



# KEC MESSAGE ON CANADA EMERGENCY STUDENT BENEFIT (CESB)

*FROM: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, ROBIN DELARONDE*

TUESDAY, MAY 19<sup>TH</sup>, 2020

## **WA'TKWANONHNWERA:TON**

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The KEC wants to assure post-secondary students that we are assessing the Covid-19 emergency and how it may develop in coming months. We support all our post-secondary students in their endeavours. We understand the current pandemic affects many of you.

To support you during this time the KEC Post-Secondary Department is providing eligible KEC post-secondary students with a one-time interim allowance for June 2020. Please note this funding will still allow you to apply for the CESB, as outlined in this memo. According to Indigenous Service Canada (ISC), students may access both KEC Covid-19 emergency allowance and the CESB.

The one-time interim post-secondary allowance cheques will go out on May 25, 2020 for the month of June 2020. If you submitted your direct deposit information, you will receive a direct deposit. If not, you will receive a cheque mailed to the address listed on your funding application form.

For any questions, please contact Chris Leclaire at [chris.leclaire@kecedu.ca](mailto:chris.leclaire@kecedu.ca), or Bethany Douglas at [bethany.douglas@kecedu.ca](mailto:bethany.douglas@kecedu.ca)

## Understanding the Canada Emergency Student Benefit (CESB)

The Covid19 pandemic affects everyone. In response, the Canadian government created measures to assist workers, families and students to provide financial supports. One of these measures is the Canada Emergency Student Benefit (CESB). The CESB is in place to provide financial support for post-secondary students and recent high school graduates who have been unable to find work during the Covid-19 pandemic.

### Who Can Apply

The CESB is specific to students who **do not** qualify for the Kahnawà:ke Economic Relief Measures (KERM), the Canada Emergency Relief Benefit (CERB) or Employment Insurance (EI). If you received or will receive funds from one of those programs, you are ineligible to apply for the CESB.

The CESB is available to students from May through August 2020 and gives eligible students financial assistance as follows:

- \$1,250 a month for a single person
- \$2,000 a month for a person with dependents or a disability

The maximum benefit period is sixteen (16) weeks and is a taxable benefit. There **may** be additional allowances of \$750 per month during the period for students meeting the following requirements:

- You have a disability
- You have one or more dependents/children under the age of twelve (12)

### You are Not Eligible for the CESB if:

- You are in school full-time. CESB guidelines state you must be available to work and looking for employment, but unable to find work to be eligible for assistance
- You are, or will receive assistance from KERM, CERB or EI during the four (4) week eligibility period
- You earned more than \$1,000 in employment income for the entire four (4) week period of your new claim

### What to know:

- When applying for your first claim you cannot have earned more than \$1,000 in employment or self-employment income for fourteen (14) or more consecutive days within the four-week period to which you are applying. If you earned money you must wait for the next available period
- Each eligibility period is a four (4) week period with a beginning and end date. People who apply receive financial assistance that is specific to the period to which you applied
- You can apply for only one eligibility period at a time.

- You must re-apply for each four (4) week period if you need continued assistance

### If you recently graduated from High School:

- The CESB is for eligible graduating high school students meeting the following conditions:
  - You have completed, or expect to complete high school
    - You received or will receive your Secondary V in 2020
      - If you complete your Secondary V **before** June 7, 2020, you must apply for your eligibility date after June 7<sup>th</sup>
      - If you complete your Secondary V **after** June 7, 2020, you can only apply for two (2) eligibility periods from July 5, 2020 to August 1, 2020
    - Have applied for post-secondary studies that begin before February 1, 2021

### Eligibility Periods for Post-Secondary Students

- May 10 to June 6, 2020
- June 7 to July 4, 2020
- July 5 to August 1, 2020
- August 2 to August 29, 2020

### How to Apply

The Canada Revenue Agency website provides all the required information to apply for the CESB. You may apply online using your CRA personal account or by telephone. Please follow the link below for detailed instructions

<https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/benefits/emergency-student-benefit/cesb-how-apply.html>

The Kahnawà:ke Education Center sends all of our post-secondary students good wishes during the Covid-19 pandemic. Please keep posted on our website at [www.kecedu.ca](http://www.kecedu.ca) and on our Facebook page for future developments and information.

  
Robin Delaronde, Director of Education