

# Provincial Tuition Waiver Program

## Frequently Asked Questions

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### Q1. How do I know if I qualify?

You will be asked to complete a Tuition Waiver Program Application form to disclose information and verify your identity through your signature. Your institution will submit your completed application form to the Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training for verification from the Ministry of Children and Family Development or from the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction. The verification process can take up to 4-6 weeks depending on the complexity of your records search.

### Q2. What happens if I have already paid for the current school year?

If you have already paid tuition and mandatory fees and are eligible for the Tuition Waiver Program, you will be reimbursed by your institution provided it is within the same semester. See **Q9: Can I claim a waiver retroactively?**

### Q3. What are tuition fees and what is covered?

All tuition and the mandatory fees you pay to your institution to successfully complete the program/courses you are enrolled in will be covered. Students that qualify for the Tuition Waiver Program may also be reimbursed for their application fees.

### Q4. Can I still access other/existing programs?

The Tuition Waiver Program serves the specific purpose of waiving tuition fees for former youth in care and is not intended to replace existing programs. Other programs that help offset educational costs for former youth in care will continue. Contact your institution's financial aid office to determine eligibility for other programs and bursaries.

### Q5. What if I am already receiving funding through another program (e.g., Youth Education Assistance Fund or Agreements with Young Adults), am I still eligible for a tuition waiver?

Yes.

### Q6. Where can I find information about the Tuition Waiver Program?

Information is available on the StudentAid BC website: <https://studentaidbc.ca/explore/grants-scholarships/provincial-tuition-waiver-program>.

### Q7. Tuition is just one piece. What other supports are available?

Many institutions have various supports in place already. Please contact your Student Services Department or equivalent.

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### **Q8. What happens if I must drop out after having my tuition fees reimbursed?**

You will be reimbursed by your institution, provided it is within the same semester, upon verification of eligibility by the Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training. If you must withdraw after the course/program drop date, you are not required to repay tuition.

### **Q9. Can I claim a waiver retroactively?**

Students may claim reimbursement for tuition paid at any time during the same semester.

### **Q10. What if I am a part-time student?**

Part-time students are also eligible for the Tuition Waiver Program.

### **Q11. Is successful completion a determinant of whether a tuition waiver is issued?**

No. If you meet all eligibility criteria and have been issued a tuition waiver, your tuition fees will be waived for the duration of your undergraduate studies program until you are awarded your credential, regardless of your age.

### **Q12. If I transfer institutions, will the tuition waiver funding continue to my new school?**

If you transfer to another eligible institution, funding will transfer along with you. You will not need to reapply for the funding. You will need to contact the System Navigator at [tuitionwaiver@gov.bc.ca](mailto:tuitionwaiver@gov.bc.ca) to ensure that your funding carries over to your new school.

### **Q13. For applicants with exceptional circumstances:**

You must meet the eligibility criteria as outlined on the [StudentAid BC website](#). However, if you believe your time in care was miscalculated by the Ministry of Children and Family Development, you may contact [waivervalidation@gov.bc.ca](mailto:waivervalidation@gov.bc.ca).