



Summary of the Evaluation of the Canada Student Loans Program

The Canada Student Loans Program provides financial assistance to students to help them access and afford post-secondary education. In 2018–19, the program provided \$5.2 billion in student loans and grants to close to 700,000 students.

KEY FINDINGS

The findings outlined the importance of the Program in facilitating access to post-secondary education and helping students persist during their studies and graduate.

	<p>Without the federal portion of their student loans and grants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Many (41%) program participants indicated that they would have delayed their studies, while some (13%) indicated they would not have pursued any post-secondary studies.• Many (39%) indicated they would not have enrolled in the same program.		<p>Among borrowers who completed their program, many (36%) indicated that they would not have persisted during their studies and graduated, without the federal portion of their student loans and grants.</p>
	<p>Most (83%) program participants completed a post-secondary program.</p>		<p>Half of those who dropped out of their program before completion did so for financial reasons. They indicated they would have continued their studies with a larger student loan.</p>
			<p>Program participants had limited understanding of how their student loans and grants were determined and of the different features of the Program.</p>



RECOMMENDATIONS

- Examine student financial need with a view to identify funding gaps faced by students.
- Further enhance awareness and understanding of the program among Canada Student Grant and Loan recipients.

The full Evaluation of the Canada Student Loans Program is available here:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/corporate/reports/evaluations/2021-student-loans-evaluation.html>

