



## Funding your child's post-secondary education

A post-secondary education is an important investment in your child's future. The Government of Alberta believes in students investing in their future by contributing towards the cost of their post-secondary education. Students could contribute from their savings or a combination of savings and part-time earnings. The government is committed to helping students reduce their financial barriers to post-secondary education through student loans and grants.



### Parental contribution

Parental contribution is part of the many financial factors taken into account during the student loan assessment process. You are expected to contribute to your child's education if your child is single and has been out of high school for four years or less.

You are not expected to contribute if your child has been working or available to work (full-time) for a minimum of two years during the four years since graduating from high school. In some cases, financial hardship may prohibit your parental contribution.

The Canada Student Loans Program at [canlearn.ca](http://canlearn.ca) offers a parental contribution calculator to help estimate the amount of money parents should contribute to their children's education. Check out the Parental Contribution Calculator at [canlearn.ca](http://canlearn.ca) under **Online Tools**.

Expected parental contribution depends upon:

- Resources
- Family size
- The number of dependents in the family who are attending post-secondary studies



Encourage your child to apply for scholarships! Check out over 500 scholarships, grants and awards in the Scholarship Connections database at [alis.alberta.ca/scholarships](http://alis.alberta.ca/scholarships).



## >> Calculating financial need

Eligibility for student funding depends on your child's financial need. That need is calculated using a simple formula:

$$\text{Allowable Expenses} - \text{Resources} = \text{Financial Assistance (loans and grants)}$$

Allowable Costs include:	Resources included:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tuition</li> <li>• Fees</li> <li>• Book Costs</li> <li>• Transportation</li> <li>• Medical Costs</li> <li>• Basic Living Costs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parental/Family contributions</li> <li>• RESPs</li> <li>• Student's savings</li> <li>• Part-time earnings</li> <li>• Scholarships/Bursaries</li> </ul>

## >> How much does a post-secondary education cost?

Typical costs for an 8-month University or College program in Alberta:

Costs	Single and living with parents	Single and living independently
Tuition and Fees	\$ 5,480	\$ 5,480
Books and Supplies	\$ 1,700	\$ 1,700
Living Expenses	\$ 3,456	\$ 7,528
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 10,284</b>	<b>\$ 14,356</b>

## >> For more information...

- Email Students Finance using the secure e-Contact service at [alis.alberta.ca/econtact](mailto:alis.alberta.ca/econtact)
- Go to the Alberta Learning Information Services (ALIS) website at [alis.alberta.ca/studentsfinance](http://alis.alberta.ca/studentsfinance)
- Canada Student Loans website at [canlearn.ca](http://canlearn.ca)
- The financial aid office at your child's post secondary institution
- Your nearest **Alberta Service Centre** or **Canada-Alberta Service Centre**
- The Student Funding Contact Centre: in Edmonton 780-427-3722, or toll free in Canada 1-800-222-6485