To help your student focus on their studies instead of worrying about finances, help them build a sound financial plan to pay for school. This overview outlines core funding options that are available to help cover the cost of attendance.

**COST OF ATTENDANCE**

The cost of tuition and fees at McGill vary by program and are subject to change. Below is a useful link that will help determine cost breakdowns:

[mcgill.ca/studentaid/finances](http://mcgill.ca/studentaid/finances)
to find information on cost of attendance, including housing and living expenses for a typical 8-months school year.

We believe financial access to university is a joint responsibility between parents (based on the family’s financial capacity), students (through self-help such as part-time work, summer savings, and external awards), government (through student financial assistance programs) and McGill (through scholarships and aid).

**CORE FUNDING**

To cover the cost of attendance, students should establish sources of core funding. Below are some useful examples and links:

  The only scholarships administered by our Student Aid Office. For first-degree students based on academic achievement.

  For all newly accepted, first-year, first-degree undergraduates based on financial need.

- **In-course Scholarships**
  Students should consult with the Student Affairs Office in their faculty to acquaint themselves with eligibility criteria and to receive answers to any related questions they may have. Scholarships committees, of individual faculties, choose students who have excelled in their program of study. These funds tend to be awarded automatically.

**Financial Aid from the Government**

Government student financial assistance programs which can include loans, bursaries, or grants, are considered a core source of funding for students demonstrating financial need.

- **Canadian students** can apply to the Canada Student Loans Program (CSLP) through their province of residence. QC, NWT, and Nunavut do not participate in the CSLP but administer their own aid programs.

- **U.S. students** have access to the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program, parent PLUS loans as well as alternative (non-government) loans.

- **Non U.S. international students** should inquire with their own government about sources of funding.

**FURTHER FINANCIAL AID FROM MCGILL**

If government aid and other resources are insufficient, students can apply for supplemental assistance through our In-Course Financial Aid programs.

- **McGill Loans**
  McGill offers interest-free loans to help supplement sources of core funding such as government aid and bursaries.

- **In-course Bursaries**
  Bursaries are non-repayable awards designed to help students with demonstrated financial need.

**WORK STUDY**

Eligible students with demonstrated financial need may find part-time administrative or academic work on campus or in one of our affiliated teaching hospitals. The program not only helps students financially but can develop career-related skills and experience.

**MONEY MANAGEMENT**

Managing financial resources is an essential life skill! By following our Frugal Scholar’s ‘path to financial wellness’ students can find the peace of mind that a realistic financial plan will bring.

**The Frugal Scholar Toolkit guide** is a condensed, printable version of instructions on how to use the toolkit.

[mcgill.ca/studentaid/finances](http://mcgill.ca/studentaid/finances)

**The Frugal Scholar Toolkit** is a set of Excel worksheets developed by our office and students to promote mindful spending, particularly on the costs associated with studying full time. We offer group workshops to explore the Frugal Scholar Toolkit and budgeting.

**Our Financial Aid Counsellors**

For students who want an individual session, we invite them to schedule a Budget and Debt Management appointment with one of our Financial Aid Counsellors. In order to do this, we’ll need a Financial Profile/Budget section completed in Minerva to identify costs, resources and debt for the current year. This will allow our counsellors to provide tailored advice.

**OTHER WAYS TO HELP**

In addition to your monetary contributions, you can help your student by:

- allowing them to live at home during the summer months so they can save money while working;
- completing the parental section of their government aid application accurately and promptly;
- being candid about the amount of support you can provide; and
- encouraging them to be active in and responsible for their own financial planning.

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