



# Student Loans & Grants Tips

Here are a few tips when completing your student funding application for loans and grants...

## KEY INFO FOR APPLICATION

- Program name, length of program. You can only apply for one year at a time (52 weeks max)
- Start and end date of program for current academic year (*academic year is within the current year from August – July*). It is **BEST** to apply for the **FULL YEAR**.
- Fees for program (*tuition, Students' Association fee, tech. fee, books/LRF*).
- Alberta Student Number (ASN) – can be found on your Alberta High School transcripts. *If you do not know your ASN or need to obtain one, go to: <https://learnerregistry.ae.alberta.ca/>*
- Line 15000 from most recent tax assessment.
- NLC Student ID# (*which can be found in an email/letter sent to you from NLC*).

## INFO FOR CREATING ONLINE ACCOUNT (FOR LOAN APPLICATION)

- First & Last name
- Email
- Date of birth

## NEW TO LOAN APPLICATION

- You can now enter an 'Expected Reduced Yearly Income' which the federal government will use to assess you for grants.
- **For the 2024-25 academic year** – all students will need to create or **upgrade to a verified Alberta.ca Account**. (which can take up to 10 business days)
- **Income thresholds** – have increased when assessing eligibility, for loans & grants (federal, not provincial).
- **Living allowances** – have increased slightly this year (2024-25).
- **Annual Loan Limits** – did NOT increase.
- **Academic Progress** – policies reinstated for length of time of funding available
- **Early Withdrawal NEW POLICY**
- Alberta Student Loans – **interest free grace period increased** from 6 months to 12 months. Canada Student Loans are interest free – repayment starts 6 months after end date of program.



## HELPFUL TIPS

- The '**Loans and Grants Funding Guide**' is very useful and helpful (*and recommended*) for review when applying for student loans. This guide can be found on the Alberta Student Aid website at this link: <https://studentaid.alberta.ca/student-aid-funding-guide/loans-and-grants-funding-guide/>
- Computer Cost** is important to include the expenses of software (Microsoft Office, etc.), hardware (new laptop or RAM), and/or the internet fees you will incur for the duration of your program.
- Please note:* There is **only one campus location listed** on the online loan application – **Grouard**. You will need to select this option even if it is not where you will be attending.
- There is help every step of the way!
  - If you require assistance with creating your online account with Alberta.ca account – there will be a '**Contact Us**' or a **HELP** links on the page.
  - Student loan application (Alberta Student Aid) you can call 1-855-606-2096.
- The Student Awards Administrator, and most other staff, are always willing and able to assist you. Call: 1-866-652-3456.
- Always apply at least 6 weeks prior to your program start date (and sooner if you are completing a paper application).
  - **Online loan applications can take 2-6 weeks to assess!**
- Using Internet Explorer is the best web browser when completing the loan application.
  - Microsoft Edge does not work well when entering information. Google Chrome and FireFox work most of the time.

Now you are ready to apply for funding with Alberta Student Aid! Go to:

[www.studentaid.alberta.ca](http://www.studentaid.alberta.ca)

YOU'VE GOT THIS!!

