

# COVID-19 RESPONSE PROGRAMS AFFECTING YOUTH, POST-SECONDARY STUDENTS AND RECENT GRADUATES

This summary has been prepared based on information available as of May 21, 2020 and is very limited. All specific client circumstances and facts need to be considered and reviewed by a qualified professional.

## **Canada Emergency Student Benefit (CESB)**

- Open to post-secondary students and recent post-secondary and high school graduates unable to find work due to COVID-19, or who are currently working but their income from employment and self-employment has been \$1,000 or less during the 4-week period they are applying for
- Student must:
  - be enrolled in post-secondary educational program at least 12 weeks in duration that leads to a degree, diploma, or certificate; or
  - have completed or ended post-secondary studies in December 2019 or later; or
  - have completed or expect to complete high school, or received, or expect to receive high school equivalency in 2020, and have applied for post-secondary educational program that starts before February 1, 2021
- Available to students studying in Canada or abroad
- Student must be one of:
  - Canadian citizen; or
  - registered Indian; or
  - permanent resident; or
  - a protected person
- If the student has already applied, or are receiving CERB or EI, they are not eligible to apply for CESB for the same eligibility period

- Eligibility periods:
  - May 10 to June 6, 2020
  - June 7 to July 4, 2020
  - July 5 to August 1, 2020
  - August 2 to August 29, 2020
- Reapplication is required each 4-week period that a student is eligible
- Benefit is \$1,250 for each 4-week period
- A top-up of \$750 for each 4-week period is available, if one of the following applies:
  - the student has a disability as defined for this benefit; or
  - the student has at least one child under the age of 12 or other dependants.

## **Canada Student Loans Program (CSLP)**

- Doubling Canada Student Grants for all eligible full-time students up to \$6,000 and up to \$3,600 for part-time students in 2020-21
- Canada Student Grants for Students with Permanent Disabilities and Students with Dependents will also be doubled
- Broadened eligibility for student financial assistance by removing the expected student's and spouse's contributions in 2020-21
- Raising the maximum weekly amount that can be provided to a student in 2020-21 from \$210 to \$350
- Suspension of repayments of Canada Student Loans and Canada Apprentice Loans until September 30, 2020
- Suspension of interest on Canada Student Loans and Canada Apprentice Loans until September 30, 2020
- There is no requirement to apply for the repayment pause

## **International students working in an essential service**

- Removal of restrictions that allows international students to work only a maximum of 20 hours per week while classes are in session, provided they are working in an essential service or function, such as health care, critical infrastructure, or the supply of food or other critical goods

- Temporary rule change will be in place until August 31, 2020

## **Canada Student Service Grant (CSSG)**

- Designed to provide students with work experience and skills while they help their communities during the Covid-19 pandemic
- Is available for students who choose to do national service and service their communities, the new CSSG will provide up to \$5,000 for their education in the fall

## **Canada Summer Jobs 2020 (CSJ)**

- The Canada Summer Jobs call for applications for the 2020 season closed on February 28, 2020. All funded employers will be eligible to receive a wage subsidy reimbursement of up to 100% of the provincial or territorial minimum hourly wage; the previous maximum was 50% of the provincial or territorial minimum wage.
- All funded employers may offer part-time placements (fewer than 30 hours per week); previously CSJ-funded employment had to be full time (a minimum of 30 hours per week for at least 6 weeks)
- All funded employers may offer job placements between May 11, 2020 and February 28, 2021; previously CSJ-funded employment had to be completed no later than August 28, 2020
- All funded employers will be provided flexibility to amend project and job activities to support delivery of critical services. These adjustments could include:
  - community programming – a shift away from in-person activities to the use of digital tools for the delivery of programming
  - service industry – a shift away from in-person service to take-out and delivery
  - administrative positions – a shift to the use of available remote and telework options
  - support for vulnerable populations – a shift to activities to support populations facing new vulnerabilities under COVID-19, such as seniors or persons with disabilities, including the delivery of necessities or assistance with adaptive technology
  - retail services – a shift away from in-person and in-store roles to remote and delivery roles