

What's your story?

Carla

Carla is a 35-year-old single mother of one child. She's going back to school to upgrade her education and become a nurse. With one small child, she has decided that a part-time job plus school work isn't feasible. Because of her circumstances, she will qualify for both federal and provincial government student funding (grants, bursaries, and loans) to fund the majority of her education. A portion of her student loan may be repaid by the Alberta government through its [Alberta Student Loan Relief Program](#).

Aaron

Aaron is starting college in two months to study hotel and restaurant management. He found a job for the summer where he'll make decent money, but not nearly enough to cover all his expenses for the eight months he's in school. He plans to use a student loan to cover part of his education and living costs, but to avoid taking on a big debt, he plans to work part-time through the school year. He'll graduate with \$5,000 in student loans.

two different students, two different stories. But they have something in common — they both made informed choices about how they'll pay for their education.

It's your education — and you're in control of how you choose to pay for it. Sometimes it seems like those choices are limited, but it's up to you to make sure you've explored all the options.

Education isn't cheap, but when you're done, you'll be in a position to get a better job. Over the long term, you'll earn back your investment many times over.

Remember that on a Friday night when your friends are going out and all you've got in your pocket is lint.

This is a book about your options.

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