

Students in Studies Impacted by COVID-19

The following FAQs address changes in policy and process that are intended to assist students whose studies were impacted by COVID-19. If your program of study was not in progress on March 16, 2020 or your studies were not impacted by COVID-19, the normal policies and processes apply.

Frequently Asked Questions

My program start date has been delayed as a result of COVID-19.

Q. Will this impact my student loan funding?

A. For these extraordinary times, Student Financial Services will not require students to reapply if the start date of their program has been delayed up to 60 days. If your start date has been delayed more than 60 days, you must submit a new application based on the new program dates.

Q. Do I need to advise Student Financial Services of this change?

A. If the delay is less than 60 days, you or your institution must advise Student Financial Services of the new program start and end dates. If the delay is more than 60 days, you simply need to reapply using the new program dates.

My program changed delivery from in-class to distance/online as a result of COVID-19.

Q. Will this impact my student loan funding?

A. Although distance/on-line programs may be eligible for less funding, during these extraordinary times, Student Financial Services will **not** be reassessing student loans due to a change in delivery format. You are able to keep the funding that has been issued to you for this academic year.

Q. Do I need to advise Student Financial Services of this change?

A. No. While typically you would be required to advise us of any changes to your program, in this case we do not require you to notify us.

Q. What does it mean if I am not able to continue with my program due to the change in delivery format?

A. For these extraordinary times, Student Financial Services will be waiving the normal process and penalties for withdrawal from studies. The funding you have already received will not be impacted, however you will not be eligible to receive any funding that has not yet been issued (i.e. 2nd disbursement).



My program is being extended due to the cancelled classes as a result of COVID-19.

Q. Will this impact my student loan funding?

A. Student Financial Services will be able to reassess applications for anyone who has had their program extended. Students will not lose funding for the weeks of cancelled classes and can request funding for the weeks of study that are being added.

Q. Do I need to advise Student Financial Services of this change?

A. If you want to have your funding reassessed to include the additional weeks of study, you will need to complete a COVID-19 Extension Request Form and have your school submit a Request for Program Information Form (available at studentaid.gnb.ca).

Q. What does it mean if I am not able to continue my program due to the extended study period?

A. For these extraordinary times, Student Financial Services will be waiving the normal process and penalties for withdrawal from studies. The funding you have already received will not be impacted, however you will not be eligible to receive any funding that has not yet been issued (i.e. 2nd disbursement).

My work placement (practicum, co-op program, internship or on-the-job training, etc.) has been cancelled/postponed as a result of COVID-19.

Q. Will this impact my student loan funding?

A. For these extraordinary times, if your work placement has been cancelled completely and you are not required to complete it at a later date, Student Financial Services will not be reassessing your file. The funding you have already received will not be impacted, however funding that has not yet been issued may be adjusted. If your work placement has been postponed, you will be able to receive funding for the additional weeks either by extending your current study period or by submitting a separate application if the delay is significant (i.e. postponed until fall).

Q. Do I need to advise Student Financial Services of this change?

A. Yes, either you or your institution need to advise Student Financial Services of changes to, or cancellation of, your work placement. If your work placement has been postponed, you will need to advise Student Financial Services if you require funding for additional weeks.



Q. What does it mean if my work placement is not cancelled or postponed, but I am not able to complete it for COVID-19 related reasons?

A. For these extraordinary times, Student Financial Services will be waiving the normal process and penalties for withdrawal from studies, including work placements. The funding you have already received will not be impacted, however you will not be eligible to receive any funding that has not yet been issued (i.e. 2nd disbursement).

I am a student with Permanent Disabilities and my program delivery method has changed as a result of COVID-19 which is impacting the supports and equipment I need.

Q. Am I able to have my approved supports and/or equipment changed as a result of the changed program delivery?

A. Yes, as with any time your needs change for supports and equipment through the Canada Student Grant for Supports and Equipment for Students with Permanent Disabilities (CSG-PDSE), you must complete a new CSG-PDSE Application. Your disability coordinator from your school (or other supporting organization) will be required to identify the required supports and equipment in Section C of the application. The deadlines for submitting applications/documentation will be more flexible during this time, however requests for additional supports need to be submitted as soon as possible.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, I am experiencing increased financial hardship.

Q. Am I able to get additional student loan funding if I have lost my job?

A. No. The needs assessment process for determining the amount of student financial assistance you are eligible for does not consider any study period income so there would not be any changes to your assessment based on loss of your job.

Q. Where can I go to access financial support?

A. Your educational institution may be able to assist you or direct you to other resources available. Both the Federal and Provincial Governments are putting various financial supports in place for individuals. Please visit www.canada.ca or www.gnb.ca to access the most current information on supports and how to access them.

