



University Tuition Fees Up for 2003-04

From Susan Munroe, Your Guide to Canada Online.

University tuition fees rising faster than inflation

Canadian university tuition fees for 2003-04 have gone up 7.4 percent, the highest increase in four years and definitely faster than the rate of inflation, according to Statistics Canada.

In its yearly report on university tuition fees for the upcoming school year, Statistics Canada reports that Canadian undergraduate university students will pay an average of \$4025 (CDN) for the 2003-04 year.

Highest University Tuition Fees

The highest Canadian university undergraduate tuition fees for 2003-04 are in Nova Scotia, with an average of \$5557, and in Ontario, with an average of \$4923.

Lowest University Tuition Fees

Students resident in Quebec attending Quebec universities have their tuition fees frozen at \$1675 for the seventh year in a row. Students from outside the province attending universities in Quebec don't get the same break however. They will pay an average of \$4300 in 2003-04, a bit above the national average.

Highest Tuition Fees Increase

British Columbia undergraduate students face the largest increase in fees, up slightly over 30 percent. Tuition fees last year in British Columbia rose nearly 26 percent. The dramatic rise in both years was due to the six-year freeze on tuition fees in the province being lifted in 2002. The average British Columbia tuition fee this year will be \$4,140, just slightly above the national average.

Only Tuition Fees Decrease

For the fourth consecutive year, university tuition fees in Newfoundland and Labrador have dropped, bringing the average undergraduate tuition fee in the province for 2003-04 to just over \$2600.

Manitoba universities have frozen university tuition fees for the fourth year in a row, and the tuition fees in that province are among the lowest in Canada, averaging \$3155.

For more trends on university tuition fees across Canada, see [University Tuition Fees](#) from Statistics Canada. For information on tuition fees for a specific university in Canada, contact the university. The Web sites for Canadian universities can be found in the [Canadian Universities Database](#) from the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada.