



Demonstrating financial support in your application

You must prove that you can support yourself and any family members who come with you, while you are in Canada. This requires proof of funds available for all living expenses, **PLUS** tuition payments and travel costs.

You can prove your funds in different ways, such as:

- proof of a Canadian bank account in your name if you have transferred money to Canada
- proof of a student/education loan from a bank
- your bank statements for the past four months
- a bank draft that can be converted to Canadian dollars
- proof you paid tuition and housing fees (must be accompanied by additional proof of funding for living expenses and travel costs)
- a letter from the person or school giving you money or
- proof of funding paid from within Canada, if you have a scholarship or are in a Canadian-funded educational program

If you are applying for your first study permit, we recommend that you write a [Study Plan](#).

How your financial support is assessed

You are required to demonstrate financial sufficiency for **the first year of studies only**, regardless of the length of your program. However, it should be clear that the source of funds will still be available after one year.

Officers may exercise discretion in the documentation they request from applicants.

Amount required for living expenses (plus tuition and travel costs)

Student (single applicant)	CAN\$22,895 (\$1908 per month) plus cost of tuition and travel costs.
Student and one dependent family member (spouse or child)	\$28,502 (\$2375.17 per month) plus cost of tuition and family travel costs.
Student and two family members	\$35,040 (\$2920 per month) plus cost of tuition and family travel costs.

For further information on financial requirements and requirements for larger families, please consult the [IRCC website on financial support](#).

For Cost of Living information, visit: [Cost of living - International Students | NSCC](#)

Additional Information

NSCC offers [scholarships, bursaries and awards](#) that add up to over \$2 million in student support each year. Some awards are specific to a campus, program or year of study, and many financial based bursaries are open only to returning students. However, international students must be prepared to cover most of their tuition and living expenses in Canada. Awards will not be enough to cover your tuition and living expenses. International Students are usually eligible to apply for NSCC awards after they have already started classes.

Find out more: <https://www.nsc.ca/international-students/>

Working as a student

As an international student studying full-time, you may [work 24 hours per week off campus](#) and full-time during regular breaks like winter break and March break if your program has them. To work off campus you must be enrolled full-time in an academic program and you must have the remark on your study permit enabling you to work: *May accept employment on or off campus if meeting eligibility criteria. Must cease working if no longer meeting these criteria.*

Note that you must have started your full-time classes before you can begin working.

Student jobs are often paid minimum wage, which is \$16.75 per hour before taxes in Nova Scotia (and will rise to \$17/hour on October 1, 2026). For example, a student working 20 hours a week earning minimum wages should expect to make about \$1200-\$1300 per month.

Please be mindful that it might take time to find the right part time job for you. Sometimes it takes months to secure a part-time job depending on the community you live in. You must ensure that you have enough funding to cover your initial expenses.