



PROVINCIAL TUITION WAIVER PROGRAM AND LEARNING FOR FUTURE GRANT

Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills

WHAT IS THE PROVINCIAL TUITION WAIVER PROGRAM?

- The program waives tuition and eligible fees for B.C. students with lived experience in government care.
- It applies to programs and courses at the undergraduate level, while studying full- or part-time at one of the 25 B.C. public post-secondary institutions, the Native Education College, and approved union-based trades training providers.
- Currently, over 850 former youth in care are benefiting from the program, showing an increase from 189 former youth in care when the program was launched in 2017.
- Students are enrolled in all types of programs - social work, academic arts, nursing, pre-medical studies, trades, business administration and graphic design.

WHAT IS THE LEARNING FOR FUTURE GRANT?

- The Learning for Future Grant provides an annual grant of \$3,500 per program year to eligible current or former youth in care students to assist with additional education related costs that are not covered by the Provincial Tuition Waiver Program (e.g. textbooks, computers, supplies, etc.).
- The grant is available to full-time or part-time students who meet the eligibility criteria requirements for the Provincial Tuition Waiver Program and are enrolled in a program or course that leads, or will lead, to a credential at the undergraduate level.

WHAT ARE THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA?

- Adopted through the B.C. Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) or Indigenous Child and Family Service Agency (ICFSA); or
- Formerly in the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction's Child in the Home of a Relative Program; or
- Formerly in any of the below B.C. MCFD or ICFSA Legal Statuses at the time you turn(ed) 19 or for at least 24 months (730 days).

Eligible Legal Statuses:

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| ■ Continuing Custody Order | ■ Permanent Transfer of Custody Order |
| ■ Temporary Custody Order | ■ Temporary Transfer of Custody |
| ■ Special Needs Agreement | ■ Under the guardianship of a director pursuant to the <i>Infants Act</i> |
| ■ Voluntary Care Agreement | ■ Under the guardianship of a director of adoption pursuant to the <i>Adoptions Act</i> |
| ■ Youth Agreement | |
| ■ Extended Family Program | |
| ■ Interim Custody Order | |

Quick Facts:

- The 2023 program expansion will create opportunities for approximately 50,000 current or former youth in care in B.C.
- About 2,100 students currently in the post-secondary education system are recipients or are eligible for the tuition waiver program.
- To date, approximately 2,300 students studying at B.C. public post-secondary institutions, the Native Education College, and approved union-based trades training providers have accessed the Provincial Tuition Waiver Program since implementation in 2017 resulting in \$16.6 million in tuition and fees waived.

Quotes:

- *"The Provincial Tuition Waiver Program offers to those who have been in care, the possibility to make strong strides towards the life they want to live, even if they, like me, once thought that life was unattainable."* Mallory, VIU
- *"Overall, it's been a big stress reliever and allowed me to focus on my studies."* Kyle, SFU
- *"Now, my narrative is more than my past. I identify as a university student, professional and activist."* Ruby, VIU

Timeline:

- **Pre-September 2017:** A voluntary patchwork of bursaries and grants at 11 public post-secondary institutions
- **September 2017:** Expansion to all 25 public post-secondary institutions
- **Budget 2018:** \$2 million annually for the Provincial Tuition Waiver Program
- **Budget 2018:** Expansion of the Ministry of Children and Family Development's Agreements with Young Adults
- **June 2018:** Announced \$250,000 contribution to the Youth Futures Education fund for additional wrap around supports
- **July 2018:** expanded to 10 union trades training providers
- **Budget 2020:** \$4 million annually for the Provincial Tuition Waiver Program
- **Budget 2023:** \$19.2 million over three years for the Provincial Tuition Waiver Program expansion.

HOW DO I APPLY?

- Want to learn more? Visit the Provincial Tuition Waiver Program and Learning for Future Grant webpages.
- Have a question? Email tuitionwaiver@gov.bc.ca
- Current students can visit their institution's financial aid office and complete an application form to validate their eligibility.

WHERE CAN I STUDY?

25 B.C. public post-secondary institutions, Native Education College, and approved union-based trades training providers.

