loan, the Repayment Assistance Plan will allow you to only pay back what you can reasonably afford. In certain cases, you would not have to make any loan payments until your income increases.

Are Canada Student Loans and Grants right for me?

Government student loans and grants are just one option to consider when you are looking to pay for school.

Explore other options, including applying for scholarships and saving more money while you are working, so that you borrow only what you really need.

For more information, visit Canlearn.ca

National Student Loans Service Centre
P.O. Box 4030
Mississauga ON L5A 4M4
Toll Free: 1 888-815-4514 (within North America)
TTY: 1 888-815-4556

This publication is also available in alternative formats (Braille, CD, large print, computer diskette, or audiocassette) by calling 1 800 O-Canada (1-800-622-6232). TTY users should call 1-800-926-9105.

Cette publication est aussi disponible en français, sous le titre *Le Programme canadien de prêts et bourses – Points saillants pour les étudiants.*



For more information, visit CanLearn.ca