



THE ASSOCIATION OF FACULTIES
OF MEDICINE OF CANADA

L'ASSOCIATION DES FACULTÉS
DE MÉDECINE DU CANADA

Future MD Canada

Costs and Funding

Q3c: What will it cost to become a doctor?

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The total cost of medical education in Canada may exceed \$100,000, if both education-related and non-education related expenses are taken into consideration.

- 27.1% of Canadian medical graduates reported a pre-medical education debt averaging \$25,965.ⁱ
- 83.5% of Canadian medical graduates reported debt directly related to their medical education.ⁱⁱ
- Canadian medical graduates reported an average debt of \$84,172ⁱⁱⁱ for medical school expenses and \$80,516^{iv} of non-education related debt.

Most learners accumulate debt while they are in medical school and pay it off over several years after they have completed their training and entered the workforce.

Paying for medical school

Many resources are available to help learners pay for their medical education. Every faculty of medicine in Canada has a student affairs office that offers financial counselling (see table below). These offices have access to a vast array of resources on a variety of topics of relevance to learners.

For more on scholarships and provincial and federal assistance, see [Q3d](#), [Q3e](#), and [Q3f](#).

Canadian Medical Schools	Scholarships and Financial Aid Offices
Dalhousie University	Scholarships, Bursaries, and Awards at the Office of Student Affairs http://medicine.dal.ca/departments/core-units/student-affairs/financial-support/scholarships-bursaries-awards.html Money Matters http://www.dal.ca/admissions/money_matters.html
Lakehead University/ Laurentian University (Northern Ontario School of Medicine)	Financial Aid http://www.nosm.ca/education/ume/general.aspx?id=1300
McGill University	Financial Aid http://www.mcgill.ca/medadmissions/prospective/financial-aid
McMaster University	Financial Aid for Medical Students http://sfas.mcmaster.ca/Med_facts_forms.html
Memorial University of Newfoundland	Financial Support at the Office of Student Affairs http://www.med.mun.ca/StudentAffairs/Financial-Support.aspx
Queen's University	Queen's University, Office of the Registrar, Student Awards http://queensu.ca/studentawards/home

Université de Montréal	Bureau d'aide aux étudiants et résidents http://med.umontreal.ca/la-communaute/les-etudiants/bureau-daide-aux-etudiants-et-residents-baer/
Université de Sherbrooke	Bourses et aide financière http://www.usherbrooke.ca/medecine/etudiants/vie-etudiante/bourses-et-aide-financiere/
Université Laval	Bourses et aide financière http://www.fmed.ulaval.ca/site_fac/index.php?id=3585
University of Alberta	Financial Assistance at the Support and Wellness for Students and Residents Office http://www.med.ualberta.ca/programs/law/undergraduate/financial
University of British Columbia	Financial Support at the Office of Student Affairs http://mdprogram.med.ubc.ca/student-resources/financial-support/
University of Calgary	MD Program, Student Affairs, Financial Aid http://www.ucalgary.ca/mdprogram/student-affairs/financial-aid
University of Manitoba	Student Loans, Bursaries, and Awards at the Student Affairs Office http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/medicine/student_affairs/awards.html
University of Ottawa	Financial Counselling at the Student Affairs Office http://www.med.uottawa.ca/Students/StudentAffairs/eng/financial_counselling.html
University of Saskatchewan	Student and Enrolment Services Division, Awards and Financial Aid http://www.usask.ca/sesd/about/awards.php
University of Toronto	Faculty of Medicine Financial Aid Programs http://www.md.utoronto.ca/financialaid.htm
Western University	Financial Assistance https://www.schulich.uwo.ca/admissions/medicine/financialassistance

You might also be interested in Q3b: How much is tuition at a Canadian medical school?

Or Q3d: What scholarships are available?

Or Q3e: What kind of support is available from the Government of Canada?

Or Q3f: How do provincial governments contribute to medical education?

Or Q4a: Do medical students earn money?

Sources:

- Association of American Medical Colleges (October 2013). *Canadian Medical School Graduation Questionnaire – 2013 All Schools Summary Report*, AAMC: Washington, DC, 46 p. Retrieved from <https://www.aamc.org/download/363214/data/2013cggallschoolsreport.pdf>.
- Statistics Canada (October 3, 2011). Undergraduate tuition fees for full-time Canadian students, by discipline, by province (Canada). Page consulted June 19, 2014, at <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/tables-tableaux/sum-som/l01/cst01/educ50a-eng.htm>.

Glossary:

- **Non-education related debt:** Debt related to credit cards, car loans, mortgages, and loans for elective and residency interview expenses.
- **Pre-medical education debt:** Debt related to tuition, books, and accommodation during postsecondary education undertaken prior to admission into medical school.

ⁱ The Association of American Medical Colleges (October 2013). *Canadian Medical School Graduation Questionnaire – 2013 All Schools Summary Report*, Washington: AAMC, p. 39. Retrieved from <https://www.aamc.org/download/363214/data/2013cggallschoolsreport.pdf>.

ⁱⁱ *Id.*, p. 40.

ⁱⁱⁱ *Ibid.*

^{iv} *Id.*, p. 41.