

Financial Assistance & Awards

Your university education will be one of the most important – and most prudent – investments of your lifetime. For qualifying students, Kwantlen supports the journey to success with numerous scholarships, bursaries and awards ranging from \$250 to \$2250. In fact, we offer over \$2 million in scholarships, bursaries and awards annually to students at Kwantlen, of which \$225,000 is offered to students enrolling at Kwantlen for the first time.

In addition, the Student Awards and Financial Assistance Office (SAFA) provides information to students and their families on various options of financial assistance, including grants, student loans (Canada and US), government-funded programs, student lines of credit, as well as budgeting tips and techniques.

At Kwantlen Polytechnic University, we understand that you may have questions about the investment costs associated with attaining your post-secondary education. That's why we have devoted significant time and resources to helping you plan for and finance this investment in your future.

- Entrance Scholarships at Kwantlen
- Scholarships, Bursaries and Awards
- Awards for Graduating Students
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ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIPS AT KWANTLEN

Kwantlen Polytechnic University offers over **\$225,000** in scholarships and awards annually to students who are enrolling at Kwantlen for the first time. Academic excellence, program of study, community/school involvement and

volunteer activities are some of the factors in the selection process.

THE LEADERS OF TOMORROW ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIPS

These scholarships are comprised of one President's Award and three Merit Awards that are allocated to each of the following school districts: Richmond, Delta, Surrey, Langley and Ridge Meadows. In addition, one President's Award and three Merit Awards are open to students graduating from any other school district within the province of British Columbia.

President's Award - \$20,000

- Enrolled in any four-year program at Kwantlen, full-time (minimum 12.0 credits) and continue in the same program of study for each year thereafter
- Maintain a minimum GPA of 3.0 for the duration of the award period
- \$5,000 received each year over four years

Merit Award - \$5,000

- Enrolled full-time (minimum 12.0 credits) in any Kwantlen program
- Maintain a minimum GPA of 3.0 for the duration of the award period
- Award payment will be divided between the September and January semesters

Each January, information and application forms for the Entrance Scholarships are available online at kwantlen.ca/awards.

In addition to the Leaders of Tomorrow Scholarships, there are further entrance awards opportunities offered at Kwantlen to which students can apply directly. Please visit kwantlen.ca/awards for details.

SCHOLARSHIPS, BURSARIES AND AWARDS

FALL AWARDS

Through generous donations from donors, along with the University's financial commitment, Kwantlen Polytechnic University offers a variety of scholarships, bursaries and awards in the Fall Awards program. A number of criteria apply to these awards including assessed financial need, academic achievement, program of study and other specific requirements. Students only need to complete one online application to be considered for many awards within the institution. Information regarding these awards and how to apply is available in Kwantlen's Online Awards Guide.

Application Deadline: September 16, 2011

PROGRAM AWARDS

Kwantlen also offers awards to students in many other programs and areas such as: Horticulture, Music, Trades, Design, and Athletics. For more information on these specific

awards, please visit our Online Awards Guide or speak to a Financial Aid Officer at any Kwantlen campus.

AWARDS FOR GRADUATING STUDENTS

Kwantlen Polytechnic University offers graduation awards to honour students who have excelled in their program of study. Volunteer activities, contribution to the Kwantlen community or faculty recommendation may be factors in the selection process.

- Governor General's Silver Academic Medal
- Governor General's Collegiate Bronze Academic Medal
- Lieutenant Governor's Medal
- George C. Wootton Award
- Deans' Medals – one awarded to a student from each Faculty
- President's Outstanding Graduate Award for a Degree Program
- President's Outstanding Graduate Award for a Diploma Program

The awards each carry a monetary value of \$500 and are presented at Convocation.

EXTERNAL AWARDS OUTSIDE OF KWANTLEN

To ensure Kwantlen students have access to as many resources as possible to help fund their studies, Student Awards and Financial Assistance maintains a list of external awards for which students may be eligible. These awards are offered by donors who may not necessarily be directly affiliated with Kwantlen Polytechnic University. Students in receipt of an external or direct award should contact Student Awards and Financial Assistance at 604.599.2000 for information on how to receive their award.

STUDENT LOANS

CANADA STUDENT LOANS

Canada Student Loans are a form of government-funded financial assistance that must be repaid. This funding is intended to assist students finance their post-secondary education. Eligibility is determined by a standard means test developed by the federal and provincial governments. While you pursue post-secondary studies on a full-time basis, the government pays the interest on your loan.

To obtain a loan, apply directly to the government assistance provider in your home province. This is a one-step process that considers you for federal and provincial loans and grants. If you apply for a loan, you are held responsible for understanding how your province's program works, so please read their information carefully.

To receive a loan, students must be attending school on a full-time basis. This is very important, as dropping below this threshold can mean early repayment of the loan and/or loss of funding. For the purposes of most university-level programs offered at Kwantlen, a student is considered to be attending on a full-time basis provided that they are registered in a minimum of 9 credits per semester (in courses numbered 1100 or higher). Repeated courses do not qualify as part of the minimum course load. A 40% course load (the equivalent of 6 credits of study for most Kwantlen students) is considered full-time for students with an approved permanent disability appeal for a reduced course load. Generally, students attending in trades, career or vocational programs are deemed to be attending on a full-time basis. Some exceptions apply and it is the student's responsibility to confirm the eligibility of their program of studies. Check with a Financial Aid Officer for further details.

Residents of BC should apply for student loan and grant assistance via StudentAidBC. Students may wish to also contact the Ministry of Advanced Education directly at their toll free number 604.660.2610. For more information on the new integrated Canada Student Loan and BC Student Loan and how to access application forms, please contact the Student Awards and Financial Assistance Office.

Application Deadlines:

Nov 14, 2011 (Fall term) Mar 12, 2012 (Spring term) July 16, 2012 (Summer term)

TUITION PAYMENTS AND FEE DEFERRALS

Students who have been approved for assistance from StudentAidBC, the Canada Student Grant for Part-Time Students (CSG-PT) and/or the Adult Basic Education Student Assistance Program (ABESAP), or who are in receipt of a Direct Award, may be eligible for an exemption from the tuition fee payment deadline.

Please complete the *Fee Deferral Form*, available from any Student Awards and Financial Assistance Office, or download the form from kwantlen.ca/awards, prior to the fee payment deadline. Faxed copies are acceptable.

Important - for those who are on student loan, please ensure that you attach your *Notice of Assessment* that was sent to you by StudentAidBC (stating how much funding you are eligible to receive) to the Fee Deferral form – otherwise you will not be eligible for the deferral. If you have any questions, please speak with a Financial Aid Officer.

Application Deadline:

Sept 30, 2011 (Fall term) Jan 27, 2012 (Spring term)
May 31, 2012 (Summer term)

INTEREST-FREE STATUS WHILE STUDYING IN SCHOOL

Students who are undertaking post-secondary level studies on a full-time basis are not required to make payments or pay interest on previously negotiated government student loans. It is, however, the student's responsibility to inform their government lending institution that they have returned to full-

time study. Students can inform their previous lender of their return to full-time study by applying online for interest-free status at StudentAidBC or by obtaining signed Schedule 2 and Certificate 2 documents from Student Awards and Financial Assistance on any Kwantlen campus. Students who have negotiated student loans with a province other than BC may be required to submit alternate documents.

Students must be enrolled in a minimum of 9 credits at the 1100 level or higher. Repeated courses do not qualify as part of the minimum course load.

REPAYING YOUR STUDENT LOAN

Students are not required to make payments or pay interest on government student loans for a period of six months after leaving full-time studies. Interest begins to accrue the day after students cease to be a full-time student. Students returning to full-time study within six months will have this interest paid on their behalf by the government. If students are having difficulty repaying integrated loans, both the federal and provincial governments offer programs to assist in the repayment process. These debt management programs are designed for those facing difficulty in meeting their monthly payments to avoid defaulting on student loans. For more information on federal debt management programs, please contact the National Student Loan Service Centre. Information on the BC provincial programs can be found at the BC Student Service Bureau.

US STUDENT LOANS

US Federal Stafford Loans (Direct Loans) are for undergraduate, graduate and professional degree students who are US citizens or permanent residents studying at a post-secondary institution. There are two types of Stafford Loans: subsidized and unsubsidized. You must demonstrate financial need to receive a subsidized Stafford Loan. Financial need is not a requirement to obtain an unsubsidized Stafford Loan.

US Federal Parent PLUS Loans (Direct Loans) are loans that parents can obtain to help pay the cost of education for their dependent children in undergraduate studies. In addition, graduate and professional degree students may obtain PLUS Loans to help pay for their own education. Speak with a Financial Aid Officer for more information on how this program works.

Further information on the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program is available.

To apply for a US Direct Loan, students need to go to the US Student Loans website and register so that they can use the online tools. Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to obtain the Student Aid Report (SAR). Please read the 'Comments' section on the SAR to ensure that your data is complete. The SAR provides the data for your eligibility assessment. Bring the SAR to the nearest Student Awards and Financial Assistance Office where we will assist you with the rest of the process.

Important – our Federal School Code is G33325 – you will need this to complete your application.

US Private Loans are available to those students whose program of study does not qualify for funding under US Federal Aid guidelines. Students are encouraged to first check with their local state agency to see if there is any other financial assistance available to them. In addition, the Student Awards and Financial Assistance Offices are also here to help.

AVAILABLE GRANTS

CANADA STUDENT GRANT/LOAN FOR PART-TIME STUDENTS

The Canada Student Grant/Loan is available to assist students studying on a part-time basis in an eligible post-secondary level program. Eligibility is determined on the basis of assessed financial need. The CSG-PT has a yearly (August 1 – July 31) funding limit of \$1200 per student. Once this limit has been reached, students have the option to apply for a Part-time Canada Student Loan.

STUDENTS WITH PERMANENT DISABILITIES

For students who have a permanent documented disability there are both federal and provincial grants and bursaries that may be available to assist them. Students are encouraged to come and speak with a Financial Aid Officer to discuss funding opportunities.

Application Deadlines:

Nov 14, 2011 (Fall term) Mar 12, 2012 (Spring term)
July 16, 2012 (Summer term)

ADULT BASIC EDUCATION STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (ABESAP)

This program is available to assist students who are upgrading their education in preparation for post-secondary level studies. Eligibility is determined on the basis of assessed financial need. Eligible students must be Canadian citizens or landed immigrants studying either full-or part-time in one of the following areas: University Qualifying Studies, English Language Studies (ELST), Adults with Permanent Disabilities Program (APPD) and Adult Basic Education (ABE).

Important - due to limited funding, ABESAP is only able to fund up to a maximum of nine (9) credits. For details, contact the Student Awards and Financial Assistance Office.

Application Deadlines:

Oct 21, 2011(Fall term) Feb 24, 2012 (Spring term)
June 29, 2012 (Summer term)

GI BILL BENEFITS (USA)

Students who are US citizens may be eligible to receive GI Benefits through the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA), as Kwantlen Polytechnic University is listed as an authorized Institution of Higher Education (IHE). Students will need to speak with a Financial Aid Officer to determine if their program of study qualifies under the DVA guidelines.

Important – our Facility Code is 1-101003-75. This number is the reference that DVA will need when you apply for assistance.

EMERGENCY AID

EMERGENCY LOANS

Emergency Loans are available for students who are experiencing an unexpected delay with their student loans. To apply for an emergency loan, students will need to speak with a Financial Aid Officer.

EMERGENCY BURSARIES

Emergency Bursaries may be available for those students who experience an unexpected financial hardship. Bursaries are non-repayable awards which are allocated primarily on the basis of assessed financial need. Students need to speak with a Financial Aid Officer regarding their circumstance. Please note – there is limited funding available from this resource.

Additional information, including eligibility and how to apply for emergency aid, can be obtained by visiting the Student Awards and Financial Assistance Office on any campus.

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Investing in your child's education is probably one of the most important goals parents have today. The cost of education can certainly add up when you consider all the components, such as tuition and textbooks, and so it is very beneficial to begin looking for "free money" as soon as possible. It is recommended that students begin to learn about financial literacy and start searching for scholarships as early as in Grade 10 and 11. Parents are encouraged to work with their children and begin the process early to meet required application deadlines. A great resource to learn about financial literacy is the Financial Consumer Agency of Canada. Here you will find information on budgeting and money management, credit and loans, how to protect yourself from fraud, savings and investments, as well as a host of other tools to assist you. Please visit our "Other Resources" section to find other links to valuable information.

CONTACT US

Mail: 12666-72 Avenue, Surrey, BC Canada V3W 2M8

Web: www.kwantlen.ca/awards

Email: awards@kwantlen.ca

Phone: 604.599.2000

CAMPUS LOCATIONS

Surrey: Room 1820 Richmond: Room 1505 Langley:
Room 1060 Cloverdale: Room 1121

HOURS OF OPERATION / APPOINTMENTS / DROP INS

Please visit the Student Awards and Financial Assistance website at www.kwantlen.ca/awards for updated information.

OTHER RESOURCES

www.canlearn.ca

Includes an Education Cost Calculator and a Financial Planner. This is a great tool for parents!

www.debtfreegrad.com

How to survive university without going broke.

www.getsmarteraboutmoney.ca

A great site for that looks at vehicles such as tax-free savings accounts, RESPs, GICs and Canada Savings Bonds to name a few.

www.nomoredebts.org

Manage your money, solve your debt and use credit responsibly.

www.studentawards.com

Visit this site for scholarships and awards that are specific to you. Complete one online profile and awards come directly to your mailbox to apply.

www.themoneybelt.gc.ca

Includes a financial literacy workshops for young adults.