

Table 3: Student Living Allowances

Moderate Standard of Living (MSOL) Costs

The following costs are provided by the Government of Canada to provinces and territories for use in reflecting a student's **Moderate Standard of Living (MSOL)** while attending a post-secondary institution located in B.C. or other provinces in Canada. These maximum costs are used by StudentAid BC to assess need. Totals may not equal the sum of each column due to rounding.

Monthly Standard of Living Allowances for British Columbia

Single student away from home	
Shelter	\$997
Food	\$320
Miscellaneous	\$392
Local transportation	\$123
Total	\$1,832

Single student living at home	
Shelter	\$0
Food	\$301
Miscellaneous	\$330
Local public transportation	\$142
Total	\$773

Single-parent student (excluding costs of child)	
Shelter	\$1,431
Food	\$294
Miscellaneous	\$410
Local public transportation	\$112
Total	\$2,247

Married student and spouse (excluding costs for child)	
Shelter	\$2,017
Food	\$590
Miscellaneous	\$603
Local public transportation	\$227
Total	\$3,437

Cost for each child (wholly dependent relative)	
Shelter	\$298
Food	\$243
Miscellaneous	\$144
Local transportation	\$112
Total	\$797

Note: Exceptional expenses related to the need to maintain two residences for two months or less if a student needs to live away from home as part of a program can be listed. These expenses are calculated on a weekly basis and based on the weekly shelter allowance for single student living away from home divided by 4.3 ([Chapter 14, Table 3](#)). In 2023/24, the weekly maximum is \$232.

Student living allowances do not include:

- Household operation costs for pet expenses, horticultural goods and services, and other supplies
- Household furnishings and equipment, and services related to furnishing and equipment
- Gifts and contributions for persons outside the household or charitable organizations
- Miscellaneous costs such as interest on loans, union or association dues, lottery tickets
- Moving costs
- Recreation equipment, vehicles and services, home entertainment equipment and services
- Security costs for life insurance payments or RRSP payments
- Tobacco products and alcoholic beverages