Tuition & Resources

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HCOS Tuition & Resources

This page provides information and details regarding tuition & curriculum resources at HCOS.

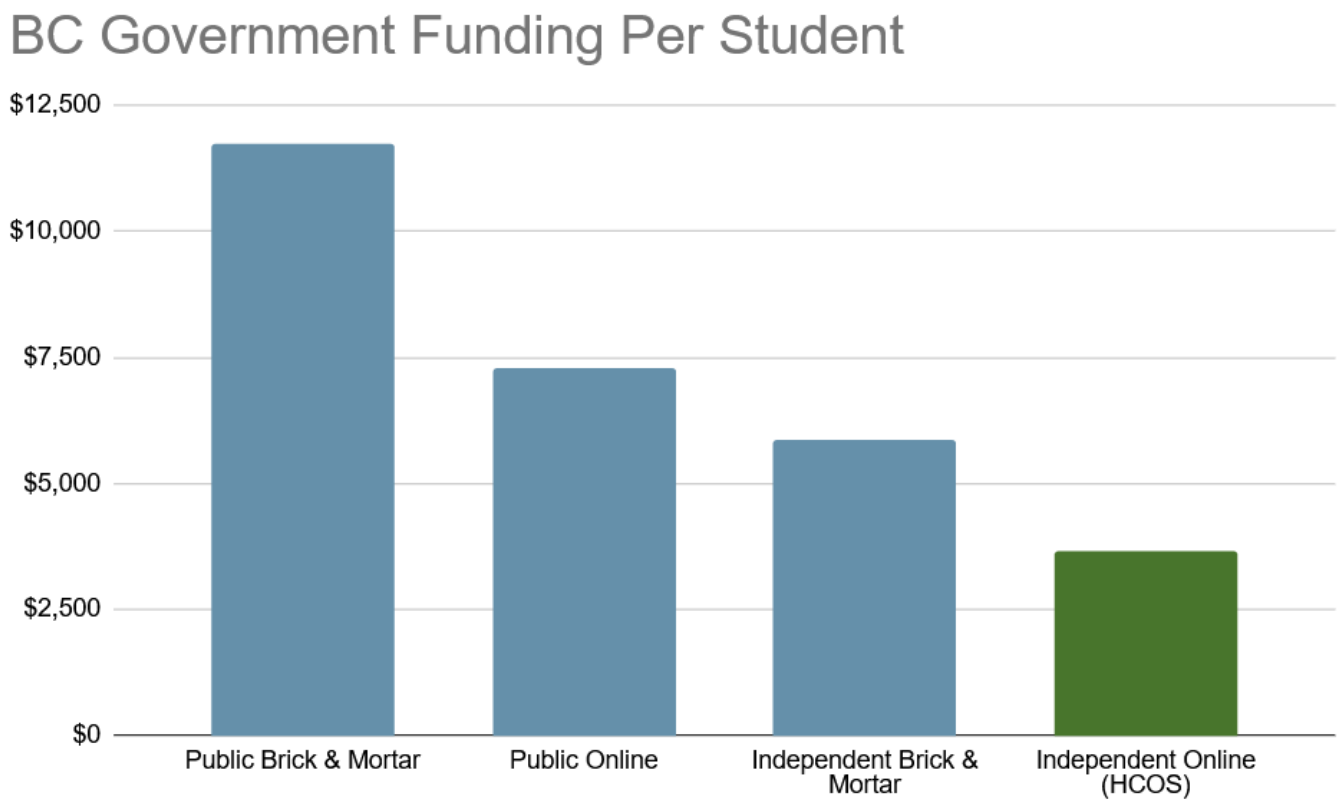
On this page you will find:

- Tuition at HCOS: Why It Exists
- Tuition, Tuition Assistance & Resource Budgets
    - K-9
    - Community Connections (CC) & CC+
    - Grad Program
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Tuition at HCOS: Why It Exists

Online Learning is an underfunded sector in BC education, with the costs of running an online school only slightly lower than a traditional brick & mortar school. Yet online learning funding is, on average, only 62% of brick & mortar funding.

As an Independent Provincial Online Learning School, HCOS receives only 50% of the online funding that Public Provincial Online Learning Schools are allocated. While maximization of resources is a priority at HCOS, the minimal government funding received is not enough to cover the costs of the services we provide. As a result, it is necessary to charge a minimal tuition.



Tuition, Tuition Assistance & Resource Budgets

Our community is our priority. In determining resource allocation, we focus on ensuring students have access to the support and guidance from our excellent teachers, grad advisors, educational assistants, support staff and school leadership, along with robust programming options, online subscriptions and learning commons kits and books to help reduce the cost of purchasing additional curriculum.

Foundations K-9 Tuition & Resource Budget

Tuition Amount (per student)	**Resource Budget (per student)**
$200 per year or $20 per month	$600
• Tuition is charged only for the first three K-9 children in a family. The fourth child and on are free. • One-time payment releases full resource budget amount immediately. • Monthly payment option available through pre-authorized debit (paid September to June) releases $350 initially and the remaining amount after first payment. • Tuition is non-refundable.	• Available for third-party or internal spending.

Foundations K-9 Tuition Assistance Options

Home educating already requires financial sacrifice. In order to ensure access for all students, regardless of finances, we provide two assistance options:

$0 Tuition Option	Bursary Option
• No application necessary. Simply select this option. • $0 tuition • $350 Resource Budget (Available for third-party or internal spending)	• Apply for a bursary. • Bursary will offset the full tuition cost, up to $200, in most cases* • $600 Resource Budget (Available for third-party or internal spending)

* Bursary allocation will be determined by the volume of bursary applications and the available bursary finances. See below for more details on the HCOS Forward Together Bursary Campaign

Foundations K-9 FAQs

Please see our **Tuition & Bursary Family FAQs** page for many more additional questions and answers.

I have a student in the Grad Program (Grades 10-12). Do they count as the first student in the family?
No. The student count is limited to K-9 students. Grade 10-12 students have a different tuition structure (see below).

Am I able to help other families with tuition costs?
Absolutely! Please see the HCOS Forward Together Bursary Campaign below for information on how to give. This gift would be eligible for a tax receipt as per the standard charitable donation rate.

Are there other ways I can help my fellow home educators?
Yes. Help your fellow home school families save money on curriculum by returning the school's curriculum for reuse in the Learning Commons. When we can provide less expensive used curriculum for our families, they don't need to use as much of their resource budgets to buy new instructional materials.

How can you help?

- Return materials by post or in person to:
  905 Badke Road,
  Kelowna BC, V1X 5Z5
- Return materials directly to your support teacher

Community Connections (CC) & CC+

For Community Connections (CC) and CC+ tuition, please see the Learning Groups website for further information and registration.

Grad Program Tuition & Resource Budgets

The Grad Program functions **per course**, not as a whole student. Please keep that in mind in contrast to K-9.

Tuition Amount (per student)	Resource Budget (per course)
$200 per year or $20 per month	Varies (see below)
• A monthly payment option is available through pre-authorized debit (paid September to June) for students who have courses enrolled prior to September. • Courses enrolled after September must be paid in full at time of course enrollment.	• Individualized Elective or Hybrid Elective Courses: $50 • All Other Courses: $0 • The Learning Commons is stocked with common resources for many of our Individualized core courses and will be available for lending terms sufficient for course completion. • Available for third-party or internal spending. **CC+ courses** When students enrol in CC+ programming, they pay an application fee and will also pay grad tuition as noted in the right hand column). When it comes time to pay the CC+ program fees, the paid application fee will be automatically deducted from the total CC+ cost. Families are then responsible to pay the outstanding balance for CC+ programming costs.

Grad Program Tuition Assistance Options

Home educating already requires financial sacrifice. In order to ensure access for all students, regardless of finances, we provide the following tuition assistance option:

Bursary Application
• Apply for a bursary. This process will be simple and non-invasive. • Bursary will offset full course tuition costs in most cases*

* Bursary allocation will be determined by the volume of bursary applications and the available bursary finances. See below for more details on the HCOS Forward Together Bursary Campaign

Grad Program FAQs

Please see our **Tuition & Bursary Family FAQs** page for many more additional questions and answers.

Can I access a K-9 sibling's resource budget for my grad student if needed?
Yes. We will continue to treat resource budgets as a family budget in terms of accessibility for any student in the family.

Am I able to help other families with tuition costs?
Absolutely! Please see the HCOS Forward Together Bursary Campaign below for information on how to give. This gift would be eligible for a tax receipt as per the standard charitable donation rate.

Cross Enrollment Tuition & Fees

Cross Enrollment functions **per course**, not as a whole student. Please keep that in mind in contrast to K-9.

Type	Amount
Grade 10-12 Courses: Adult Dogwood (school-age): Adult (non-graduated): Adult (graduated): Grade 8-9 Courses: International Students:	$50 per course $50 per course (includes exam fee if applicable) $100 per course $650 per course $250 per course $995 per course

- All tuition & fees must be paid in full at time of course or exam registration
- There are no resource budgets available for cross enrolled students
- Per course fees are not refundable. However, courses may be exchanged for a different course at no cost

* Advanced Placement Courses (when available) have additional fees associated with taking the AP Exam.

Cross Enrollment Tuition Assistance Options

There are no tuition assistance or bursary options available for cross enrollment.

Home School Registered

Tuition Amount (per student)	Resource Budget (per student)
$0	$0

- HS Registered students will continue to receive the support of our Home School Liaison
- HS Registered students will continue to receive access to our Learning Commons, Subscriptions and Exam Bank
- HS Registered students are able to receive a high school transcript for $150

PO Spending

PO numbers for resource budget spending are typically released at HCOS Connect each year at the end of April. Once tuition is paid, the full resource budget is released. Please see the K-9 tuition table above for details on partial resource funding release with the monthly tuition payment option.

HCOS Forward Together

Forward Together is about ensuring families have the freedom of choice in how to educate their children. We believe finances should not be a hindrance to enrolling at HCOS. Let's work together to continue to make HCOS a viable option for all students.

We are looking for partners to help us continue to offer Christian Education through online learning to students all over the province of British Columbia. All donations are eligible for a tax receipt and will go to provide bursaries for families who cannot afford tuition.

Donate to Forward Together

Corporate Sponsorship

Email our Donor Relations Facilitator at forward.together@onlineschool.ca to discuss corporate sponsorship options.

Bursary Application

The bursary application is part of the tuition selection process in Encom. After selecting your tuition option you can select **Bursary Application** as a payment method. The bursary will be applied to each student for whom you selected a tuition option in the step 1.

Tuition & Bursary Family FAQs

This page contains frequently asked questions & answers regarding tuition and bursaries.

> Have a question that is not on this page? Please send it via the Tuition & Bursary Question Form found at the bottom of each section and it will be answered directly and added to this page if broadly applicable.

Tuition

For an overview of the HCOS tuition and resource structures, please see HCOS Tuition & Resources.

Does my paid tuition get directly applied to my student's resource budget?

No. Tuition and resource budgets are two separate elements. Tuition is required for enrollment at HCOS since the school is only partially funded by the Ministry of Education. Resource budgets are how we use government funding for curriculum, resources and third-party services to provide personalized education plans for every student, partnering with parents to make decisions around the most effective way to do so.

The use of these resource budget funds is guided by Ministry of Education's regulations. For more information, please see What can I spend my funding on?

What are the payment options for tuition?

- One Time Payment (Credit Card)
  - When you select this tuition option in Encom, you will be able to pay immediately.
  - Once payment is received, the full resource budget becomes available.
- One Time Payment (Cheque)
  - If this option is selected, a cheque for the full tuition amount owing for your family should be sent to the following address dated no later than September 30:
    HCOS Accounts Payable
    905 Badke Rd
    Kelowna, BC V1X 5Z5
- Pre-Authorized Debit (10 months - September to June)
  - When you select this tuition option in Encom, you will be prompted to complete a pre-authorized debit form.
  - The full resource budget is not available until the first payment is processed at the end of September.
  - All monthly debits will occur on the final day of each month, beginning in September. If the final day of the month is on a weekend or statutory holiday, it will be

processed on the next business day.
    - 30 days notice is required to cancel any further tuition payments. For pre-authorized debit or cheques, an NSF charge of $25 will be applied if necessary.

If one of these methods do not work for you, please contact Aubri Reid at areid@onlineschool.ca to discuss other options.

Am I able to pay via e-transfer?

No. Our finance systems are not currently able to accept e-transfers.

Is there an added charge for the 10-month tuition payment option?

No.

Can I receive a tax receipt for the tuition I pay?

No. HCOS does not provide tax receipts for tuition paid due to a variety of factors. The existing CRA parameters to provide tax receipts for tuition are designed for brick & mortar schools with set curriculum for students and do not translate well to the online setting. These parameters are very complex and would require an enormous amount of staff time to calculate and maintain. Based on our research, the result would be a very small eligible portion of the tuition, resulting in a very small benefit to tax returns. As such, HCOS simply does not have the staffing capacity at this time to implement tax receipts for tuition.

Am I able to change my tuition choice after I've selected it?

Yes, prior to payment, if applicable. Please email Aubri Reid at areid@onlineschool.ca to arrange for any changes to your tuition option.

Is tuition refundable if a student withdraws?

No. Tuition is non-refundable. However, for students on a 10-month payment option, after a 30 day notice period passes, no further payments will be required upon withdrawal from HCOS.

For Grad Program courses, tuition is non-refundable but courses may be exchanged for a different course during the same school year.

Can students in the same family choose different tuition options? Does it matter which order I list my students? Does IE status factor into this?

Yes, families can choose different tuition options for each student. K-9 students should be listed in descending order by age (ie. oldest student first). This process should be followed regardless of IE status.

What happens with tuition and resources for a student who enrolls after September 29?

For K-9, enrollments from September 30 to the February funding snapshot will automatically be charged $0 tuition with a $200 resource budget. K-9 enrollments between the February and May funding snapshots will be charged $0 tuition with a $0 resource budget.

Grade 10-12 students are charged the regular tuition rates regardless of the time of year the course is enrolled as they are fully funded at all times. Once active, students have one year to complete the course.

Once I choose a tuition option, are there restrictions around PO spending?

PO numbers are released each year during HCOS Connect at the end of April. Once PO numbers are available, all enrolled K-9 students receive the base resource amount of $350. Once tuition is paid, the remaining resource funds become available. These resource funds are available for third-party or internal spending. Lessons are not payable until October 1.

Can I pay for a student's tuition from another family?

Yes. Please email Aubri Reid at areid@onlineschool.ca to arrange payment for another student.

For Grad Program students, what do I need to know about tuition?

- Selecting courses by September 1 will ensure eligibility for the pre-authorized debit option for paying tuition. Any courses selected after this date will require the full amount paid upon enrollment (if a charge is applicable).
- Course challenges are charged $50 per course and are billed on top of standard tuition.

Why isn’t there a $0 tuition assistance option in the Grad Program like there is in K-9?

As in most schools, the grad program is more expensive to run so there is no room to offer a $0 tuition option. However, if you are unable to pay tuition, bursary applications are available.

How do I pay tuition for the incoming school year when encom is showing the current school years encom account?

To locate the tuition portal for the incoming school year, you will need to click on “Future Term Student” . This will take you to a page that will give you access to the incoming school years tuition portal.

> Have a question that is not on this page? Please send it via the Tuition & Bursary Question Form and it will be answered directly and added to this page if broadly applicable.

Bursaries

How do I apply for a bursary?

Bursaries are part of the tuition selection process in Encom under **Step 2 - Payment Methods**. To apply for a bursary:

1. Select **K-9** or **Grad Tuition** for your students and **One Time Payment** in Step 1.
2. In Step 2 select **Bursary** as the payment method.
3. Complete the questionnaire and submit.

When will families know if they will receive a bursary?

Bursary applications will be assessed and awarded on a monthly basis once applications are open until the end of September. Bursaries typically cover a student's full tuition amount and are awarded based on availability of bursary funds.

Can teachers be a bursary application reference for a family?

Yes.

If my bursary application is not successful, can the tuition option selection be changed?

Yes.

If you have additional questions, please contact your Regional Administrator or Grad Advisor. We will continually update this FAQ page with new questions and answers.

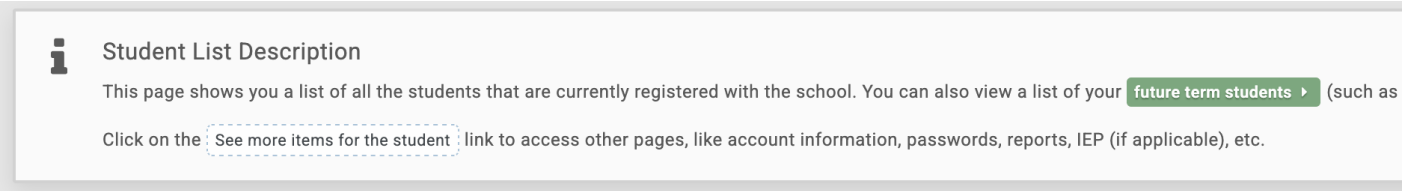
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Selecting & Paying Tuition

To access the tuition portal, visit the Tuition Portal. We have provided a step by step walkthrough for your first student once you are in the portal.

Paying for Next Year

To pay for next year please click the button shown below.



Important Notes

Because the process has changed from how it was handled last year we wanted to provide a couple quick notes:

1. Some combinations of tuition options or payments are not able to be processed simultaneously. Splitting your students up across multiple entries will not impact the count of K-9 students. Encom is able to track that behind the scenes and only the first three K-9 students in your family will be charged tuition.
2. Upon proof of payment your child’s curriculum funds will be made available for use with your PO# in Encom. Choosing the 10 month payment option will result in the remaining resource amounts above $350 becoming available after the first payment is processed at the end of September.
3. We’ve worked to make this process as simple as we can but the reality is that there is a lot to process and select. For that reason we would strongly recommend using a computer not a phone to complete the process.