2026-2027

Student Financial Assistance Handbook

Canada New Nouveau Brunswick

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Contact Information

For information regarding your application, contact:

STUDENT FINANCIAL SERVICES

Telephone:	1-800-667-5626 506-453-2577
Fax:	506-444-4333
Telephone Hours:	8:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Monday to Friday 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Saturday
Mailing Address:	Student Financial Services Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour Beaverbrook Building, P.O. Box 6000 Fredericton, New Brunswick E3B 5H1
Website:	gnb.ca/studentaid

All documentation can be submitted electronically by visiting gnb.ca/studentaid and selecting *Upload a Document*.

For information about disbursements and repayment of your Canada-New Brunswick Integrated Student Loan, contact:

NATIONAL STUDENT LOANS SERVICE CENTRE (NSLSC)

Telephone:	1-888-815-4514 or 800-2-225-2501 outside North America plus country code
TTY:	1-888-815-4556
Mailing Address:	P.O. Box 4030 Mississauga, Ontario L5A 4M4
Website:	nslsc.ca

Ce document est aussi disponible en français.

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Introduction

The Government of Canada and the Government of New Brunswick work together to provide student financial assistance (referred to as "assistance") in New Brunswick. Loans, grants and bursaries are available to help students access and afford post-secondary education.

Student financial assistance is needs-based and is not intended to fully fund your post secondary education and living costs. It is meant to supplement, not replace, other resources to pay for post-secondary education. You may want to look at other options to help with your costs such as:

- Employment;
- Internship or co-op programs offered for your program of study;
- Bursaries, grants and scholarships;
- Savings; and
- Funding from parents and relatives.

This handbook contains important information on both the New Brunswick Student Financial Assistance Program and the Canada Student Financial Assistance Program. While these two programs differ, they have been integrated for administrative purposes. A single application is used to determine your eligibility for student financial assistance from both governments.

In this handbook you will learn about programs and options available to you. General information is provided on eligibility criteria, how to apply for assistance and how assistance is calculated. Funding amounts and other loan year specific information can be found in the Program Highlights and Funding Information document available at gnb.ca/studentaid.

You can get additional information about financial assistance for part-time studies at canada.ca/student-financial-assistance. A separate application form, available at gnb.ca/studentaid, is required for part-time funding.

This handbook reflects information and policies in effect at the time of publication. Every effort has been made to ensure its accuracy, but changes can occur at any time. As a borrower, you will be advised of any program changes that affect you.

Eligibility Criteria

You are eligible to apply for full-time assistance in New Brunswick if you:

- are a Canadian citizen, permanent resident, a protected person or an individual registered under the *Indian Act*, regardless of your citizenship;
- are a New Brunswick resident, as defined by the program;
- have financial need according to program criteria;
- are enrolled or qualified to enroll in an approved degree, diploma or certificate program that is at least 12 weeks in duration at a designated post-secondary school;
- will be taking at least 60% of a full course load, or 40% if you are a student with a permanent disability or a persistent or prolonged disability;
    - if you are taking a course load that is less than 60%, or 40% if you are a student with a permanent disability or a persistent or prolonged disability, you may be eligible for part-time student financial assistance
- maintain a satisfactory scholastic standard in your studies;
- are not delinquent or in default on a previous student loan;
- pass a credit check if you are 22 years of age or older and have never received student financial assistance (provincial funding only);
- have not exceeded your program length plus one additional study period (Periods of Study +1 maximum); and
- have not exhausted the lifetime assistance limit:
    - 340 weeks of assistance;
    - 400 weeks for students in doctoral studies; or
    - 520 weeks for students with a disability.

Note: *International students that are neither permanent residents nor protected persons are not eligible for student financial assistance.*

Check with your school to ensure it is designated for the purposes of student financial assistance or visit www.canada.ca/student-financial-assistance for a list of designated post-secondary schools. Your school must be designated and your program of study must qualify in order for you to receive funding. The processing time for your application may be extended if your school and/or program of study are not currently designated in New Brunswick. Student Financial Services may deny applications in situations where a school is being reviewed for compliance related issues. If you have questions regarding a school's designation, please contact Student Financial Services.

Student financial assistance funding cannot be issued for non-degree programs, qualifying years or academic upgrading. Also, funding cannot be considered for courses that are not a requirement of the student's program of study. Individuals in periods of practical training that take place after graduating from the program of study, such as medical internship or residency, dietetic internship or legal articling, are not considered full-time students and therefore are not eligible for student financial assistance.

You can receive funding for a maximum of two certificate or diploma programs. You may be eligible for assistance beyond the maximum if you can demonstrate that the additional certificate or diploma program represents academic progression leading to an increased lifelong earning potential.

Available Financial Assistance

Post-secondary education is a worthwhile investment but it is also a serious commitment. Being financially prepared means knowing how much your education will cost and making decisions about how you will meet your financial needs. When planning for your education, you should consider tuition costs, textbooks and learning materials, as well as transportation and living costs while in school.

ASSISTANCE FOR PART-TIME STUDIES

The Government of Canada offers student grants and loans to part-time students. Visit www.canada.ca/student-financial-assistance for more information on the programs available for students studying part-time. The Part-Time Student Loan and Grant Application is available at gnb.ca/studentaid. Your application, with all required information, must be received **at least six weeks** before the end date of your period of study session (four weeks if you are attending intersession or summer session) as funding cannot be issued past your period of study end date.

ASSISTANCE FOR FULL-TIME STUDIES

Funding is available to help access and pay for full-time post-secondary education. When you apply for student financial assistance in New Brunswick, you will be considered for a combination of loans, grants and bursaries from both the Government of New Brunswick and the Government of Canada.

Loans (Repayable Funding)

The Province of New Brunswick offers Canada-New Brunswick integrated student loans. An integrated student loan has two lenders, the governments of Canada and New Brunswick. Loan funding, up to a maximum amount per week of study, is provided in the form of Canada Student Loans and New Brunswick Student Loans.

Although loan funding is provided by the two governments, it is administered as a single loan. This streamlines service delivery as students sign a joint federal provincial loan agreement and have a single point of contact for managing their loans. When it's time to repay, students make just one monthly payment towards their integrated loan balance.

Grants and Bursaries (Non-Repayable Funding)

Students who qualify for a student loan and meet the eligibility requirements may be eligible to receive one or more of the following student grants or bursaries.

The Canada Student Grant for Full-Time Students (CSG-FT) provides students from low- and middle-income families with non-repayable financial assistance for all years of full-time studies in an approved undergraduate university or college post-secondary program of at least 60 weeks in duration. Eligibility is based on a progressive income threshold considering family size and income level.

The Renewed Tuition Bursary Program (RTB) provides qualifying students with a portion of tuition costs up to a maximum amount depending on whether they are attending a university or a college.

To be eligible for the RTB, all of the following requirements must be met:

- apply to the New Brunswick Student Financial Assistance Program and demonstrate eligibility for federal and provincial funding;

- be enrolled full-time in an undergraduate degree, diploma or certificate program, at a public or private university or college located in New Brunswick;
- meet the income threshold requirements;
- not have exceeded the loan year* RTB maximum;
  **Loan year is defined as August 1 of each year to July 31 the following year.*
- not have exceeded the tuition bursary lifetime limit (encompasses tuition bursaries received since 2016):
  - three academic years for college programs;
  - four academic years for most university programs/five years if that is the established timeline of the program; and
  - four years for a combination of college and university studies/five years if that is the established timeline of the program.

The New Brunswick Bursary (NBB) is available to eligible students that are enrolled in a full-time course load whose assessed need is greater than the maximum student loans available. Students must be studying at a New Brunswick post-secondary school or a public post-secondary school outside of New Brunswick.

The Canada Student Grant for Full-Time Students with Dependants (CSG-DEP) provides an amount per month of study, per child who is under 12 years of age (or a dependant with a permanent disability who is 12 or older) at the beginning of the academic year to students who meet the eligibility requirement. Eligibility is based on a progressive income threshold considering family size and income level.

The Canada Student Grant for Students with Disabilities **(CSG-D)** is available to students with a permanent disability or a persistent or prolonged disability to help reduce the costs they face when participating in a post-secondary program.

The Canada Student Grant for Services and Equipment—Students with Disabilities **(CSG-DSE)** is available to students with disabilities who qualify for the Canada Student Grant for Students with Disabilities and who have exceptional education-related costs such as tutors, note-takers, interpreters, braillers or technical aids. A separate application form is required for this grant and is available at gnb.ca/studentaid. Once your application is processed, you will receive written notification of your eligibility.

Applying for Full-Time Student Financial Assistance

Submit your online application early to ensure that you receive your funds at the start of your study period. Applications for each loan year are available in May/June. Remember that you only have to fill out one application to be considered for a Canada-New Brunswick Integrated Student Loan, grants and bursaries.

The online application can be accessed at gnb.ca/studentaid. If you are unable to apply online, you can submit a printable application which is available upon request. If you have questions or need help with your application, contact Student Financial Services at 1-800-667-5626.

Before Study Period Begins	
Three months before study period start date	Complete your application. Submit your required documents to Student Financial Services. All documents must be received at least 6 weeks before the start date to receive funding by the time your classes begin.
When you receive your Notice of Assessment	New applicants must complete the online Master Student Financial Assistance Agreement (MSFAA) with the National Student Loans Service Centre (NSLSC). If you have already signed an MSFAA, you do not need to sign a new agreement.
Study Period Begins	
Start of study period (First Disbursement)	A portion of your Canada student grants and loans as well as a portion of New Brunswick student loans and bursaries will be issued as follows: - approximately 50% of the Canada student grants - approximately 50% of the Renewed Tuition Bursary - approximately 60% of the Canada student loan - approximately 60% of the NB student loan Your school may request all or a portion of the funding be paid directly towards academic fees.
Mid-point of study period (Second Disbursement)	Second portion of your funding will be issued including the remaining amount for the funding programs noted above as well as the full amount of the New Brunswick Bursary (if applicable).
While in studies	Inform Student Financial Services immediately of any changes to course load, income or personal information.
Program Ends or Withdrawal from Studies	
Approximately five months after end date (unless NSLSC is notified of return to full-time studies)	Consolidation information is sent from the NSLSC.
End of seventh month (unless NSLSC is notified of return to full-time studies)	First loan payment due.

***Note**: Applications with supporting documentation and any changes must be received 6 weeks before your study period end date to allow time for processing. Funding cannot be issued after your study period has ended.*

Important Reminders

- If you meet the criteria for requiring a *Request for Program Information* form to be submitted by your school, your application cannot be assessed until that form is received.
- Selecting the incorrect student category will delay the assessment of your application. If you are not sure which category applies to you, please contact our office for assistance.
- If your income tax information appears to be inaccurate or rounded incorrectly, you will be required to provide additional documentation for the assessment of your application to be completed.
- If you are a Permanent Resident or Protected Person, clear copies of your Permanent Resident card or Protected Person Status Document, as detailed in the notes of the online application, must be provided for your application to be processed.
- When applying for the first time as a student with a disability, you must provide the required *Disability Verification Form* and associated documents for your application to be assessed for any funding.
- Individuals or parents of applicants who claim someone as a wholly dependent person for income tax purposes are required to provide additional tax documentation.
- Dependent students with a sibling attending post-secondary education who is not applying for student financial assistance, must provide confirmation of enrolment from the sibling's school.

More detailed information on avoiding delays in the assessment of your application can be found within the online application at gnb.ca/studentaid.

How Assistance is Calculated

Financial need is the amount you require to help you meet your financial commitments. The formula to calculate the amount of assistance you will receive is as follows:

ALLOWABLE COSTS - RESOURCES = ASSESSED NEED

There are four steps in the need assessment process for full-time students:

1. Your student category is identified.
2. Your education costs and living allowances are assessed.
3. Your resources are determined.
4. Your financial need is calculated.

Students with a positive assessed need will be eligible for assistance as explained in this handbook. Students with a negative assessed need are deemed to have sufficient resources to cover the costs of attending post-secondary studies and are not eligible for funding.

STEP 1: DETERMINE YOUR STUDENT CATEGORY AND GROSS FAMILY INCOME

Student Categories

When you apply for full-time assistance, you will be classified as belonging to one of the following four categories. This category will help to determine how your financial need is calculated:

A Dependent Student:

- Has no children; and
- Has been out of high school for less than four years before the first day of class of the current study period; or
- Has been in the work force for less than two years (two periods of 12 consecutive months) before the first day of class of the current study period.

An Independent Student:

- Does not have legal and physical custody and responsibility of dependent children; and
- Has been out of high school for four years or more before the first day of class of the current study period; or
- Has been in the workforce for at least two years (two periods of 12 consecutive months) before the first day of class of the current study period; or
- Is currently or has been a person in permanent care with the Department of Social Development or is receiving/have received financial assistance under Youth Engagement and Young Adult Services (YEYAS); or
- Has no parent, guardian, sponsor or other supporting relative due to death or disappearance.

A Married Student or Common-Law Student:

- Is legally married; or
- Is receiving social assistance as a family unit from the Department of Social Development; or
- Is in a common-law relationship and claimed a marital status of common-law on the previous year's income tax return; or
- Is the parent of one or more dependent children and has physical custody and responsibility for the dependent children who live with them and their partner.

A Single Parent Student:

- Has custody of one or more dependent children who lives with them at least 50% of the time; and
- Is not married or common-law.

A previous year's gross family income is defined by student category:

- **Independent students and single parents:** family income is the student's income only (found on Line 15000 of the student's previous year's Income Tax Form).
- **Dependent students:** family income is the student's parental income only, which is used as a substitute for the dependent student (found on Line 15000 of each parent's previous year's Income Tax Form).
- **Married/common-law students:** family income is the student's income and partner's income (found on Line 15000 of each of their previous year's Income Tax Form).

STEP 2: CALCULATE YOUR TOTAL EDUCATIONAL AND LIVING COSTS

Living Allowance

Your living allowance provides money for shelter, food, miscellaneous expenses and local public transportation. It is a standard allowance for a moderate standard of living established by the federal government. The allowance amount is determined by your student category, family size, and province where you are studying.

Educational Costs

Educational costs include:

- actual tuition and compulsory fees as reported by your school; and
- an allowance for books and supplies, when applicable; and
- an allowance for computer-related costs.

Other Costs Considered

- return transportation; and
- childcare (if applicable).

STEP 3: DETERMINE YOUR RESOURCES

Important Note

If you are a dependent student or a married/common-law student, you can choose whether or not you want to include your parent's/partner's income information in your application.

- If you choose **not** to include parental/partner income information, you will be assessed for New Brunswick Student Loan **only**. Any reference to parental/partner income or contributions below will not apply to you.
- If you **do** provide your parental/partner income information, you will be considered for **all** programs (if applicable). The parental/partner contribution, if any, will be removed in the calculation of your New Brunswick Student Loan.

You do not need to give details for the following resources in your application:

- Registered Education Savings Plans (RESP), Registered Retirement Savings Plan (RRSP), Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP);
- savings, investments, tax free savings accounts, any other assets;
- employment or self employment income including tips or gratuities;
- social assistance benefits;
- Employment Insurance benefits;
- CPP/QPP benefits;
- Canada Child Benefit;
- Post-Secondary Student Support Program (PSSSP) funding;
- Métis Nation Post-Secondary Education Strategy funding;
- Inuit Post-Secondary Education Strategy funding.

Expected Contributions

You and your family are expected to contribute to the cost of your education. These contributions are used to determine how much assistance you are eligible to receive.

Student Contribution

The student contribution is comprised of:

- The fixed student contribution (described below);
- Any combined amount of merit-based scholarships or needs-based bursaries above $1,800 received in one loan year (e.g., university entrance scholarships, doctoral fellowships, and private sector scholarship funds); and
- Other funding you receive specifically to attend studies such as training allowances from private sector or government, **excluding** funding provided to eligible indigenous students by the Post-Secondary Student Support Program (PSSSP), the Métis Nation Post-Secondary Education Strategy, and the Inuit Post-Secondary Education Strategy.

Fixed Student Contribution

Students are expected to contribute to their educational costs by providing a fixed student contribution, with the exact amount being calculated based on their gross family income and family size. Students are expected to use their income, assets, and other resources to make a fixed student contribution to their education costs each year.

There is no fixed student contribution for Indigenous students, students with a disability, students with dependants and students who are, or were, children in permanent care under the Department of Social Development.

Parental Contribution

If you are a dependent student, your parents are expected to contribute towards your education. The amount of parental contribution will vary and depends on the family income, a moderate standard of living allowance and family size. Parents, their dependent children (including the student applying for assistance), and any dependants living in the household are all included to determine family size.

Completing the Parental Section of the application does not mean your parents are co-signing your student loans. You, as the applicant, are solely responsible for repaying your student loans.

A Parental Contribution Calculator is available on http://tools.canlearn.ca/cslgs-scpse/cln-cln/ccp-pcc/af.ccp-pcc_ecran-screen1-eng.do to estimate your parents' contribution.

Partner Contribution
For married and common-law students, your spouse/partner is expected to contribute to your post-secondary education. The contribution amount is based on gross family income and family size. The expected fixed partner contribution will be prorated weekly.

No fixed partner contributions are expected from partners who are students themselves, or partners in receipt of Employment Insurance benefits, social assistance, or federal or provincial disability benefits.

STEP 4: DETERMINE YOUR ASSESSED NEED

Once the costs of attending post-secondary studies have been determined, the financial resources available will be subtracted from those costs. This results in an assessed need:

- students with a positive assessed need will be eligible for assistance;
- students with a negative assessed need are deemed to have sufficient resources to cover the costs of attending post-secondary studies and are not eligible for funding.

FUNDING REVIEW

Not everyone receives the amount of full-time student financial assistance they may think they should be receiving. Not agreeing with the funding amount is not a valid reason for requesting a funding review, however, you can request a review of your assessment if:

- your circumstances have changed or prior information provided was incorrect;
- you believe an error has been made in assessing your application;
- you have extraordinary circumstances not addressed in the assessment of your application, such as medical expenses; or
- the current year's income is significantly lower than the previous year's provided in the application.

Note: *You must request a review of your assessment in writing and it must be submitted at least six weeks prior to the end of your study period. More information on the review process and the necessary documentation can be found at gnb.ca/studentaid.*

OVERAWARDS

An overaward is assistance you received for which you are not eligible. This can occur if your application is reassessed due to a change in your circumstances.

For example, if you leave your studies midway through your study period or if an audit of your application uncovered inaccurate information, Student Financial Services may determine that you have been overpaid.

The amount of any loan or bursary overaward will be recovered either by reducing the amount of student financial assistance you receive on future applications or through collections efforts.

If you withdraw from studies or change from full-time to part-time status within 30 days of the first day of classes, all or part of your Canada Student Grant that has been disbursed will be converted to a loan as outlined in your MSFAA. You will have the opportunity to repay this grant overaward immediately or this amount will be added to your outstanding loan principal at consolidation.

If a reassessment of your application determines that you provided inaccurate information and that you are ineligible for a full-time or part-time Canada Student Grant, all or part of your Canada Student Grant that has been issued will be converted into a loan as outlined in your MSFAA.

Receiving Your Funds

The National Student Loans Service Centre (NSLSC) administers your student financial assistance on behalf of the Government of Canada and the Government of New Brunswick.

FIRST TIME APPLICANTS

If you are a first-time applicant or are returning after a break of two or more years, once your application has been assessed, you will receive a Notice of Assessment (NOA) including:

- information on the amount of your assistance;
- when you will get your funding; and
- your 10-digit Master Student Financial Assistance Agreement (MSFAA) number.

The NSLSC will send you a "Welcome Email" approximately three days after the date on your NOA. This email will provide you a link through which you will use your MSFAA number to:

1. verify your identity by registering an account to access the NSLSC online services; and
2. complete your MSFAA where you will be asked to accept the Terms and Conditions of the agreement.

This process must be completed in order to receive your student financial assistance; therefore, you are required to provide an email address on your application.

To complete the process you will need to have the following information:

- your bank account information (transit, institution and account number);
- your Social Insurance Number (SIN); and
- your 10-digit MSFAA number.

If you do not receive a "Welcome Email" from the NSLSC, please contact Student Financial Services at 1-800-667-5626.

Note: *The MSFAA is a multi-year legally binding contract, requiring a one-time signature, that outlines your responsibilities and terms and conditions of accepting and repaying your provincial and federal student grants and loans.*

Your MSFAA must be completed at least 4 weeks prior to your period of study end date as funding cannot be issued after your study period has ended.

If you have questions about the MSFAA process, please visit gnb.ca/studentaid for more information.

RETURNING APPLICANTS

Once your application has been assessed, you will receive a Notice of Assessment with information about the amount of your funding and when it will be available. If you have already signed a MSFAA you do not need to complete the online MSFAA process unless you leave full-time study for two years or establish residency in a new province or territory.

If your information has changed, please make the necessary updates using your online account at nslsc.ca or by contacting the NSLSC at:

Toll Free Telephone:	1-888-815-4514	(within North America)
	800-2-225-2501	(outside North America)
TTY:	1-888-815-4556	

CONFIRMING YOUR ENROLMENT

Once the NSLSC has confirmation of your MSFAA on file, your school must confirm your enrolment before your funding can be issued. For most schools, they will be asked by the NSLSC to confirm your enrolment electronically.

If your school is not set up to confirm enrolment electronically, the NSLSC will send a Confirmation of Enrolment form to your school and they will need to return it to the NSLSC.

DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS

Your school may advise the NSLSC that a portion (or all) of your funding is to be paid directly to the school to cover your academic fees. Remaining funds will be electronically deposited into the bank account that you provided on the MSFAA. You may experience delays in receiving your funding if information is missing from you or your school. If you have questions regarding your funding disbursement, please contact Student Financial Services.

Once funding has been issued, you will receive a message from the NSLSC in your secure inbox with the details on the amount of funding paid to you and your school as well as links to information on how you can track your funding and manage your student loans using your NSLSC online account.

Maintaining Your Eligibility While in Studies

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

Satisfactory Scholastic Standards

After you have received your funding and are attending classes, there are requirements for successful completion of each period of study to stay eligible for future funding. To do this, you must:

- continue to be enrolled in 60% or more of a full course load each semester (40% for students with a permanent disability or a persistent or prolonged disability). All courses must lead to your degree, diploma or certificate;
- successfully complete at least 60% of a full course load (40% for students with a permanent disability or a persistent or prolonged disability);
- complete courses within the study period dates for which you are assessed; and
- maintain regular attendance at all times. If you miss more than three consecutive weeks (21 calendar days), you will be considered withdrawn for student loan purposes. Your study period will be considered unsuccessful.

If you withdraw during your first term and plan to attend full-time in the second term, you must submit a new application to Student Financial Services.

It is your responsibility to contact the school regarding possible tuition refunds.

You may be considered to have not successfully completed your study period if you drop below the minimum required course load. This includes if you:

- withdraw from studies;
- change schools or programs during your study period; or
- are expelled before the end of your study period.

The following table outlines the consequences and requirements if you do not successfully complete your study period (i.e. achieve a Satisfactory Scholastic Standard) as outlined above.

SCHOLASTIC SITUATION	CONSEQUENCE	REQUIREMENTS TO REGAIN ELIGIBILITY
Unsuccessful during **one** study period.	Probation - student will be on probation however remains eligible to be considered for funding.	Must succeed in all following study periods to maintain continuous eligibility for loans.
Unsuccessful during **two** study periods.	12-month suspension - student loses eligibility for funding for a minimum of 12 months (1 loan year*).	Must keep loans in good standing during the suspension period.
Unsuccessful during **three** study periods.	36-month suspension - student loses eligibility for funding for a minimum of 36 months (3 loan years*).	Must keep loans in good standing during the suspension period.

*Loan Year: The student loan year is August 1st each year to the following July 31st.

During these periods of ineligibility, you must maintain your student loans in “good standing” to regain future eligibility.

PERIODS OF STUDY +1 LIMIT

You must complete your studies within the required eligibility periods. You are eligible for assistance for the normal length of the program plus one additional year. For example, if your program length is 2 years, the maximum number of years you will be eligible for funding in that program is 3 years. Students with a disability are exempt from this limit; however, demonstration of academic progression is required.

LIFETIME ASSISTANCE LIMITS

You must not exceed the lifetime assistance limits of 340 weeks of study. The lifetime assistance limits may be extended up to an additional 60 weeks (to a maximum of 400 weeks) for full-time students enrolled in doctoral studies. Students with a disability may receive assistance for up to 520 weeks.

MANAGING YOUR LOAN WHILE IN STUDIES

Whether you take out a new student loan for upcoming studies or not, the NSLSC needs to know that you are still in school before your repayment start date. If not, you will have to start repaying your existing loans earlier than expected.

The NSLSC must receive Confirmation of Enrolment information, completed by your post-secondary school. This proves you have registered for upcoming studies.

If you are receiving new funding for full-time studies before your repayment start date, your school will provide Confirmation of Enrolment as part of the process and no action is required.

If you are not receiving new funding and are returning to full-time studies before your repayment start date, you must provide Confirmation of Enrolment to ensure you do not begin repayment while you are studying. Visit your NSLSC online account to submit a confirmation of enrolment.

If you have part-time loans and full-time loans and are studying full-time, both loans will be payment free. However, if you are studying part-time, only your part-time loan will be payment free and regular payments will be expected on your full-time loan.

MEDICAL AND PARENTAL LEAVE

If you need to take leave from your studies for medical or parental reasons, you may be eligible to apply for Medical and Parental Leave. You do not have to make payments while on an approved leave. You can be on leave for up to six months. At the end of this period, you can apply to extend your leave if needed. Visit canada.ca/student-financial-assistance for more information.

Repaying Your Student Loan

CONSOLIDATING YOUR LOAN

Six months after you have left full-time study, whether you have graduated, transferred to part-time studies, withdrawn, or you are taking time off from your studies, you will need to begin repaying your student loan. This is called student loan consolidation.

Prior to your loan(s) entering the repayment phase, you will receive notification to log in to your NSLSC account to find your Consolidation Agreement which outlines your repayment terms and your minimum monthly payment. You also can customize your payment terms with the NSLSC, pay in lump sum or pay out your loan early.

Contact the NSLSC if you have not received your repayment information one month before your loans consolidate.

You are not required to make a payment on your student loan for six months after completing your studies. Your first loan payment is due on the last day of the seventh month following:

- the date your period of study ends; or
- the end date you withdraw from studies.

Example

- Period of Study End Date: April 30th
- Date six-month non-repayment period begins: May 1st
- Date six-month non-repayment period ends: October 31st
- First loan payment due date: November 30th

Interest on Canada Student Loans

- As of April 1, 2023, the Government of Canada has permanently eliminated the accumulation of interest on all Canada Student Loans, including loans currently being repaid.
- Borrowers continue to be responsible to pay any interest that may have accrued before April 1, 2023. This will happen through your normal payment process if your loan is in good standing.

Interest on New Brunswick Student Loans

- Interest is no longer charged on New Brunswick Student Loans as of November 1, 2022.
- You are responsible for paying any interest that was charged on your loan prior to November 1, 2022. This will happen through your normal payment process if your loan is in good standing.

To compare different repayment options, visit canada.ca/student-financial-assistance to check out the Loan Repayment Estimator.

The NSLSC offers online services to keep track of the activity on your student loan account as well as update your personal information. Go to canada.ca/student-financial-assistance to register.

MAINTAINING YOUR LOAN WHILE IN REPAYMENT

As a borrower, you are required to fulfill your obligations and responsibilities of the repayment terms and conditions of your loan.

Your loan is delinquent when you are behind in your regular scheduled monthly payments. If your loan becomes delinquent, your credit score will be affected. Late payments will appear on your credit reports which may prevent you from getting credit for future purchases (for example, cellular phone contracts, vehicle, house, etc.)

Contact the NSLSC before you miss a payment. There are options available to help you manage your payments and avoid defaulting on your loan.

CUSTOMIZE PAYMENT TERMS

The repayment terms of your loan may be adjusted to either increase or decrease your monthly payments. You may request a change to your repayment schedule through your NSLSC online account, in writing or by speaking with an NSLSC agent. Choosing to reduce your monthly payments will extend the length of time over which you repay your loan. Contact the NSLSC for more information.

REPAYMENT ASSISTANCE PLAN

The Repayment Assistance Plan (RAP) makes it easier for you to manage your debt. If you are eligible, your monthly payments will be reduced based on your family size and family income. Monthly payments are limited to 10% or less of a borrower's gross family income. If borrowers earn very little income, they may not be required to make loan payments until their income increases. To apply, complete the online application through your account with the NSLSC. Visit canada.ca/student-financial-assistance to find out more about repayment assistance and how to manage your student loan debt.

REPAYMENT ASSISTANCE PLAN—DISABILITY

The Repayment Assistance Plan for Borrowers with Disabilities (RAP-D) is available to borrowers with a disability who are having difficulty repaying their student loan debt. RAP-D makes it easier for you to manage your student debt and can consider additional medical expenses related to your disability. If you are eligible, your monthly payments will be reduced based on your family size and family income. Monthly payments are limited to 10% or less of a borrower's gross family income and no borrower will have a repayment period of more than 10 years. If borrowers earn very little income, they may not be required to make any loan payments until their income increases. To apply, complete the online application and required form through your account with the NSLSC.

DEFAULT

Your loan is in default if you miss payments on your Canada/New Brunswick Student Loan for nine months (270 days) or more. When this happens, your loan is no longer integrated which means you will need to manage your loans with both the Federal Government and the Provincial Government.

You will be required to set up two separate repayment plans, one for each part of your loan.

- For your Canada Student Loan, contact the Canada Revenue Agency at 1-866-864-5823.
- For your New Brunswick Loan, contact Service New Brunswick—Central Collection Services at 1-855-806-2472 (option 2).

There are consequences if your loan is returned to government due to default, including:

- Your tax refunds and/or GST and HST credits may be withheld and applied towards your outstanding student loan debt.
- You will not be able to access the Repayment Assistance Plan.
- You will not be eligible for future federal and provincial student financial assistance.
- You may be contacted by a collection agent.
- You may be subject to having your salary garnished.
- You may no longer be eligible to benefit from other government programs.

RESERVIST BENEFIT

If you are a member of the Canadian Forces Reserves and have been deployed on designated operations, are about to be deployed or are away from your studies receiving training specific to an upcoming deployment, you may be eligible for the Reservist Benefit. Visit canada.ca/student-financial-assistance for more information.

CANADA STUDENT LOAN FORGIVENESS

Borrowers who work in eligible occupations and practice in under-served rural areas or population centres of less than 30,000 people may be eligible to have a portion of their Canada Student Loan (CSL) forgiven. Visit canada.ca/student-loan-forgiveness for more information.

Your Information

COLLECTION OF PERSONAL INFORMATION

Student Financial Services may need to collect personal information about you, including, but not limited to, your updated address/telephone number and your academic performance for the period stated on your application, or for previous periods as considered necessary, from any department of the Province, the government of any other province or territory of Canada, the Government of Canada, service provider(s), educational institution(s), financial institution(s), and other agencies and persons.

USE AND DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL INFORMATION

Your personal information, whether collected from you or from a third party, will be used for the purposes of processing your application, determining and verifying your eligibility for student financial assistance, administering any financial assistance provided to you, including the repayment and collection thereof, conducting research and evaluation of the student financial assistance program(s) and administering and enforcing the *Post-Secondary Student Financial Assistance Act* and regulations thereunder. Also, your personal information may be disclosed for these purposes to any department of the Province, the government of any other province or territory of Canada, the Government of Canada, service provider(s), educational institution(s), financial institution(s), and other agencies and persons.

SOCIAL INSURANCE NUMBER VERIFICATION

Student Financial Services may verify your Social Insurance Number (SIN), name, date of birth and gender with information contained in the Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC) Social Insurance Register. This information may be disclosed to ESDC for the purpose of confirming the accuracy of your identification in the context of your application for provincial and federal student financial assistance.

AUTHORIZATION TO DISCLOSE INFORMATION

If you wish your parent(s)/guardian(s)/step-parent(s), partner or any other person(s) to communicate with Student Financial Services on your behalf regarding your student financial assistance file, you must complete an Authorization to Disclose Information form. The form, once completed, will authorize Student Financial Services to communicate with the person(s) named in the form regarding your file, and to disclose to and discuss with the named person(s) your personal information contained in your file, namely: your personal, academic and financial information contained in your application form, in the material provided in connection with your application, and in the material Student Financial Services is authorized by you and by law to collect, in connection with your application, the status of your application and the administration, repayment and collection of any financial assistance provided to you as a result of your application for assistance. The authorization form can be completed as part of your application and is also available at gnb.ca/studentaid.

FALSIFIED INFORMATION

The Canada and New Brunswick Student Financial Assistance Programs are dedicated to providing assistance to support students seeking post-secondary education under the terms of federal and provincial student loan legislation and policy.

It is an offence under *The Canada Student Financial Assistance Act (CSFAA)* and *The Post-Secondary Student Financial Assistance Act and Regulations* to knowingly give false or misleading information on your application or other forms. Offences may also be punishable under the Criminal Code of Canada. All of the information submitted on your application is subject to audit and verification.

If it is determined that an individual knowingly committed fraud or misrepresentation, the Canada Student Financial Assistance Program may apply administrative measures and possibly require the individual to immediately repay loans or grants received through misrepresentation (as per subsection 17.1(1) of the *CSFAA* and section 18.1(1) of *The Canada Student Loans Act*). Administrative measures specifically refer to the individual being restricted from student financial assistance, such as loans, grants, and repayment assistance, for a period of one to five years.

If you know of someone providing false information while receiving a financial benefit, please contact Student Financial Services. Allegations are serious and all contacts will be investigated. We assure you that you will remain anonymous.

Glossary

Academic year: defined by your school, up to a maximum of 12 months. An academic year may comprise multiple terms or semesters, including spring and summer session.

Bursary: funding that does not have to be paid back.

Consolidation Agreement: a document outlining the terms of repayment which is provided to you (the borrower) through your NSLSC online account when you enter the repayment phase of your loan. The first loan payment is due on the last day of the 7th month after classes end in your final term or you leave full-time studies.

Course Load: refers to the number of courses or credits you are taking. The school determines the number of courses or credits that equal 100% course load.

Credit Check: a verification of the student's credit history through a credit bureau that is completed for all first-time applicants 22 years of age or older including any applicant who has previously applied for funding but never received student financial assistance (provincial funding only).

Default: when you are behind on your payments for nine or more months and collection activities are required. Defaulting on your loan will make you ineligible to receive future student financial assistance or to apply for the Repayment Assistance Plan.

Designation: process by which schools obtain the necessary recognition that allows their students to be eligible for assistance.

Designated school: schools where students are eligible to receive assistance.

Full-time student: enrolled in at least 60% of a full course load (or 40% for students with a disability).

Integrated Student Financial Assistance: the Governments of Canada and New Brunswick have combined their full-time student financial assistance programs resulting in combined funding for full-time students from both levels of government. When it is time to repay your loan, you will benefit from a single repayment through the NSLSC so long as your loan is not in default.

Lifetime Assistance Limit: the maximum time frame (340 weeks) you are eligible to receive money. Students in doctoral studies receive 400 weeks and students with a disability receive 520 weeks.

Loan Year: defined as beginning August 1st of each year and ending July 31st of the following year.

National Student Loans Service Centre (NSLSC): the NSLSC manages all Canada Student Loans and Canada-New Brunswick Integrated Student Loans issued on or after August 1, 2000. The NSLSC processes your Master Student Financial Assistance Agreement (MSFAA), arranges for your student financial assistance funds to be deposited into your bank account, helps you keep track of the amount of your loan and the amount you have to repay, administers the Repayment Assistance Plan (RAP), and works with you to set up a loan repayment schedule. You can contact the NSLSC by calling 1-888-815-4514 or by visiting nslsc.ca.

New Brunswick Resident: a person who has lived in New Brunswick for 12 consecutive months before the first day of their study period (excluding time spent in full-time post-secondary studies).

Non-Degree Program: you are considered to be in a non-degree program if you are not earning credits that will be applied towards a degree, diploma or certificate. You are not eligible for student financial assistance funding if you are in a non-degree program.

Non-Repayment (Grace) Period: the six-month period after you graduate or leave studies during which you are not required to make loan payments.

Notice of Assessment: information on the amount of funding you will receive and when it will be issued.

Overaward: student financial assistance that you have received for which you were not eligible. An overaward could be created as a result of your withdrawal from full-time studies, a reduction in costs, a reduction in the length of your program of study, or as a result of a correction or audit of your file.

Permanent Disability: any impairment, including a physical, mental, intellectual, cognitive, learning, communication or sensory impairment—or a functional limitation—that restricts the ability of a person to perform the daily activities necessary to pursue studies at a post-secondary school level or to participate in the labour force and that is expected to remain with the person for the person's expected life.

Permanent Resident of Canada: an individual who has been given permanent resident status by immigrating to Canada, but is not a Canadian citizen.

Persistent or Prolonged Disability: any impairment, including a physical, mental, intellectual, cognitive, learning, communication or sensory impairment—or a functional limitation—that restricts the ability of a person to perform the daily activities necessary to pursue studies at a post-secondary school level or to participate in the labour force and has lasted, or is expected to last, for a period of at least 12 months, but is not expected to remain with the person for the person's expected life.

Protected Person of Canada: an individual who holds a valid Verification of Status document issued by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada, or a valid Protected Persons Status Document issued prior to January 1, 2013.

Qualifying Year: you are considered to be in a qualifying year if you are taking courses to gain entrance into a degree, diploma or certificate program and are not earning credits that will be applied towards that degree, diploma or certificate. You are not eligible for student financial assistance funding if you are in a qualifying year.

Satisfactory Scholastic Standard (SSS): the successful completion of at least 60% of a full course load or 40% of a full course load for students with a disability. You must maintain a satisfactory scholastic standard for each period of study for which you receive assistance to maintain your eligibility for student financial assistance. All courses must lead to a degree, diploma or certificate from a designated post-secondary school.

Withdrawal: an absence of more than 21 consecutive calendar days from a program or if your course load drops below 60% of a full-time course load (below 40% for students with a disability).