

FAMILY & CHILDREN'S SERVICES FOUNDATION

Resources for Youth

There is a wide variety of resources available to youth that support their academic and career goals. These supports range from scholarships, career and academic support and health and wellness initiatives through local and national program funding.



CONTACT US

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65 Hanson Ave
Kitchener, ON, N2C 2H6

519-748-8733
Foundation@facswaterloo.org
www.facsfoundation.org

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Scholarships

There are a variety of bursaries and awards offered by Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies and other community fund initiatives

- Local -Family and Children's Services of Waterloo Region Foundation
- Provincial Funds
- National Funds

Career and Academic Funding

There is funding available for other academic financial needs along with tuition including textbooks, equipment, and technology aids. There is also support for academic and career advancement that may take a different course than post-secondary studies

Health and Wellness

Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies provides aftercare benefits for youth transitioning from foster care to support their health and well being.



SCHOLARSHIPS

Local - Family and Children's Services Foundation

Learn Fund - Educational Expenses

Deadline: Ongoing

The Foundation provides support for education related needs that students require to complete their program of study that are not covered by the scholarship fund.

Criteria

Applicants must be in Extended Society Care crown ward), former crown ward (18-30 yrs.), on a Voluntary Youth Services Agreement (VYSA), on a Continued Care and Support for Youth Agreement (CCSY) or reside in a Kin Service or Kin in Care home with Family & Children's Services of the Waterloo Region

This includes but is not limited to:

- Supplementary supplies for courses as needed ie tools, equipment, books
- Tutoring
- Computers & Software
- Equipment for trades
- Application costs
- Course deposits*

Contact Jill Stoddart, Director of Research, Development, & Outcomes, Jill.Stoddart@facswaterloo.org.

Learn Fund - Scholarships

Deadline: Ongoing

The Foundation offers scholarships to youth pursuing post-secondary education. The Foundation holds named scholarships (supported by individuals and businesses) as well as a general scholarship fund. Support is available annually for as long as a student is enrolled.

Criteria

- 16+ independent youth, CCSY or VYSA or youth living with Kin
- Acceptance to a program beginning in Fall 2023 (or on a waitlist)
- Youth returning to the same program for another year

Most Scholarships are valued at \$3,000 but there are other named scholarships valued at \$5,000

Contact Jill Stoddart, Director of Research, Development, & Outcomes, Jill.Stoddart@facswaterloo.org.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Local - Family and Children's Services Foundation

Ontario Access Grants for Crown Wards

Deadline: Applications open in June and must be complete at least 60 days before the end of the study period

Financial Assistance program to provide additional scholarships and bursaries before any reduction in student loans provides through OSAP.

Criteria

For current and former Crown ward students to receive a tuition grant for each year of their post-secondary education regardless of the number of years they have been out of high school

- Up to \$3,500 before OSAP funding
- One-year post-secondary program receives 100% of tuition funding up to \$3,000
- Two year or longer post-secondary programs receive 50% of tuition costs (maximum \$3,000) for each year of the program
- Funding is available through specific post-secondary schools financial office

www.childwelfarepac.com

info@childwelfarepac.com

Learn Fund - Part-time and Professional Development

Deadline: Ongoing
Provides support for education related needs that are not covered by the scholarship fund, which is for full-time post-secondary studies.

Criteria

- Youth living with kin
- Youth 18+ (former youth in care)
- Part-time courses
- One off course related to the youth's education, employment, or personal development. If related to their education, the course is not part of the program's regular courses.

Maximum of \$3,000 per fiscal year per individual

Contact Jill Stoddart, Director of Research, Development, & Outcomes,
Jill.Stoddart@facswaterloo.org

SCHOLARSHIPS

Provincial Resources

Living Learning Grant

Education funding that reaches beyond the limits of OSAP and is automatically considered when completing a full-time OSAP Application

- For youth former in care between the ages of 21-24

OSAP

Deadline

Applications open in June for the upcoming academic year.

Ontario Student Assistance Program is a financial program that can help you pay for college or University. Funding is offered through a combination of grants and loans (optional)

Application

- Income statements
- Information that may prove financial need
- Tuition and related fees estimate

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/osap-ontario-student-assistance-program>

Ontario Post-secondary Application Fee Reimbursement Program

For students who are or were formerly in Ontario extended society care, to help reimburse the money spent on applying to post-secondary schools

Eligibility

- This must be the first time you are apply to a post-secondary program, you cannot already possess a degree, diploma, or certificate
- Have applied to an OSAP approved program and have already paid the application fees
- Up to \$210 reimbursement

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/ontario-postsecondary-application-fee-reimbursement-program>

Application and "how to apply" listed on webpage
tim.colfe@ontario.ca

SCHOLARSHIPS

Provincial Resources

OSAP

Deadline: Applications open in June for the upcoming academic year

Ontario Student Assistance Program is a financial program that can help you pay for college or University. Funding is offered through a combination of grants and loans (optional)

Application

- Income statements
- Information that may prove financial need
- Tuition and related fees estimate

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/osap-ontario-student-assistance-program>

Storwell Self Storage Foster Children Bursary

Deadline December 31st of each year
[Storwell Self Storage Foster Children Bursary](#)

Bursary to support foster children as they pursue post-secondary education

Criteria

- Youth under 24 year attending full time post-secondary who were involved in kinship or foster care or involved in CAS
- Applicant will be enrolled as a full-time student at a recognized general/vocational College or post-secondary institution in Canada or USA by the start of the next school semester.

<https://www.storwell.com/bursary-application>

Ontario First Generation Bursary

Deadline: submit with OSAP Application

The Ontario First Generation Bursary is for postsecondary students whose parents have never attended postsecondary studies. It is for students with financial need attending a publicly assisted college or university in Ontario only. Funding from \$1,000 to \$3,500

Eligibility

- Students whose parents have never participated in post-secondary studies anywhere in the world
- Only first year entry undergraduate programs are eligible with no prior post-secondary degree, diploma or certificate already completed
- Meet the OSAP requirements for full-time applicants (you do not have to have applied for either full-time or part-time)
- Meet financial need as required by school

<https://osap.gov.on.ca/OSAPPortal/en/A-ZListofAid/PRDR019247.html>

Contact Post-secondary school financial office

SCHOLARSHIPS

Provincial Resources

Ontario Learn and Stay Grant

Funding for students studying priority programs in priority communities in Ontario. This program

- Requires you to learn and work in the region which you study
- Responds to labour market needs, including health care
- Help communities get the workers they need for-demand professions

This program does require you to live and work in the area for 6 months per year of study after graduation (example: 4-year program, must stay (work and live) for two years

Eligible programs:

Practical Nursing, Paramedic, Medical laboratory technology/medical laboratory science

Eligible regions:

Select areas in the northern, east, and southwest regions of Ontario.

Provides free tuition and covers the cost of compulsory fees, books, and other direct educational costs (ex. Supplies, equipment)

OSAP can also be applied for to help with other expenses such as living costs

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/ontario-learn-and-stay-grant#section-6>

Ready, Set, Go Program (replacing CCSY Program)

A new government program to support youth as they transition out of care. This program will provide increased funding opportunities and a focus on building life skills, education, training, and employment

Eligibility

- Available to youth aged 18-23

Funding is increasing from \$850 per month to:

- Age 18 - \$1,800
- Age 19 - \$1,500
- Age 20 - \$1,000

Youth will also be able to work up to 40 hours/week at minimum wage without it impacting their funding

Contact your local Children's Aid Society

See "Emergency Supports for Youth 18+" below for additional transitional support

SCHOLARSHIPS

National Resources

Children's Aid Foundation Scholarship

Deadline

Applications open in January 2024 for the academic year beginning in September 2024 or January 2025

Criteria

- A permanent ward, or were a permanent ward of a Child Welfare Agency for at least 12 months, or are/were eligible for a provincial or territorial extended care program, such as Continued Care and Support for Youth (CCSY), or Voluntary Youth Services Agreement (VYSA)
- Be age 18 or be under the age of 30 when starting or continuing in your program
- Are planning to attend a program at a post-secondary institution either full-time or on a reduced schedule due to an accommodation, for a full academic year starting in September or January

Funding available \$2,500 to \$5,000

contact

grants@cafdn.org or Amanda Ball
aball@cafdn.org

Ted Rogers Scholarship Fund

Deadline September 8, 2023 at 5pm

Supports access to post-secondary education through funding for Canadian youth with government care experience. \$1,000, valid for one year

Criteria

- Students do not need permanent care/permanent ward status for this scholarship; it is open to anyone who experienced 12 cumulative months in government care, including foster care and youth custody centres before the age of 18.
- Students must be planning to enter or go back to school, full-time or part-time in a first bachelor's degree or first diploma program or first trades program at a Canadian university, college, or trades school.

Contact

Anhara Rabbani at arabbani@cafdn.org.

<https://cafdn.org/for-youth/educational-support/ted-rogers-scholarship-fund/>

SCHOLARSHIPS

National Resources

CAFDN Bursaries

Deadline: Applications open in August for the upcoming year

Bursaries available for full-time and part-time students

Criteria

- A permanent ward, or were a permanent ward of a Child Welfare Agency for at least 12 months, or are/were eligible for a provincial or territorial extended care program, such as Continued Care and Support for Youth (CCSY), or Voluntary Youth Services Agreement (VYSA)
- Be age 18 or be under the age of 30 when starting or continuing in your program
- Registered at or planning to attend school either full or part time year at an accredited post-secondary school

Funding available: maximum \$2,000 for full-time, \$200 per course for part time studies

Contact

Amanda Ball aball@cafdn.org

<https://cafdn.org/for-youth/educational-support/>

Graduation Award

If you are under 30 and have graduated from a post-secondary program for which you received support from a Foundation scholarship or bursary, you are eligible to apply for a Graduation Award

Criteria

- Students who have completed their post-secondary program of a minimum of two years
- One time \$1,000 grant

Online application, will include a copy of completed degree or diploma

Contact

Amanda Ball
Program Manager
(416) 923-0924, ext. 226
aball@cafdn.org

CAREER AND ACADEMIC FUNDING

CAFDN - Career and Academic Fundings

Additional education funding through Children's Aid Foundation for academic supports outside of tuition funding

Eligibility

Funding may cover

- Tutoring in post-secondary
- Career counselling (referred by a child protection worker)
- Short-term courses or apprenticeships
- Application fees or preparation courses
- High school upgrading or academic bridging programs
- Transitional programs

Contact

Jasmine Yiweza jyiweza@cafdn.org. Application check list on website

<https://cafdn.org/for-youth/educational-support/career-and-academic-funding/>

Fostering Community

Resource page for youth that includes upcoming scholarship opportunities, services and programs, and educational content. Resources for employment search, resume building, budget friendly meals and resources specific to each province.

<https://www.fosteringcommunity.ca/>

Financial Literacy Training

Training course content includes budgeting, bank, savings, credit basics, debt, etc.

For current or former youth in care under the age of 30

<https://cafdn.org/for-youth/financial-literacy-training/>



HEALTH AND WELLNESS

External Resources

Aftercare Benefits Initiative

Health and Dental program for youth formerly in care or transitioning from care

Eligibility

- Youth aged 25-29 formerly in care or adopted AFTER June 1, 2016
- Coverage includes prescription drugs, dental, vision, extended health benefits, counselling, financial planning, stress management, nutritional coaching etc.

[Aftercare Benefits Initiative](https://www.oacas.org/programs-and-resources/child-welfare-operations-excellence/aftercare-benefits-initiative/) | Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies
<https://www.oacas.org/programs-and-resources/child-welfare-operations-excellence/aftercare-benefits-initiative/>

TELUS Mobility for Good

Deadline ongoing

Receive a cellphone plan from TELUS at \$0/month

- Youth who are eligible for CCSY and between the ages of 18-2
- Bring your own device or receive a refurbished phone at no cost
- Eligible for a two-year period, after the price for your youth plan will change to \$25/month
- Plans include Call Display, Conference call, Call waiting and Voicemail
- At the end of the two years, the price for your youth plan will change to \$25 per month
- Free SIM card for new customers
- No contract or cancellation fees
- Digital safety workshops and resources through [TELUS Wise®](#)

Online application

https://www.telus.com/shop/home/for-good/mobility-for-good/youth?intcmp=tcom_si_mobility-for-good-youth-application_button_m4g-youth-application-form



HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Internal Resources - FACS Foundation



Better Futures

The Better Futures Fund supports participation in arts, sports, and recreational opportunities that build resilience in children and youth.

Criteria

- are interested in trying something new & the worker believes this would be beneficial to the child's personal growth and development based on their awareness of child's needs
- have already demonstrated a commitment to a specific art, sport or recreational activity that is helping the child or youth build resilience and need assistance to continue with their passion
- are demonstrating talent and skills that need to be supported in order for the youth to reach the next level in their chosen activity
- For older youth, the fund allows them to continue with an activity providing positive personal benefit. The fund can also support the child or youth to go further in their chosen activity whether that is additional equipment, specialized training, or help with the costs of competing.

Contact Jill Stoddart, Director of Research, Development, & Outcomes, Jill.Stoddart@facswaterloo.org.

Emergency Supports for Youth

This fund assists youth with episodic costs related to maintaining basic needs (food, shelter etc.), achieving permanency, work related expenses i.e. uniforms or safety shoes, resiliency, and transitioning to adulthood.

Eligibility

- Transportation costs related to enhancing contact or connectedness
- Expenses related to relocating for education, employment or permanency
- Medication or necessities
- Clothing for interviews or work uniforms
- Household and rent assistance

Contact

Michelle Smith, Supervisor of Services for Youth, Michelle.Smith@facswaterloo.org.

