

# **COVID-19**

## Nunavut Summary of Education Updates

July 31, 2020

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# NUNAVUT | Summary of the Government's Response to COVID-19

School System	Status, Date of Closure, & Expected Date of Re-Opening	Current Graduating Classes	Access to Online Learning	Provincially Mandated Assessments & Report Cards	Financial Aid for Schools and Parents	Tuition, Scholarships & Entry Fees
<b>Child Care – Department of Education</b>						
Licensed child care facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All child care facilities must remain closed to children until further notice (<i>current as of April 29</i>).</li> <li>As of May 28<sup>th</sup>, the Department of Education has developed <a href="#">guidelines</a> for child-care facility reopening, including information on enhanced cleaning and hygiene, and physical distancing during drop-off and pick-up (<i>current as of June 18</i>).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not applicable.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not applicable.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not applicable.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Department of Education provided \$885,000 to licensed child care facilities to cover parental fees from March 17 to 21, 2020. During this time, parents were not required to pay parental fees. This funding enabled facilities to continue paying staff while transitioning to financial assistance programs offered by the Government of Canada, such as the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) and the Canadian Wage Subsidy Program. (<i>current as of May 8</i>).</li> <li>The Department of Education has and will continue to pay all regular O&amp;M funding to licensed child care facilities. This should account for a significant portion of the monthly operating costs of a facility (<i>current as of April 29</i>).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not applicable.</li> </ul>
<b>Kindergarten to High School – Department of Education</b>						
All schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All schools in Nunavut will be closed to students for the rest of the 2019-20 school year (<i>current as of April 17</i>).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For those Grade 12 students on track to graduate, principals and teachers will work with</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Department of Education has developed a learn-at-home website, <a href="#">Angirrami Ilinniarniq</a>, which</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Departmental exams for high school students have been cancelled for the</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bus service contracts will continue to be paid during the three-week school closure (<i>current as of March 25</i>).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No update as of May 21, 2020.</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On Friday, July 24, the Department of Education release the 2020-21 Opening Plan for Nunavut Schools: Health and Safety. As it stands, all schools will open, as scheduled, for the new school year, unless otherwise directed by Chief Public Health Officer (CPHO) (<i>Current as of July 27</i>).</li> </ul>	<p>them to ensure they complete any necessary requirements (<i>current as of April 17</i>).</p>	<p>offers free access to some of the same educational resources used in schools. There will also be links to download the department's Inuktitut language learning apps (<i>current as of March 31</i>).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Many students have already received an initial learning package from their teachers. Most packages include learn-at-home work and activities for one or two weeks at a time. There is a mix of paper and electronic-based work, depending on the student and their circumstance. Students and families should expect to receive learning packages for the rest of the school year (<i>current as of April 29</i>).</li> </ul>	<p>school year. High school marks will be based on course work only (<i>current as of April 17</i>).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff will be supporting students by assessing their work prior to the school closure to determine final grades, and preparing year-end report cards (<i>current as of April 17</i>).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No other school-specific update as of May 21, 2020, but the Department of Economic Development and Transportation will provide immediate short-term relief to Nunavut businesses through its Small Business Support Program (\$5,000 in the form of a non-repayable contribution).</li> </ul>	

## Post-Secondary Institutions – Department of Family Services

Nunavut Arctic College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All NAC Community Learning Centres and Campuses (including offices, cafeterias, library, labs) across the territory are temporarily closed to public</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The College is committed to ensuring that students successfully complete this semester.</li> <li>Nunavut Arctic College's graduations and</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The College hopes to resume courses for the Spring semester and these will likely be delivered through alternative means like course packs sent to</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some programs are offered by semester and have completed a majority of the courses required. Students will receive a mark based</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No school-specific update as of May 21, 2020, but the Department of Economic Development and Transportation will provide immediate short-term relief to Nunavut businesses through its</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No update as of May 21, 2020.</li> </ul>
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	<p>and students until the fall (<i>current as of April 29</i>).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As of Monday, June 8, 2020, GN employees who are currently under the “work from home” model, have returned to their regular workplaces. However, although the facilities will open for staff and faculty, <b>they will remain closed for the public and students.</b> Which means that at this time, the plans for online delivery of programs will continue and no in-person classes are allowed (<i>current as of June 18</i>).</li> </ul>	<p>convocations have been deferred to September (<i>current as of March 27</i>).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students that have graduated would still receive a diploma, degree or certificate (<i>current as of April 29</i>).</li> </ul>	<p>students, online offering and programming using local resources (<i>current as of March 27</i>).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some programs in the Spring Semester would be delivered through alternative means (course packs sent to students, online offering, programming utilizing local resources) (<i>current as of April 29</i>).</li> </ul>	<p>on work completed as of March 17, 2020 (such as the College Foundation and Office Administration) (<i>current as of April 29</i>).</p>	<p>Small Business Support Program (\$5,000 in the form of a non-repayable contribution).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Financial Assistance for Nunavut Students</a> continues to be available for post-secondary students.</li> </ul>	

## A special note about the Federal Government's directive with respect to post-secondary students and recent graduates:

- Post-secondary students and recent graduates who are ineligible for the Canada Emergency Response Benefit or for Employment Insurance, but who are unable to find full-time employment or are unable to work due to COVID-19, may apply for the Canada Emergency Student Benefit (CESB). The CESB would provide \$1,250 per month for eligible students from May through August 2020, and \$2,000 for students with dependents and those with permanent disabilities. The CESB will be delivered by CRA. More information is found [here](#) (*current as of May 13*).
- The Government of Canada announced a new Canada Student Service Grant which will provide up to \$5,000 to support student's post-secondary education costs in the fall. More details to follow (*current as of April 22*).
- The Government of Canada will revise the Canada Student Loan Program's eligibility requirements in 2020-21 to allow more students to qualify for supports and be eligible for greater amounts, including doubling the non-repayable Canada Student Grants for full and part time students, as well as for students with disabilities and students with dependents, in the coming academic year. The changes are expected to expand the reach of the program and the benefit to more than 760,000 students at an estimated cost of approximately \$1.9 billion over two years starting in 2020-21 (*current as of April 22*).
- The Government of Canada will revise various student and youth employment programs, such as the Youth Employment and Skills Strategy. More information is found [here](#) (*current as of April 22*).

## **A special note about the Federal Government's directive with respect to international students:**

- As announced on March 20, 2020, international students who held a valid study permit or had been approved for a study permit when the travel restrictions took effect on March 18, 2020, will be able travel to Canada by air or land. They will be exempt from air travel and border restrictions. This exemption is to accommodate students who are in the middle of their course of study or who have just been approved to study in Canada but were outside Canada when the travel restrictions took effect (*current as of March 26*).
- Courses of study being delivered online on an exceptional basis due to COVID 19 will not affect Post-Graduation Work Permit (PGWP) Program eligibility (*current as of March 26*).
- Students who have a study permit or who have been approved for a study permit for a program starting in May or June may begin their classes while outside Canada and may complete up to 50% of their program while outside Canada if they cannot travel to Canada sooner (*current as of April 16*).
- Individuals who are already legally in Canada will be able to remain in the country (*current as of March 26*).
- Temporary residents who are currently in Canada are able to apply to extend their status online if they need to extend their status. A temporary resident who has applied to extend their status is allowed to remain in Canada until a decision is made on their new application, even if their initial status expires while they are waiting for that decision. This is called implied status (*current as of March 26*).
- At least one post-secondary institution has suspended the intake of new incoming International students from overseas for the Spring Semester beginning in May.
- The Government of Canada is temporarily allowing international students holding study permits, who are eligible to work off campus and already present in Canada, to work more than 20 hours per week while classes are in session, provided they are working in an essential service or function, such as health care, critical infrastructure, or the supply of food or other critical goods. This change is in effect until August 31, 2020 (*current as of April 22*).

## **Information about the Government of Nunavut's response to COVID-19 can be found directly at:**

- <https://www.gov.nu.ca/education/news/covid-19-department-education-services-update>
- <https://www.gov.nu.ca/health/news/temporary-nunavut-wide-school-and-daycare-closures-precaution-covid-19>
- <https://www.gov.nu.ca/news/346>
- <https://arcticcollege.ca/covid19>

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