

Key Updates for Program Year 2025-26 Including Student Information Management System (SIMS) Changes for Part-Time

StudentAid BC Key Updates:

- All British Columbia authorized and regulated online programs offered by British Columbia public and private post-secondary institutions that meet StudentAid BC basic program eligibility requirements will continue to be eligible for student financial assistance for Program Year 2025-26. **Note:** A one-year moratorium is in effect restricting student financial assistance eligibility for new 100% online programs, not previously approved by StudentAid BC, offered by B.C. private post-secondary institutions. An exception to the moratorium may be considered at the discretion of StudentAid BC. To request a review of exceptional circumstances, please contact Designat@gov.bc.ca.
 - Post-secondary institutions located outside of British Columbia must continue to meet basic and specific StudentAid BC [program eligibility requirements](#) to be eligible for student financial assistance for online, blended or distance learning programs.
- Provincial Tuition Waiver Program policy has been updated to clarify eligibility for domestic tuition and eligible fees under the program.
- Provincial Tuition Waiver Program exception policy has been updated to remove the location of study category, as it is no longer eligible for a review of exceptional circumstances.
- Provincial Tuition Waiver Program students are eligible to receive two Learning for Future Grants (one per program year) if the program or course duration is a minimum of six weeks, or 35 tuition hours, in each of the two program years.

Canada Student Financial Assistance Program Key Updates:

- The interest free Canada Student Loan maximum amount, increased from \$210 to \$300 per week of study, or \$15,600 a year for a 52-week study period, is continued for Program Year 2025-26.
- Canada Student Grant maximum amounts increased by 40% above pre-pandemic levels are continued for Program Year 2025-26.
 - **Canada Student Grant for Full-Time Students** (from \$375 to \$525 per month of study)
 - **Canada Student Grant for Full-Time Students with Dependents** (from \$200 to \$280 per month of study)

- **Canada Student Grant for Students with Disabilities** (from \$2,000 to \$2,800 for the academic year)
 - **Canada Student Grant for Part-Time Studies** (from \$1,800 to \$2,520 for the academic year)
 - **Canada Student Grant for Part-Time Students with Dependants** (from \$1,920 to \$2,688 for the academic year)
- For part-time students, a \$3,000 maximum for books and supplies applies to the individual student within the loan year (52 weeks).
- With the implementation of SIMS for full-time students (date to be determined) Chapter 14, Table 2: Books and Supplies is amended to:
 - For study period offerings of 12-18 weeks (previously 12-17 weeks), the maximum books and supplies allowance will be \$1,500.
 - For study period offerings of 19-34 weeks, and 35-52 weeks, the maximum books and supplies allowance will be \$3,000 (unchanged).
- Students who are married or in a common-law relationship, and are experiencing intimate partner violence, where it is unreasonable for the student to provide partner income/information, may submit their application under a new student category requesting a review of their exceptional circumstances. Upon approval, the student will then be assessed for eligibility as an independent single student or as a single parent. Based on the re-categorization, all associated policies such as eligibility, the calculation of financial need, and disbursement of loans and grants will apply.
- A new repayment assistance policy allows borrowers having difficulty repaying their Canada-B.C. integrated student loan to make temporary minimum payments of no less than \$20 per month (\$10 per loan type), in intervals of up to six months or less, to a maximum of twelve months over the course of their current loan repayment period.
- A new rehabilitation of Canada-B.C. integrated student loans policy allows a maximum lifetime limit of two times a borrower can rehabilitate their B.C. student loan after default. Borrowers who default again after rehabilitating twice, are not eligible to rehabilitate their loan again. Borrowers can submit an appeal request to rehabilitate their B.C. student loan.
- Students who receive their permanent social insurance number card/letter must scan and upload their document to their StudentAid BC account or notify StudentAid BC by email at StudentAidBC@gov.bc.ca so that their student file can be updated. Additionally, students who are issued a new social insurance number while having a loan associated to an old social insurance number are required to report the change to the National Student Loan Service Centre.