



OSAP 101

Cassie and Greg 2021



View information

Review your profile to ensure that it's up to date. If not, click on "Change" to update your information.

Basic personal information

[Change basic info](#)

Fill this page out carefully as some of this information is verified with the Social Insurance Registry to confirm your identity. Your first and last name must match the name on your Social Insurance Number (SIN) card.

First name: ██████████

Last name: ██████████

Date of birth: ██████████

Gender: ██████████

Social Insurance Number (SIN): ██████████

Ontario Education Number (OEN): ██████████

[What is an OEN](#)

This question is optional.

Email address and correspondence options

Change correspondence

Email address [REDACTED]

Your email address has been validated

[Why we ask for your email address](#) 

In which language do you want your information? English

How to check the status of all your application(s): You will check your status online

How to get all your personalized forms (e.g., signature pages): You will print your forms yourself

Addresses

Change addresses

Permanent Canadian address

Street name and number, rural route, or post office box [REDACTED]

Apartment:

City, town, or post office [REDACTED]

Province: [REDACTED]

Postal code [REDACTED]

Enter without space or dash (e.g., POT2E0)

Telephone number [REDACTED]

Enter all 10-digits including the area code and telephone number (e.g., 4165551212)

Mailing address

Is your mailing address the same as your permanent Canadian address? Yes

Access to your OSAP information

Change access

Do you want to give access to your OSAP information to a family member, friend or someone close to you?

[Understand what type of information they can access](#)

No

Additional information

Change additional

When did/will you graduate or last attend high school full-time?

[What is full-time high school](#)

Do you want to self-identify as a student with a disability?

Students who self-identify as having a permanent disability may be eligible for additional funding. You will be required to provide supporting documentation that validates the permanent disability.

[What is a permanent disability](#)

What is your current citizenship status?

Canadian Citizen

[Understanding citizenship statuses](#)

Were you ever in the permanent care of a Children's Aid Society or Child and Family Services Agency?

Yes

[What is a Children's Aid Society or Child and Family Services Agency](#)

Students who were previously in the care of a Children's Aid Society or Child and Family Services Agency may be eligible for specific programs under OSAP.

One of the following statements applies to me:

Yes

- **I'm currently in extended society care in Ontario (previously called Crown ward);**
[What is Extended Society Care](#)
- **I'm currently subject to a formal customary care agreement in Ontario;**
[What is Customary Care](#)
- **I'm currently receiving an allowance or other transitional support from a Children's Aid Society or Child and Family Services Agency in Ontario;**
[What is an allowance or other transitional support](#)
- **I was eligible to receive an allowance or other transitional support from a Children's Aid Society or Child and Family Services Agency in Ontario when I was 18 to 21 years of age.**

Do you want to self-identify as a Francophone student?

No

[Who is a Francophone student](#) 

Do you want to self-identify as Indigenous? In the context of this question, an Indigenous person in Canada is a person who identifies as First Nations (Status/Non-Status), Métis or Inuit.

No

Students that self-identify as Indigenous may be eligible for specific programs under OSAP once supporting documentation is accepted.



2020-21 Full-time application


Application data on file

[REDACTED]
BROCK UNIVERSITY - Child And Youth Studies

Sep 9/20 - Apr 23/21

Updating your application

Now that your application has been processed, all changes must be made through your financial aid office.

[How to request a change to the information on your application](#) 

Jul 7/20: Date you originally submitted the application

School you plan to attend

BROCK UNIVERSITY

Student Awards & Financial Aid

Niagara Region

1812 Sir Isaac Brock Way

St Catharines ON CA

L2S3A1

BROCK UNIVERSITY student number:

This question is optional

[REDACTED]

Program and study period

Program information

What is the name of your program?

Child And Youth Studies

What is the start date of your 2020-21 study period?

Sep 9/20

What is the end date of your 2020-21 study period?

[What is a study period?](#)

Apr 23/21

Which year of your program will you be entering?

3

What is the total number of years in your program?

4

What will be your level of study?

Bachelor's degree

Total weeks of study:

33

Are you taking a co-operative education (co-op) program?

No

Additional program information

What percentage of a full course load will you be taking?

For example, if a full course load is 5 courses and you are taking 5, then you'd be taking 100%.

[How to calculate your course load](#)

Are you taking all of your courses online, through correspondence or distance education?

No

Current situation

What is your status?

One of the following statements applies to me:

- I'm currently in extended society care in Ontario (previously called Crown ward);
- I'm currently subject to a formal customary care agreement in Ontario;
- I'm currently receiving an allowance or other transitional support from a Children's Aid Society or Child and Family Services Agency in Ontario;
- I was eligible to receive an allowance or other transitional support from a Children's Aid Society or Child and Family Services Agency in Ontario when I was 18 to 21 years of age.

Ontario residency:

I have lived in Ontario all of my life.

Other personal information

Have you ever filed for bankruptcy or initiated a related event?

[Find out if this applies to you](#) [↗]

No

Income and assets

Income received in 2019

Total gross income from line 15000 of your 2019 Canadian income tax return:

If you have not filed a 2019 tax return, enter an estimate. [How to estimate your income](#) [↗]

[Are you splitting your pension income or receiving Universal Child Care Benefits?](#) [↗]

All foreign income and Canadian non-taxable income received in 2019:

[What to include](#) [↗]

\$0

Income received before your study period

Do you expect to receive social assistance from Ontario Works (OW) or Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) in the month before the start of your study period (Aug 1/20 to Sep 9/20)?

No

Employment Status

The question(s) in this section do not impact your OSAP funding. They are being asked to help determine possible improvements to OSAP in the future.

Have you received Employment Insurance (EI) benefits at any time in the last 60 months (5 years)?

No

Income received during your study period

Do you expect to receive scholarships, bursaries and/or awards during your study period (Sep 9/20 to Apr 23/21)?

[What to include here](#) 

No

Do you expect to receive income from any government programs during your study period (Sep 9/20 to Apr 23/21)?

[What government income to include and not include](#) 

No

If you expect to earn or receive any other income totalling more than \$11,200 during your study period (Sep 9/20 to Apr 23/21) (e.g., income from employment, Teaching or Research Assistantships, child support and/or spousal support, foster parent payments, rental income, investment income including interest and dividends) report the full amount here.

[What income to include](#) 

Yes

Estimated amount:

[REDACTED]

Assets

Do you expect to have Registered Retirement Savings Plans (RRSPs) as of the start of your study period (Sep 9/20)?

[What are RRSPs?](#)

No

Do you expect to have other assets as of the start of your study period (Sep 9/20)?

[What to include in other assets](#)

Yes

Estimated amount:

Other assets

2020-21 OSAP Application for Full-time Students

Report the total value of all other financial assets or savings from:

- the savings portion in all bank accounts, including chequing accounts, tax-free savings accounts (TFSA) and foreign bank accounts
- Guaranteed Investment Certificates (GICs)
- Canada Savings Bonds (CSBs), provincial savings bonds or corporate bonds
- stocks
- term deposits
- treasury bills
- mutual funds
- trust funds (withdrawals/payments, interest or dividends)
- awards/settlements for economic loss (past or future loss of income) or income replacement benefits or for punitive damages

Do not report the following assets or savings:

- your vehicles
- Registered Education Savings Plans (RESPs)
- Registered Disability Savings Plans (RDSPs)
- Registered Retirement Savings Plans (RRSPs) and other retirement accounts
- the value of your principal residence and any other owned real estate
- clothing, furniture or personal belongings
- awards/settlements for non-economic loss and/or pain and suffering
- savings through the Ontario Child Benefit Equivalent program



Approved documents

Here are all the documents that have been approved either for this academic year or from a prior year/application.

[▶ View documents that you originally uploaded](#)

Academic progress documents

Status as of Jul 20/20: Approved
These documents have been provided and approved.

Children's Aid Society documents

Status as of Jun 11/15: Approved
These documents have been provided and approved.

Declaration and signature form

Status: Approved
These documents have been provided and approved in a prior year/application.

Disability status documents

Status as of Sep 8/16: Approved
These documents have been provided and approved.

Master Student Financial Assistance Agreement (MSFAA)

Status: Completed
MSFAA has been completed in a prior year/application
MSFAA number: XXXXXXXXXX

Exit



Applications

Full-time studies

Use this application to apply for OSAP if you're taking 60% or more of a full course load or 40% if you have a permanent disability.

[How to calculate your course load](#)[↗]

Apply for full-time

Go to my full-time apps

Part-time studies

Use this application to apply for OSAP if you're taking 20% to 59% of a full course load.

[How to calculate your course load](#)[↗]

Apply for part-time



Universities in Ontario

Currently we are not able to link all of your OUAC applications and start OSAP applications for you. You can either start your own application or you can return later and check again.

[What to do if you need additional assistance](#) [↗]

BROCK UNIVERSITY

Child And Youth Studies

Sep 09/20 - Apr 23/21

Jul 7/20: Your application has processed. Check the status for the latest information.

Check status of application

Print or upload documents

Close application

BROCK UNIVERSITY

Apr 8/21: You started this application.

Finish application

Delete application

osap 2020-21 Full-time application

Status of your application

Cassandra Magno-Palmer

BROCK UNIVERSITY - Child And Youth Studies

Sep 9/20 - Apr 23/21



[Go to
Current status](#)



[Go to
Next steps](#)



[Go to
What's done](#)



Current status of your application

Status as of Jan 12/21

A change has been made to your file and your OSAP funding may have been recalculated. Details are available about the total amount of your funding and the dates when payments will be made.

[View the amount of your funding](#)

Additional information

[Assistance for students with disabilities](#) 

[First Generation Bursary and Indigenous Student Bursary](#) 

[Reasons for requesting a review of your application](#) 



OSAP QUIZ

Important information to know!



Ontario Student Assistance Program

What is a grant?

A grant is publicly-funded aid that you do not have to pay back. It is usually awarded based on financial need and/or other factors.

Both the Ontario and Federal governments provide grants to eligible students. A list of available student grants and bursaries is provided below.

Provincial grants and Bursaries

- Ontario Student Grant
- Indigenous Student Bursary*
- Ontario Indigenous Travel Grant*
- Ontario First Generation Bursary*
- Ontario Graduate Scholarship*
- Ontario Out-of-Country Bursary for Deaf Students*
- Queen Elizabeth II Graduate Scholarship in Science and Technology*
- Bursary for Students with Disabilities*

Federal grants

- Canada Student Grant for Full-Time Students
- Canada Student Grant for Students with Permanent Disabilities
- Canada Student Grant for Full-Time Students with Dependents
- Skills Boost Top-Up to the Canada Student Grant for Full-Time Students
- Canada Student Grant for Services and Equipment for Students with Permanent Disabilities*

* These programs require you to submit a separate application which you can access through your school's Financial Aid Office or Graduate Studies Office. Some of the applications are available on the Forms section of our website (ontario.ca/osap). Additional information on these grants and bursaries is also available on the OSAP website.

* These programs require you to submit a separate application which you can access through your school's Financial Aid Office or Graduate Studies Office. Some of the applications are available on the Forms section of our website (ontario.ca/osap). Additional information on these grants and bursaries is also available on the OSAP website.

If you go to a public postsecondary school in Ontario, you may also be eligible for financial help through the **Student Access Guarantee (SAG)**, a partnership program between the ministry and Ontario's publicly assisted colleges and universities. If OSAP doesn't cover your program costs and you still need money, your school may provide additional financial aid in the form of a bursary, scholarship, work-study or referral to a line of credit. You can contact your school's Financial Aid Office for more information.

Question 2

Which of the following statements about grants and bursaries is correct?

- A. Your school's Financial Aid Office and Graduate Studies Office do not provide any of the application forms for grants and bursaries
- B. Depending on the type of grant or bursary, you can access the application forms either through your school's Financial Aid Office, Graduate Studies Office or the Forms section of the OSAP website
- C. All applications for grants and bursaries can be accessed through the Forms section of the OSAP website
- D. There is no separate application as you are automatically considered for all grants and bursaries when you apply for OSAP

What is a loan?

On this page, you will learn about:

- [The basics of borrowing](#)

A loan is borrowed money that you need to repay. You are only required to start repaying your OSAP loan six months after you graduate or leave full-time studies, but interest will start accumulating on the provincial portion of your student loan as soon as you graduate or leave school.



Both the provincial and federal governments provide publicly-funded loans to eligible students through OSAP. If you receive loan funding from Ontario and/or Canada, it is known as the **Canada-Ontario Integrated Student Loan**.

The basics of borrowing

Generally, a loan consists of three key components:

- 1) **Principal:** the money you borrow.
- 2) **Interest Rate:** the lender's charge for use of their money.
- 3) **Repayment Term:** the length of time the borrower has to pay back the loan.

Arya takes out a **\$10,000** loan with
an **annual interest rate of 4%**
and has a **10-year repayment term**.

Initial Loan Balance: \$10,000

This is how much Arya initially borrows.

Interest Rate: 4%

Every year, Arya has to pay 4% of the amount she owes. This is the cost to borrow the money.

Repayment Term: 10 years

Arya has 10 years to repay her loan.

Minimum Monthly Payment: \$101.25

This is the payment Arya makes monthly to pay off her loan in 10 years.

\$101.25

Minimum monthly
payment

×

120 months
(10 years)

=

\$12,150

Total Interest Paid: \$2,150

This is the total interest Arya must pay over her 10-year repayment term.

Please note these calculations are for illustrative purposes only

The interest rates on your first payment date are used to figure out the monthly payment for your loan (current rates: Ontario = prime rate + 1%, Canada = 0%).

The interest rates on your first payment date are used to figure out the monthly payment for your loan (current rates: Ontario = prime rate + 1%, Canada = 0%).

Between April 1, 2021 and March 31, 2023, Canada will not be charging interest on the federal portion of an OSAP loan.

The **prime rate**, also known as the **prime lending rate**, is the annual interest rate used by banks and financial institutions to lend money to individuals and businesses. It is primarily influenced by the Bank of Canada's (the central bank of Canada) monetary policy interest rate, the rate at which the Bank of Canada lends money to banks and financial institutions.

Repayment of an OSAP loan is required after you graduate or leave full-time studies and is made through monthly payments. If you would like to pay back your loan faster, you can make payments greater than your minimum monthly amount without any penalty or make lump-sum payments at any time. This will benefit you by reducing the overall interest amount you are required to pay.

To find out what your monthly loan payments could be when you leave school, you can use the OSAP Repayment Calculator on our website.

Question 3

Which of the following statements is correct?

- A. The repayment term does not impact the amount of your monthly loan payment
- B. Interest rate refers to the lender's charge for the use of their money
- C. OSAP loans have an interest rate of prime rate on both the Ontario and Canada portions
- D. You will not be able to find out what your monthly loan payments are until after your graduate



Ontario Student Assistance Program

! When your grant may become a loan

There are some situations where grants may be converted into a loan.



Grants may be converted into a loan if:

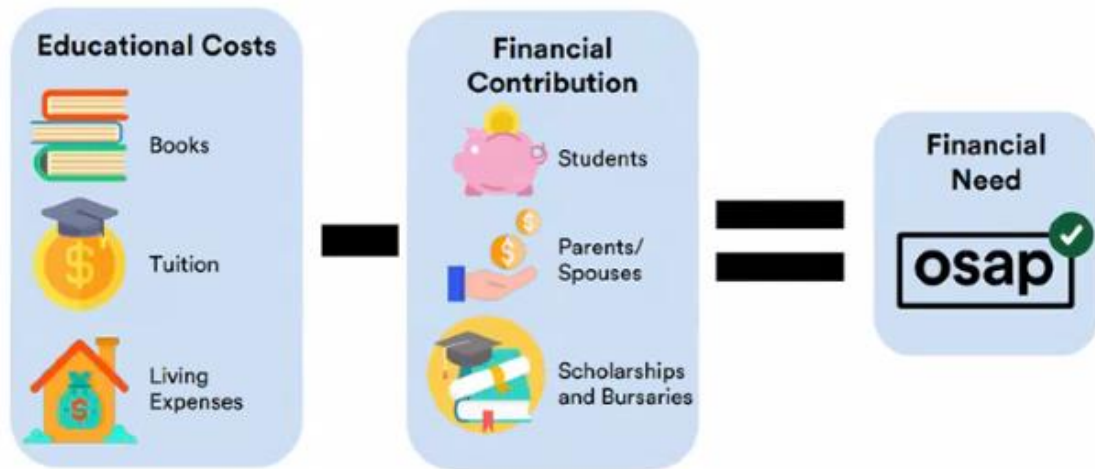
- You withdraw from studies within the first 30 days of starting school, and don't return as a full-time student within 5 months in the same academic year
- As a result of an OSAP reassessment, you are not entitled to all or part of the grant that you received (e.g., dropped courses, unreported income)
- Income information provided by you and/or your family cannot be verified within one year from the start of your studies (this applies only to the Ontario Student Grant)



It is important to ensure that all the income information you provide is accurate and complete, and to respond promptly to warnings/additional information requests as required.

How is OSAP funding calculated?

Eligibility is determined through a financial need assessment which considers your costs (such as tuition, fees, books and living expenses) as well as the financial resources available to you.



How much funding is available?

The amount and types of funding you're eligible to receive are based on several factors, including your:

- Financial need
- Family status (e.g., single or married)
- Course load (full-time or part-time)
- Level of study (e.g., undergraduate, graduate)
- School's location

How much funding is available?

The amount and types of funding you're eligible to receive are based on several factors, including your:

- Financial need
- Family status (e.g., single or married)
- Course load (full-time or part-time)
- Level of study (e.g., undergraduate, graduate)
- School's location

You may be eligible for additional funding if you're:

- an Indigenous student
- a current or former Ontario child in extended society care
- a first generation student
- a student with a disability
- a student who is deaf or hard of hearing
- a student who is in receipt of social assistance

Learn more at ontario.ca/osap.

The **full-time** maximum aid amounts are based on a weekly maximum and depend on where you're going to school. For the 2021-22 school year, OSAP provides the following maximum assistance levels (grant and loan combined):

- **\$405** per week for single students
- **\$695** per week for students who are married or sole support parents

You are considered for a maximum of **\$210** per week if you attend a private postsecondary school outside Ontario, or a postsecondary school outside Canada.

Question 4

Which of the following statements is correct?

- A. The income on your application must be verified to ensure that your Ontario Student Grant is not converted into a loan
- B. You are always eligible to keep all grant funding that you receive
- C. When a grant is converted into a loan, it is subtracted from your loan debt
- D. Warnings and requests for additional information should be disregarded

Correct!

Click "Next" to continue.

Question 5

Which of the following statements is correct?

- A. There is no limit to the amount of funding you can receive
- B. The full-time maximum aid amounts are based on a monthly maximum
- C. If you are a single student, you are eligible for the same amount of funding as a student who is married
- D. If you attend a private postsecondary school outside Ontario, or a postsecondary school outside Canada, you are considered for a maximum of \$350 per week

Incorrect.

The correct answer: D

Click "Next" to continue.

Question 6

Which of the following is true for the Master Student Financial Assistance Agreement (MSFAA)?

- A. You can wait to receive your OSAP funding before signing your MSFAA
- B. A new MSFAA must be completed every year that you apply for OSAP
- C. You will receive an email from the National Student Loans Service Centre when it's time to complete your MSFAA
- D. Completing your MSFAA is optional

Correct!

Click "Next" to continue.

Section 2: After you apply

Topics you will learn about on this page include:

- [Funding estimates](#)
- [Your next steps after applying](#)

Once you've applied for OSAP, you will receive an estimate of the amount of funding you may be eligible to receive based on the information you've provided. If you've submitted multiple applications, you can view a comparison of your funding estimates for each application.

Estimates

Estimates are based on unverified information provided by you and in some cases, by your school. When your application is assessed the amount of your OSAP funding could change - either the amounts or the mix of grants and loan.

	Tuition	OSAP grants	OSAP loan	Other awards	How much tuition I pay & what's left for other costs
CONFEDERATION COLLEGE Community Services Worker Aug 05/21 - May 05/22	\$1,500	\$5,400	\$4,800	\$500	\$1,500 in OSAP and/or other awards will cover the cost of your tuition. You will have \$9,400 remaining to contribute to other costs.
Hide school					
RYERSON UNIVERSITY Nutrition and Food (BASc) Sep 03/21 - Apr 28/22	\$6,412	\$6,400	\$8,400	\$500	\$6,412 in OSAP and/or other awards will cover the cost of your tuition. You will have \$8,888 remaining to contribute to other costs.
Hide school					

For illustrative purposes only

After your application is submitted, your online OSAP account will provide important information including:

- The status of your application
- What supporting documents you are required to submit
- If you or your school must provide additional information

! Before you receive your loan you must sign your loan agreement, known as the **Master Student Financial Assistance Agreement (MSFAA)**. The MSFAA is a lifetime loan agreement, containing the terms and conditions you must agree to in order to receive and repay your OSAP loan. You will only be required to sign the MSFAA once, unless you leave school for two years or more. Our partner, the National Student Loans Service Centre (NSLSC), which administers student loans funded by the federal and/or Ontario governments, will send you an email when it's time for you to register for your online account and complete your MSFAA.

While you're in studies, you can log in to your online NSLSC account to access tools and information that may help you budget during the school year and prepare you for successful repayment.



The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the NSLSC website. It features a dark blue background with a red maple leaf logo in the center. On the left, the text "National Student Loans Service Centre (NSLSC)" is displayed in white. On the right, the "Canada" logo is visible. Below the main header is a horizontal menu with five items: "Plan Your Education" (with a dropdown arrow), "Managing Your Money" (with a dropdown arrow), "Managing Your Loan" (with a dropdown arrow), "Repaying Your Loan", "Register", and "Login". At the bottom left of the header area, there is a breadcrumb trail: "Home → Managing Your Money".

Managing Your Money



Getting your OSAP

You'll receive your OSAP funding after your application has been reviewed, information has been verified, required supporting documents have been approved, and your school has confirmed your enrolment. The verification process may take four to six weeks.

If you attend full-time studies from September to April, you will typically receive your OSAP funding in two installments:

- the first, when you start your study period (usually in September)
- the rest, halfway through your studies (usually in January)

For most students, money will be sent to your school first to pay your balance; any left over funding will be deposited into your bank account by the NSLSC.

! If you're attending a public postsecondary school in Ontario, you will be provided a net bill through your school's online billing portal. Your net bill will show you how much OSAP is being applied against your account and whether you owe any additional money after OSAP is considered.

Scenario A: your OSAP funds are greater than your school fees

School Fees (Tuition and Fees) \$ **4,600**

OSAP Funds (grants and loans) \$ **11,100**

Balance at School \$ **0**

Remaining OSAP deposited to your account \$ **6,500**

This is money that you can now use for other school expenses.

Scenario B: your OSAP funds are smaller than your school fees

School Fees (Tuition and Fees) \$ **4,600**

OSAP Funds (grants and loans) \$ **2,100**

Balance at School \$ **2,500**

This is money that you owe your school.

For illustrative purposes only

Question 7

Which of the following statements is correct?

- A. OSAP funding is deposited by the Ministry of Colleges and Universities
- B. OSAP funding is deposited by the National Student Loans Service Centre (NSLSC)
- C. If you're attending a school outside Ontario, you will receive a net bill through your school's online billing portal
- D. If you attend full-time studies from September to April, you will normally receive all of your OSAP funding in September

Exit

Next

Repaying your OSAP

Topics you will learn about on this page include:

- [Loan interest and repayment](#)
- [Interest-free status](#)
- [Loan default](#)

Interest and repayment

While you are only required to begin paying back your student loans **six months** after you graduate or stop being a full-time student, interest begins accumulating on the Ontario portion of your loan **as soon as** you graduate or leave school.

Between April 1, 2021 and March 31, 2023, Canada will not be charging interest on the federal portion of an OSAP loan.

Repayment consists of a monthly payment towards your loan, plus payment of interest charges that are added to your loan balance. You are encouraged to consider accelerated payment plans where possible to reduce the interest accumulated on the loan and pay back balances faster.



While you are in school, your loan is interest-free and payment-free.



Once you graduate or leave full-time studies, interest will be charged on your loan but you don't need to make any loan payments.



Once you graduate or leave full-time studies, interest will be charged on your loan but you don't need to make any loan payments.



After 6 months, you will have to start making payments on your loan.

Keep your loans interest-free

There may be instances when you need OSAP one year, but not the next. For example, if you applied for and received OSAP in your first year of undergraduate studies and decide you don't need any financial aid for your second year, you don't have to apply.

If you decide to continue full-time studies without applying for OSAP, you must complete a **Continuation of Interest-Free Status** application to make sure your loans don't become repayable while you're in school. You can find this application online when you log into your OSAP account.



It is important to confirm your enrolment every year that you are in studies to maintain your interest-free status.

If you're not continuing in full-time studies, you may need to start paying back your OSAP. Within six months after you graduate or leave full-time studies, you will receive a package from the NSLSC with information about repaying your loan.

Learn about loan default

If you don't make your loan payments after you leave full-time studies, you will be in default.

A loan from OSAP is considered "in default" when no payments have been made for 270 days.

A loan from OSAP is considered "in default" when no payments have been made for 270 days.

Being in default means:

- your debt will be turned over to a collection agency
- you will be reported to a credit bureau
- you could be ineligible for further OSAP until the default is cleared
- your ability to get a car loan, mortgage or credit card may be affected
- your income tax refund and HST rebate can be withheld
- interest will continue to build up on the unpaid balance of your loan

Your OSAP debt will only be erased when you have paid it off in full.

Repayment of student loans is an excellent way to establish and improve your credit score.

Question 8

When is a loan from OSAP considered "in default"?


- A. When you fail to repay your loan immediately after leaving full-time studies
- B. When no required payments have been made in 365 days
- C. When no required payments have been made in 270 days
- D. When interest starts being charged on your loan

Exit

Next

Section 3: Tools and tips for managing your finances

Creating a budget

 Once you've received your OSAP estimate, you might want to consider creating a budget. Creating a budget is a great way to track your finances.

Here are a few simple steps to creating a budget:

- Use an online budget planning tool or a spreadsheet to create your own customized budget
- Individually list your resources (e.g., money from working, grants, student loans) and add them up to get your financial contribution to your education
- Calculate your expenses for your school term (e.g., tuition, fees, books, meal plan)
- Subtract your total expenses from your total financial contribution to your education
- Budget your extra money for emergencies or optional expenses, such as special gifts, if possible
- Figure out ways to adjust if you have a shortage (e.g., part-time employment, reducing non-essential expenses)

Working with a budget can help you become a smart consumer. Remember to:

- Check your bills to spot mistakes and avoid overcharges in late payment fees and interest
- Shop around for the best bank accounts, credit cards and service plans (e.g., car insurance, cell phone)
- Keep track of your income and expenses in a budget

The Financial Consumer Agency of Canada has more helpful tips, tools, and videos at Canada.ca/en/financial-consumer-agency.

When budgeting, keep in mind that approximately 60% of your OSAP funding is provided in your first semester and 40% in your second semester. It is important that you budget for your expenses accordingly and make use of these lump sums appropriately over the two semesters.

Question 9

Which of the following is one of the recommended steps in creating a budget?

Understanding credit and debt

- [Good debt vs. bad debt](#)
- [Using credit cards wisely](#)
- [Tips for managing your debt](#)

Credit: An agreement in which a borrower receives something of value now and agrees to repay the lender later

Credit score: a number that comes from the information in your credit report (i.e., summary of your credit history) that shows your credit risk (i.e., how risky it would be for a lender to lend you money)

Debt: Money that you owe

Generally, it is not a good idea to use credit to buy things you cannot afford. There are ways to use credit wisely to meet your goals and build up a healthy credit profile. However, it is important that when you use credit to buy something, you pay it back.

Good debt vs. bad debt

When you borrow money, you should consider whether it can be categorized as “good debt” or “bad debt”.



Good debt typically refers to investments that create value or produce more wealth in the long run and often have low interest rates. Examples include student loans to pursue postsecondary education, car loans and home mortgages.



Bad debt typically refers to purchases with high interest rates, purchasing discretionary items that you can't repay on time and in full, resulting in interest charges and more debt. Examples include charges on credit cards with high interest rates and payday loans.

Using credit cards wisely

Credit cards can be a great resource for students and offer convenience for small purchases, online items and emergencies. However, they can be a very expensive way to borrow money because the balance on your credit card is essentially a loan that

Using credit cards wisely

Credit cards can be a great resource for students and offer convenience for small purchases, online items and emergencies. However, they can be a very expensive way to borrow money because the balance on your credit card is essentially a loan that collects interest unless you pay back the amount owing in full by the due date. By using your credit card responsibly, you can build a positive credit history which will make it easier for you to borrow in the future.

Here are some tips to keep in mind:

- 1) Keep the lowest credit limit possible (the total balance you can have on your card).
- 2) Avoid credit cards with high interest rates and annual fees.
- 3) Pay the balance in full each month. If you cannot pay in full, pay as much as you can and avoid additional purchases until your balance is paid.

Tips for managing your debt

- Shop around: do your research, compare interest rates and always inquire about lower rate options
- Keep within your budget: borrow only what you can afford to pay back in a realistic time
- Use savings to pay off balances and pay off your highest interest rate debts first
- Start automatic/online bill payments to stay on schedule and avoid added charges

Question 10

Which of the following statements is correct?

- A. Credit is money that you owe
- B. When you buy something on credit, you will not need to pay it back
- C. It is a good idea to use credit to buy things you cannot afford
- D. Credit is an agreement in which a borrower receives something of value now and agrees to repay it to the lender later



Ontario Student Assistance Program



Who do I contact if I have questions about my OSAP?

If you study in Ontario, your school's financial aid office processes your application and is your main contact for any OSAP-related questions.

If you study outside of Ontario or Canada, any OSAP inquiries can be directed to the Student Financial Assistance Branch of the Ministry of Colleges and Universities. Service is available Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., excluding holidays. Contact information is provided below.

Tel: 807-343-7260

Toll-free in North America: 1-877-OSAP-411 (1-877-672-7411)

TTY toll-free: 1-800-465-3958

Exit

Next



What are grants and loans?



Grants



Publicly-funded money you keep

There may be situations where you have to repay your grants.

[Learn more](#)



Loan



Publicly-funded money you pay back

It's important to understand your responsibilities when you accept a loan. Did you know that you don't have to take the loan?

[Learn more](#)

By applying for OSAP you're automatically considered for grants and loans. You only have to submit one application to be considered for both. It's important that you understand the differences between a grant and loan as well as your responsibilities.

Grants

Normally, grants are money you don't need to pay back. However, there are some situations where grants may be converted into a loan that you have to repay six months after you leave school. Grants may be converted into a loan if:

- you withdraw from studies within the first 30 days of starting school, and don't return as a full-time student within 5 months in the same academic year
- As a result of an OSAP reassessment, you are not entitled to all or part of the grant that you received
- income provided by you and/or your family can't be verified within one year from the start of your studies (this applies only to the Ontario Student Grant)

When a grant is converted to a loan it is added to your loan debt and will be part of the calculation of your monthly loan payments when you leave school.

Loans

While you're in school your student loan doesn't have to be paid back and the interest is paid for you by the Governments of Ontario and Canada. It's only after you graduate or stop being a full-time student (e.g., withdraw or drop your course load) that you have to start paying it back. By signing your Master Student Financial Assistance Agreement, you agree that you will begin repayment six months after leaving school.

If you decide to continue school and not apply for OSAP you must ensure that your loans are placed into interest-free status so that you don't have to repay them while in school. You'll have to complete an application for Continuation of Interest Free Status.


Grant only option

You have the option to decline your OSAP loan and receive only grants. You can do this through your online OSAP account. If you find you need the loan later on, you can (under certain situations) get the loan.

Help with repayment

If you find that you are having trouble making your monthly loan payments, there are options available to help you. For example, you could apply for help through:

- Repayment Assistance Plan (RAP) – lowers your monthly payment to no more than 20% of your family income.
- Revision of terms – extends the amount of time to repay from 9.5 to 14.5 years.
- Loan forgiveness - if you have a severe permanent disability and can't work or go to school you could be eligible to have your loans forgiven.

As your student loan debt is held at the National Student Loans Service Center (NSLSC), contact them to learn more about repayment options. [NSLSC contact information](#) 

If you don't repay your loan

There are serious consequences if you don't repay your OSAP loans:

If you don't repay your loan

There are serious consequences if you don't repay your OSAP loans:

- You may not be eligible for any further OSAP funding.
- Interest will continue to build up on the unpaid balance of your student loan.
- After 270 days you'll be considered to have defaulted on your student loan debt.
- Your debt will be reported to a credit bureau and turned over to a collection agency.
- Your credit score could be negatively impacted.
- It can affect your ability to get a car loan, mortgage or credit card.
- Your income tax refund and HST rebate can be withheld.

Also, if you declare bankruptcy you are still responsible for your student loan debt.

More information about OSAP can be found on ontario.ca/osap 

Exit

Next

