

**“GO CONFIDENTLY IN THE DIRECTION OF YOUR DREAMS.
LIVE THE LIFE YOU’VE IMAGINED.”**

~ HENRY DAVID THOREAU

Are you interested in attending college or university? Family & Children’s Services can help. Talk to your worker, or call 519-576-0540 and a worker will be assigned, to help you navigate post-secondary financial supports and services available to you.

Apply to the Post-Secondary Program of Your Choice

Apply early for your best chance to be considered for the program of your choice. For equal consideration, **University** applications are due January 15.
<https://www.ouac.on.ca/> & **College** applications are due February 1st
<https://www.ontariocolleges.ca/en>

*Applications will continue to be accepted ongoing until the program is full. Once you have accepted a program, speak to your worker to make arrangements to pay tuition deposits.



Need Financial Assistance?

The Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) provides eligible students with different types of assistance based on financial need. Review the **Youth Leaving Care Handout** for an Overview of Financial Information and Supports Available from OSAP funding.

Once you have been accepted into the program of your choice, complete the **OSAP application** by the end of May <https://osap.gov.on.ca/OSAPSecurityWeb/public/login.xhtml?lang=en>

There is a fee to apply. If you complete the **OSAP fee reimbursement form**, however, you can have your fees reimbursed. If you need the agency to pay your application fee up front, provide the completed form to your worker so the agency can pay your fee and submit for reimbursement on your behalf.
<http://www.tcu.gov.on.ca/eng/students/ocwp.html>.



You do not need to include your Continued Care and Support for Youth (CCSY) funds as income

Always apply for first generation grant

Make sure you identify yourself as a former extended society care

Your worker is available to help you with the application process

*Note: if your financial institution is within 30km of where you are living, OSAP will assume you are living at home and your award may be lower. If you are living independently and attending a local post-secondary institution, after you receive your OSAP award notification, you can contact the financial aid office of your institution for re-evaluation.

The **Living and Learning Grant (LLG)** Individuals who were in extended society care and other youth 21-24 years old who left the care of a Children's Aid Society may be eligible for a Living and Learning Grant. This grant provides additional funds above the regular full-time OSAP aid limits. You're automatically considered for this grant when you submit an OSAP Application for Full-Time Students. Supporting documents may be required to confirm your eligibility. The required documents are outlined when you submit your application.

Children's Aid Society Specific Scholarships

The **Children's Aid Foundation of Canada Online Scholarship Application** <http://www.cafdn.org/for-youth/help-with-higher-education/#1501178116931-d5e77653-0cd3>. Complete by late February (see website for specific annual deadlines and requirement for youth to connect directly with worker to request reference letter . Applicants will be notified by the Children's Aid Foundation of Canada over the summer and the award ceremony is in September.

Family and Children's Services of Waterloo Region Foundation Online Scholarship Application

https://fs26.formsite.com/FACSWaterloo/cvlyvof3dc/form_login.html

- There is no deadline to apply
- All applications will be reviewed and the Foundation will respond within four weeks of submission
- Successful applicants will receive funding from the Foundation via cheque or direct deposit (if banking info is on file with FACS Waterloo) in August and December. It is important to keep the login and password for the application process. Youth who have been approved for a Foundation scholarship will need to log in to their account and attach a copy of their timetable or proof of enrollment before the 1st and 2nd installments will be processed. A reminder will be sent to youth and their worker to upload this information.
- Support for post-secondary deposits are available from the Agency if needed (via direct deposit or Mastercard). FACS staff can contact finance to access these funds.
- Plans are on hold at this time for the youth celebration. More details will follow when physical distancing guidelines have been lifted.

Registered Education Savings Program (RESP)

Talk to your worker to see if have access to a Registered Education Savings Program (RESP) opened on your behalf.

IF applicable, to redeem the RESP, your worker will need proof of school enrolment and you must attend an approved post-secondary program.

Youth In Care - Additional Bursaries, Scholarships and Supports

Bursary and scholarship information is available online for all colleges and universities. Be sure to review all possible sources of funding as many bursaries are available for financial support.

Apply for online scholarships through <https://www.scholarshipscanada.com/>

Contact your guidance counsellor, the financial aid office, accessibility office and/or the Ontario Education Championship Team Lead at your post-secondary institution for information about additional supports that may be available to support your needs <http://cwect.ca/about-us/a>

