

THE B.C. GOVERNMENT SUPPORTS LIFE-LONG LEARNING



The Children's Education fund is just one of several programs government is providing to support British Columbia's children and families.

FOR TODAY'S EARLY LEARNERS:

- » Ready, Set, Learn play-based early learning activities for three-year-olds
- » StrongStart BC Centres for early learning
- » Full-day Kindergarten for five-year-olds

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS FOR TODAY'S STUDENTS:

- » Passport to Education
- » Dogwood/District Scholarships
- » Grade 12 Scholarships

Resources

For more information on these programs, see:
www.bced.gov.bc.ca/early_learning
www.bced.gov.bc.ca/awards

To find out more about the Children's Education Fund,
contact 1-888-879-1166, or visit:
www.bced.gov.bc.ca/awards/childrens_ed_fund.htm



The Children's Education Fund

Investing Today in B.C. Students of Tomorrow



WHAT IS THE CHILDREN'S EDUCATION FUND?

The Children's Education Fund is a program established by the province to support all children in their future post-secondary education.

The Provincial Government is investing \$1,000 for every B.C. child born on or after January 1, 2007. This investment will grow over time until students enter post-secondary learning and withdraw their share of this bursary to support their studies. By the time your child graduates from high school, this investment is expected to double.



Who is eligible for the Fund?

Every child born on or after January 1, 2007 whose parents normally reside in B.C. is eligible to access this funding.

This includes children born outside of B.C. who are adopted by B.C. families, and children born elsewhere to parents who normally reside in B.C., such as Canadian Forces personnel and mothers who deliver babies out-of-province due to unforeseen circumstances.

How does a child apply for the Fund?

No application is required. Detailed program information will be available to eligible students as they prepare to leave high school. The benefit will help cover tuition and related educational expenses.

When can students access their share of the fund?

Eligible students will be able to access this bursary to support their choices in learning when they are between the ages of 17 and 26 years old and entering a B.C. post-secondary educational program.

What kind of post-secondary training is covered?

Students studying at a wide range of B.C. post-secondary schools that provide academic, trades or other vocational training will qualify for this funding.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PREMIER OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



Congratulations! There is nothing more hopeful and exciting than the birth of a child. There are also few things more important for your child's future than access to a quality education.

In fact, experts predict that by the end of this decade, three quarters of all future jobs in British Columbia will need people with some post-secondary education. Because of this, I am pleased to say that the Province is investing \$1,000 for every child born in British Columbia for their future post-secondary education. This investment will grow over time and will be available to support educational choices for future generations of B.C. students, as they look to pursue academic, trades or other vocational training.

As we all know, the early years of a child's life can be some of the most important. Every child deserves the opportunity to have the skills necessary to be ready for school and reach their full potential -- that's one of the reasons we are developing StrongStart BC early learning centres and supporting full-day kindergarten. We want children to gain skills that will help them throughout their lives.

The coming years will be an exciting time for you and your family. Congratulations on a new chapter of your lives and I wish your family the very best for the future.

Honourable Gordon Campbell
Premier of British Columbia

File #2 - folded in 3

MESSAGE FROM THE PREMIER



HONOURABLE GORDON CAMPBELL
PREMIER OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Dear parent:

Congratulations on the adoption of your baby!

I know you are going to have amazing memories as you see your baby's first smile, watch the first step and hear the first word.

In British Columbia, we want every child to imagine a future that is full of promise and to know that their province is a place where their dreams can come true. The first key to realizing our dreams is a loving family, the second key is education. That's why the people of British Columbia want your baby to know that we are setting aside a gift for their future – \$1000 is being contributed to your baby's future education today.

Every child born or adopted in B.C. from January 1, 2007 and beyond, receives a \$1000 Children's Education Fund contribution. That investment will grow from now until your child graduates from high school. The \$1000 will grow over the years and the interest will be added to your baby's education fund. All of it, plus interest, will be made available to support their choice in learning after graduation. With a valid birth certificate, your child will be able to receive that money when they decide on their post secondary education – whether it's in the trades, at college or university. When they decide the path they want to follow, the money will be there for them.

There are a range of programs that the province has established to help your baby lead a healthy, happy life. New hearing, sight and dental tests are available throughout the province. Strong Start and family literacy programs are being established to help prepare your baby for school.

What an exciting time lies ahead of you. The Children's Education Fund contribution to your baby's future is one way that everyone in the province is saying to you and your baby, CONGRATULATIONS!

Sincerely,

Gordon Campbell
Premier

File #1 - Will go into Vitzel stats
birth



MESSAGE FROM THE PREMIER



HONOURABLE GORDON CAMPBELL
PREMIER OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Dear parent:

Congratulations on the birth of your baby!

I know you are going to have amazing memories as you see your baby's first smile, watch the first step and hear the first word.

In British Columbia we want every child to imagine a future that is full of promise and to know that their province is a place where their dreams can come true. The first key to realizing our dreams is a loving family, the second key is education. That's why the people of British Columbia want your baby to know that we are setting aside a gift for their future - \$1000 is being contributed to your baby's future education today.

Every child born or adopted in B.C. this year and for years to come, will receive a \$1000 Children's Education Fund contribution. That investment will grow from now until your child graduates from high school. The \$1000 will grow over the years and the interest will be added to your baby's education fund. All of it, plus interest, will be made available to support their choice in learning after graduation. All you need to do is register the birth of your baby. With a valid birth certificate, your child will be able to receive that money when they decide on their post secondary education - whether it's in the trades, at college or university. When they decide the path they want to follow, the money will be there for them.

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