

06 Saving for education



Paying for university or college is hard for most people. It is a good idea to start saving for a child early. Your money has time to grow, and the government of Canada helps you out.

You do this by opening a Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP). Banks and credit unions are RESP providers.

When you put money in, the government puts in some money as well. If you have a low income, you may get more money. Read more about these supports in the section titled “Government supports for education savings”.

You can invest the money so that it grows faster. You do not pay taxes on the money earned from interest or investing.

Having an RESP will encourage your child to stay in school because they have money saved up for their education. They will not be so scared about having to borrow and carry a big debt later.

Use this worksheet to plan out the steps to opening an RESP.

Bear cubs stay close to their mother for the first part of their life, learning skills for survival. Saving early for your child's education can increase their chance of staying in school and gaining skills for their future.

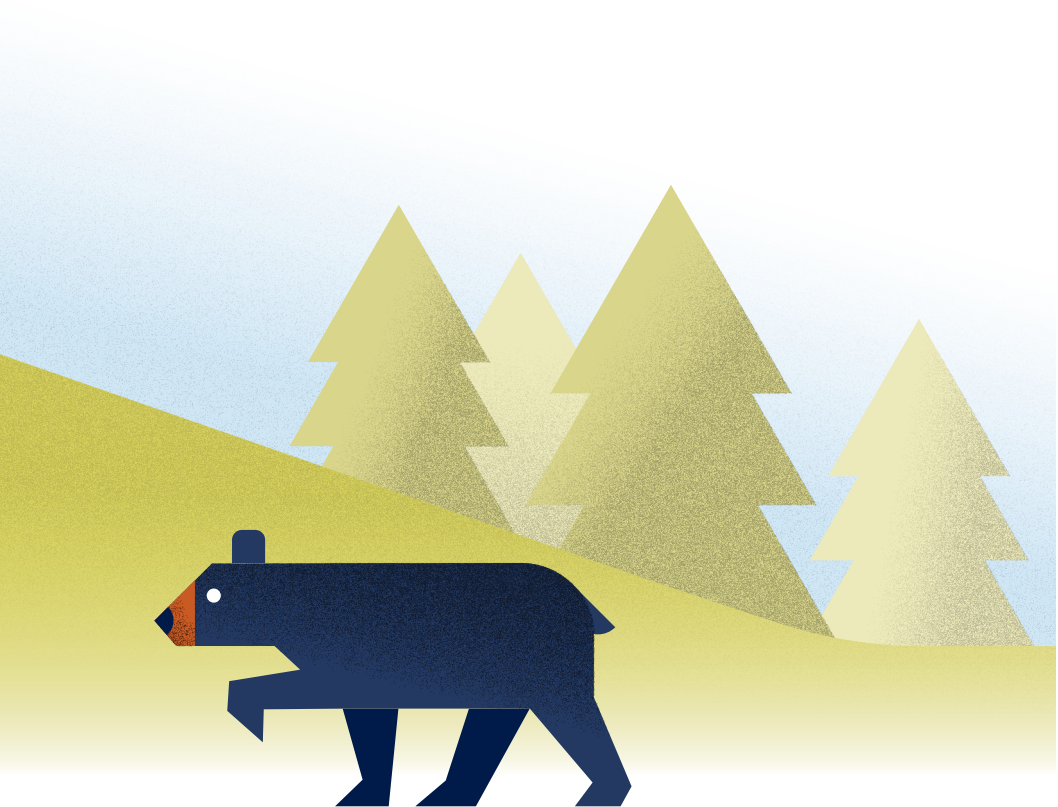
These worksheets were inspired by Indigenous financial wellness expert and artist Simon Brascoupé, co-creator of our Managing Your Money booklet.

Learn more about the inception of these resources and our commitment to reconciliation.

My RESP action plan

<div>1. What I need to open an RESP:</div> <div>My Social Insurance Number (SIN)</div> <div>My photo ID</div> <div>My child’s SIN</div> <div>My child’s birth certificate, Canadian citizenship card, or permanent residence card</div>	<div>2. The plan I want or have:</div> <div>Individual RESP</div> <div>Family RESP (if you are saving for more than one child)</div>	<div>3. The grants and bonds I qualify for and how much I should receive:</div> <div>*Canada Learning Bond (CLB)</div> <div>\$</div> <div>*Canada Education Savings Grant (CESG)</div> <div>\$</div> <div>(based on the amount you put in the RESP)</div> <div>Provincial grants and bonds:</div> <div>\$</div>	<div>4. Choose a place to open your account:</div>
<div>5. How I will set money aside to put in the RESP:</div> <div>Tip: Look at your budget. When do you have money coming in that you could set aside for education savings?</div>	<div>6. How much and how often I will put money in:</div> <div>Tip: With a bank RESP you can put in as much or as little as you want.</div>	<div>7. How I will keep track of how my account is growing:</div>	<div>8. Contact information for my RESP provider:</div> <div>Date and time of our meeting:</div> <div>Tip: Make a list of any other questions you want to ask during your visit.</div>

*For more information on the CLB and CESG, see the section titled “Government supports for education savings”.



Government supports for education savings

Government supports are available to help you save for education. You can receive them by opening a Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP).
The **Canada Learning Bond** (CLB) is a federal government grant. It is a special grant for children from families with low income. **You do not need to put any money into the RESP for your child to receive the Canada Learning Bond.** All you have to do is open the account.
The Canada Education Savings Grant (CESG): When you put money into your child's RESP, the government

of Canada will match a portion of what you put in each year. Children from all family incomes get the basic grant. Children from families with low- to moderate-income get some more money on top of that.
If you live in Saskatchewan or British Columbia, you may be able to get **support from the provincial government** as well.
Use this worksheet to plan out how to apply for the Canada Learning Bond (CLB).

My CLB checklist

1. I have checked that my child:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Is born on or after January 1, 2004 | My child's SIN |
| Lives in Canada | Has a valid Social Insurance Number (SIN) |

2. I have gathered the following information:

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------------------|
| My SIN | My child's birth certificate, |
| My photo ID | Canadian citizenship card, or |
| My child's SIN | permanent residence card |

3. I have gone to a bank or credit union and:

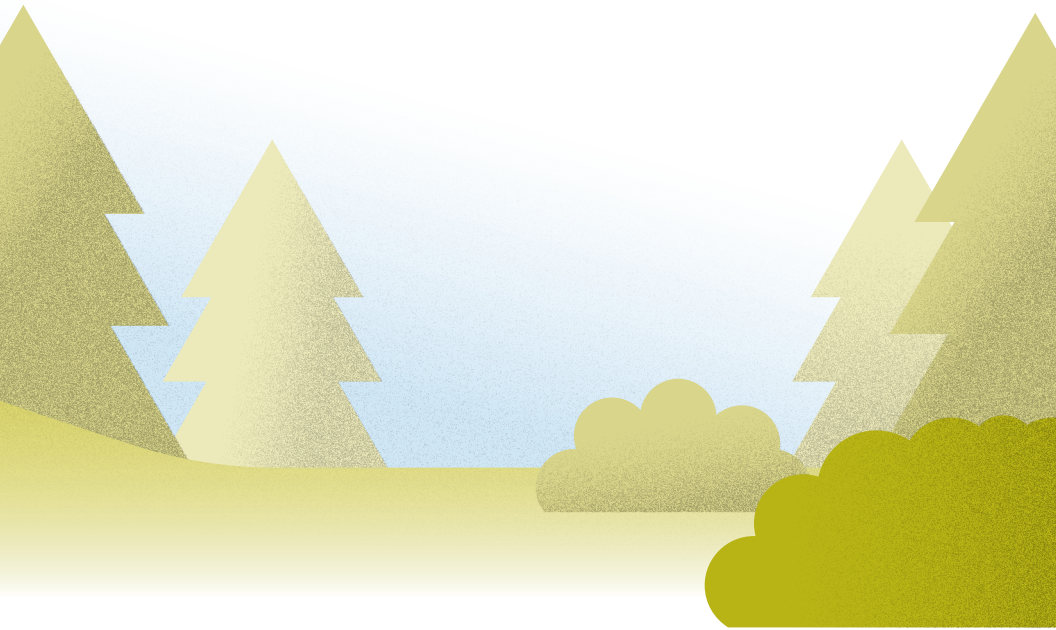
- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
| Opened a RESP | Asked for and filled out the |
| Named my child as the person receiving the money (the beneficiary) in the RESP | CLB application form(s) |

4. I have called or visited the bank or credit where I opened the RESP and:

- | | |
|--|---|
| Checked that they have help me apply for the CLB | Asked when and how I can make sure I have received my CLB payment |
|--|---|

Important dates

- I will open an RESP and apply for the CLB at a bank or credit on (date) at (time).
- I will check that I have received my CLB payment on (date).



RESP tips

Tips

- Call your bank after your RESP is open to make sure they have helped you apply for the CLB and other grants and bonds.
- Choose a financial institution you trust and find convenient. Check [the List of RESP Promoters on the government website](#) to make sure they can help you apply for the government supports you qualify for.
- Grants and bonds are usually deposited into your account once every year. The yearly contribution deadline is in December. You may want to set up yearly meetings with your RESP provider.