

## STUDENT ASSOCIATION FOOD BANK POLICY



The campus food bank is an emergency food assistance program run by the Student Association for current students of George Brown College. It offers students immediate access to food when they experience lack of finances due to a number of reasons such as rising living costs and tuition fees. The food bank is a member agency of the *Daily Bread Food Bank*, its major supplier of food that is distributed to students. There is no fee to register for the service.

**Registration:** Students are asked to read and retain a copy of this policy and fill-out a registration form. Proof of current enrolment and student identification is required. If a student is living with and financially supporting other household members, the student can add his/her children and up to one more adult. To do so, proof of residence and identification is required (see form). Personal information collected is kept confidential. Only statistical type of information is reported. To avoid delays, provide complete information and supporting documents. Students should register at the campus location most convenient for them to visit as they will only be able to access the one chosen.

**Renewal:** Each new semester, a new timetable needs to be shown to continue with the service. Students may also be asked to re-register at the start of each new academic year (September).

**Supply:** Food available includes non-perishables, perishables and from time to time, fresh produces. Some household products may also be distributed. The amount and variety of items distributed to each student will always depend on current supply and demand. Items picked up should be double checked by the student for quality and dates as majority of items are donations received. For concerns, please consult with staff. **Using the food bank to pick up only one or two snack items is strongly discouraged.** The food bank is to be treated as an emergency food service and is meant for those students who struggle financially. It will aim to provide at least 2-3 days of supply.

If a student finds that the amount of food received is not sufficient for the total household needs or dietary needs, referrals to other food bank locations are available by talking to staff or checking the back of this page. Priority of distribution will be students and their immediate dependants (children and up to one more adult).

**Visiting:** Students are asked to plan their visit in advance for their convenience: bring own bags to carry food, arrange own transportation and place of storage. Bags cannot be stored in the office or in lockers that have not been registered.

Students will be served following a daily sign-in process. Consult with that staff for specific sign-in instructions and operating hours which can vary from time to time due to volunteer and staff availability. Only the student or the designated adult member included will be allowed to make the visit. Students can only sign-in for their own self and not for any other student. **Once signed in, students must be present when their turn is called. If the turn is missed, it could result in longer wait times especially during busy days.** Students will be assisted in the food bank one at a time.

### **Casa Loma Location & Hours:**

E Building, Room E130  
M, W, Thurs: 10am– 4pm  
Tuesday: (Closed)  
Friday: 10am – 2pm  
Hours are subject to change

**Student and Staff Relationship:** It is the food bank's mission to deliver its services within an environment that is accessible, fair and helpful to students. Students are encouraged to approach the staff with their concerns and who will provide them with appropriate support and referral. The staff will do their best to assist each student in the food bank and will give reasonable time for each student to pick up their food items. Line-ups or long wait-times may occur often and students are asked to be patient and respectful towards the staff, volunteers and other students.

**Service Changes:** The Student Association will from time to time make service improvements and revisions to what has been outlined. Important changes will be disclosed to registered food bank users. Students are expected to understand and follow the terms of use outlined to ensure efficient flow of service for everyone. Disregarding the terms expressed herein may result in a review and possible cancellation of the registration. For any concerns, please consult with a food bank staff member 416-415-5000 ext 2845 (SJ) or 416-415-5000 ext 6314 (CL).

# REFERRAL INFORMATION

## Local Food Banks:

Students also have the option to access community run food banks in their local areas. These other locations will operate differently and request different information. When choosing a food bank, call in advance and ask questions:

- What are the eligibility criteria? (ex: financial eligibility, area served)
- What do you need to bring with you? (ex: proof of identification, proof of address, proof of income or other)
- What are their hours and days of operation?
- What can you expect on your visit and what will you be able to get?

## Two sources of food bank referral information:

### **1) Daily Bread Food Bank (DBFB)**

Start by calling this organization that provides food to more than 160 community-based agencies across the GTA (one of which is the Student Association campus food bank). Call 416-203-0050 to get a referral to the neighbourhood food bank agency that is closest to where you live or which is most suitable to your specific needs. The DBFB can also offer referrals and information on other programs and income supports. Visit them online at [www.dailybread.ca](http://www.dailybread.ca).

2) **211 Community Connection:** This service offers a free listing and multi-lingual referral service available 24 hours a day, seven days week. Anyone can inquire and receive referrals to various community, social, health and government services in Toronto. They also have an extensive list of food banks in the Greater Toronto Area.

- Visit [www.211toronto.ca](http://www.211toronto.ca) and type 'food banks' in the website's search box. You will be shown a list of food banks. To narrow your choices, you can sort the list by location to find the nearest one to you.
- Dial "211" or 416-397-INFO and speak directly to a referral agent

## Other useful George Brown College resources available on campus:

- 1) **Financial Assistance Office:** Visit this office to find out about opportunities to apply for a bursary, a scholarship, OSAP, work-study, student assistance fund or student emergency loan. (St. James Student Service Centre, Casa Loma Rm C308)
- 2) **Counselling & Career Coaching Office:** Visit this office to speak to a Counsellor to obtain help and confidential support in dealing with a personal or academic problem. (St. James Rm 582C, Casa Loma Rm C317)
- 3) **Career Services:** Visit this office to obtain help with fixing a resume and in preparing you for a job interview. Also ask about off campus and on campus job opportunities that are usually posted. (Casa Loma Rm C317)
- 4) **Student Association:** Visit the office to find out about the range of services offered to students including free advice from a legal counsel. Volunteer and part-time on campus job opportunities are also available. (St. James Rm 147, Casa Loma Rm E130)

## **Information on Nutrition & Health:**

- 1) **Eating Well With Canada's Food Guide & Physical Activity Guide to Healthy Active Living (Health Canada)**  
Website resource: <http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fn-an/food-guide-aliment/index-eng.php>
- 2) **Student Health Benefits Office:** Full-time students are covered by the Student Health Insurance Plan. Visit the office to confirm if you are covered and how you can utilize your plan to get discounts on medical fees and stay healthier. (St. James Rm 147, Casa Loma Rm E130)