



FREE MONEY FOR BC KIDS' EDUCATION SAVINGS!



Emily, age 9, got the CLB!



BC FAMILIES can open a no-fee, zero required contribution Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP) and receive free government money for their kids' higher education.

BC Training & Education Savings Grant

BC children born 2007 or later, at ages 6, 7 or 8

\$1,200

Canada Learning Bond

Family has ever received the National Child Benefit Supplement and child born 2004 or later

UP TO \$2,000



UP TO \$3,200 FOR ELIGIBLE FAMILIES

FREE MONEY (Yes, really!)

Over **250,000** kids in BC have free money waiting to get their post-secondary education savings started through the federal government's **Canada Learning Bond**. Now BC kids can also get the new **BC Training & Education Savings Grant** at age 6, 7 or 8.

It's **FREE MONEY** for families to get savings started even when they have no money of their own to contribute.

Without an RESP though, kids miss out on the federal and provincial education savings incentives they are entitled to. **SmartSAVER*** is working to change that.

Did you know?

Research demonstrates that even small amounts of education savings can set in motion a chain reaction of positive outcomes for a child and their family.

- Children with some savings are more likely to graduate from high school¹ and 50% more likely to pursue a post-secondary education².
- Lower-income children with as little as \$500 in savings are 3x more likely to attend post-secondary education and 4x more likely to graduate³.

The SmartSAVER online 'Start My RESP' application means that I can get families on the path to an RESP and accessing the free government grants from almost anywhere. I can meet them at their daycare, or where they go for parenting resources, or at play groups, and in about 5 minutes they have started the application process and are on their way."

Rolanda Murray
Canada Learning Bond Coordinator, Vancouver Island University

*SmartSAVER, a program of the registered charity the Omega Foundation, is focused on one thing: helping lower-income families make saving for their children's post-secondary education a reality using no-cost RESPs and federal and provincial grants

SmartSAVER Can Help

SmartSAVER's new online Canada Learning Bond application, **SmartSAVER.org**, developed in partnership with six leading financial institutions: **BMO Bank of Montreal, Meridian Credit Union, RBC Royal Bank, Scotiabank, TD Canada Trust** and **Vancity** makes it easier for families to apply for the Canada Learning Bond and BC Grant, and connects them directly to an RESP provider of their choice to start an account for \$0. That means no account set-up, enrolment or annual fee and no contribution requirements.

SmartSAVER also provides a multilingual website with simple information on RESPs and the Canada Learning Bond and offers education and training, printable promotional materials, toll-free telephone and email support for applicants and more to organizations that can help families to access these savings benefits.

Choose from 6 Leading Financial Institutions:

Choose one:



RBC Royal Bank



Ontario Only



BMO Bank of Montreal
We're here to help.

Vancity



Scotiabank®

RESP Quick Facts

- An RESP is the tax-sheltered receiving account required for benefits like the Canada Learning Bond, BCTESG and matching contributions (Canada Education Savings Grant).
- An RESP can be started for \$0 and with \$0 in family contributions.
- A Social Insurance Number is required for the child and for the child's primary caregiver.
- RESPs are flexible. A child can use the money in their account to pursue a wide range of educational options.
- An RESP does not have to be opened by a parent – it can be opened by a relative, public caregiver or even a friend.

¹ Social Service Review, "Assets, expectations, and children's educational achievement in female-headed households", 2003

² Statistics Canada and HRDC, "Access, persistence and financing: First results from the Postsecondary Education Participation Survey (PEPS)", 2003

³ Elliott, W. & Rauscher, E. (2013). From disadvantaged students to college graduates: The role Of CSAs (Chapter 4 – Brief).

SmartSAVER is supported by:

HAYNES CONNELL
FOUNDATION

THE J.W. MCCONNELL
FAMILY FOUNDATION

LA FONDATION DE LA
FAMILLE J.W. MCCONNELL

METCALF
FOUNDATION

Prevention^{MD}
Fondation Lucie
et André Chagnon