

Financial Aid

Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP)

How to Apply for OSAP

The OSAP website is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Go to <http://osap.gov.on.ca> to apply online.

The OSAP website is a quick and easy way to apply. There is no application fee when you apply online. The online application tells you what supporting documentation is required so that you can start gathering the necessary paperwork.

Checking Your Application Status

Once you have submitted your application, the best way to keep track of its status is through the OSAP website. Information about your application is displayed as soon as it is available.

OSAP Renewal Applications

If you received OSAP funding last year, you can complete your renewal application online at the OSAP website. You can also get an estimate of this year's funding right away.

If You Don't Have Access to the Internet

If you don't have access to the OSAP website, you may still get a paper application. Paper applications are available in late May from any college, university or high school.

Note: Please allow four weeks for processing paper applications.

Paper applications should be sent to the college campus you plan to attend. Include a \$10 cheque payable to the Minister of Finance.

To check the status of your application, you may call toll free 1-866-330-3331.

OSAP assistance is available for pickup at the beginning of each semester.

When picking up OSAP funding, you must show your Social Insurance Card, two pieces of identification (i.e. Registration slip, government-issued photo id (eg. Driver's licence), and a statement of your total gross summer income.

Your Obligations

Once you have received a Canada or Ontario Student Loan, the following responsibilities are yours:

- 1) stay in touch with the National Student Loans Centre at all times and notify the Centre of any change of name, address or academic status;
- 2) at each study period, provide the National Student Loan Centre with one of the following:
 - New Canada or Ontario Student Loan document
 - Continuation of Interest-Free Status/ Confirmation of Enrolment (Schedule 2)These forms will officially inform the National Student Loan Center that you have returned to school full-time and that you are entitled to interest-free status on past loans.
- 3) Contact the National Student Loans Centre immediately upon ceasing to be a full-time student and complete the necessary Consolidated Student Loan Agreements.

Repayment of OSAP loans is a serious responsibility. Repayment must begin six months after you either graduate, withdraw or cease to be a full-time student. Interest will begin to be charged the month following graduation, withdrawal or after ceasing to be a full-time student. Repayment arrangements are made between you and the National Student Loans Centre.

Should you not comply with repayment arrangements, the National Student Loans Centre, federal and provincial governments will aggressively pursue repayment. It is strongly recommended

that you keep in close contact with the National Student Loans Centre regarding your ability to repay.

Interest Relief

Interest relief may be granted depending on a student's financial circumstances at the time repayment begins. Interest relief application forms are available at the Financial Aid Office or at the National Student Loans Centre.

Other Important OSAP Information

OSAP processing may take longer than expected. You should ensure that your personal finances are adequate for the first few weeks of school.

Academic progress could determine your future OSAP eligibility. Successful completion of each semester will ensure that you can continue receiving OSAP assistance. Attending classes regularly will improve academic achievement.

OSAP should not be considered as a source of earned income. It is a loan to help you meet your educational goals and achieve future success.

Part-Time Canada Student Loans Plan

The Part-time Canada Student Loans Plan is a component of the Canada Student Loans Plan and is administered by the provincial government. Eligible part-time students enrolled in post-secondary programs may qualify for loans to cover the cost of tuition fees, books, transportation and childcare.

To qualify, you must be taking under 60% of a course load, be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Ontario, have an outstanding principal balance on previous Part-Time Canada Student Loans of less than \$2,500, and not have defaulted on previous Ontario Student Loans or Part-time or Full-time Canada Student Loans.