

Technology Teacher Education – BCIT

Information regarding the BC Government's Loan Forgiveness Program

How does the loan forgiveness program work?

If you qualify for the program, the Province of British Columbia will forgive the outstanding B.C. portion of your Canada-B.C. integrated student loan debt at a rate of up to a maximum of 20% per year for up to five years.

This means that 40% of your student loan can be forgiven after 5 years. You would be responsible for repaying the remaining 60% of the loan, which is the Federal portion.

While you are in the loan forgiveness program, the provincial government will also pay any outstanding interest that accumulates during each year you are registered in the program.

Am I eligible?

If the BC government determines that you are not eligible for StudentAid BC funding because of your personal assets and resources, you would also be ineligible for the BC loan forgiveness program.

For more info on the StudentAid BC funding program, click on this link:

https://studentaidbc.ca/repay/repayment-help/bc-loan-forgiveness-program#What_is_available?

Do I have to work in a remote/underserved community to be eligible?

No. For Technology Education teachers, you can be working in any BC school district.

Why does the loan forgiveness program include Technology Education teachers?

The loan forgiveness program has been expanded to include technology education teachers in response to a shortage in this specialized area of teaching and the increasing demand for skilled trades people in the labour force. Including technology education teachers will encourage mature tradespeople to return to university to qualify as technology education teachers. It will also give young people another reason to choose careers as technology education teachers.

What are the Technology Education teaching areas?

Teachers must be working as Technology Education teachers either delivering Ministry curriculum in one of the five core areas (woodworking, metal work, mechanics, drafting, electronics) or delivering Industry Training Authority trades programs related to one of the technology education teaching areas to qualify under the loan forgiveness program.

The related ACE IT trade areas include automotive service technician, cabinet maker, carpenter, construction electrician, electronics technician (consumer products), heavy duty equipment technician, industrial electrician, industrial mechanic (millwright), machinist, metal fabricator, motor vehicle body repairer, outdoor power equipment technician, plumber, sheet metal worker, truck and transport mechanic and welder.

When should I apply to the program?

The program only kicks in once you have graduated, are eligible to teach, and have been hired to teach Tech Ed in BC. No need to worry about it while you are a student in the program.