

Financing your education

Have you researched the costs of the university or college programs? Costs may range from more than \$6,000 for a year at college (living at home) to over \$10,000+ per year at university (living at home). Going away and staying in residence may add another \$12,000 - \$15,000 or more to the cost per year. Some programs at various colleges and universities are more expensive than others. Do your research on each school's website as part of your planning.

- Look into applying for OSAP in the spring. OSAP is the Ontario government program that provides loans and bursaries based on your family's financial situation. Check out the [OSAP Aid Estimator](#) on their website to see what you may be able to access. Interest charges and loan repayment begins after you have finished your education.
- **Bursaries** are gifts of money based on financial need. **Scholarships** are gifts of money based on other criteria such as volunteerism, leadership and/or high marks. **Loans** will need to be repaid in the future.
- Check the financial services link on the website of the institutions you are looking into. Many offer bursaries based on financial need or scholarships you can apply for. Application deadlines may come early, so check before spring. If you have excellent marks and extensive volunteer involvement during high school, consider applying for a prestige scholarship such as a chancellor's scholarship.
- Admission scholarships are offered by some universities based on grade 12 marks. You will be considered automatically for these when you apply. These vary by institution.

Scholarships and Financial Assistance

There are many scholarships, bursaries, grants, and student loans available to help you finance your post-secondary education. The best way to find out about them is to go to the websites below as well as individual University and College websites (look for "scholarships" or "financial aid" links).

[A Guide to Securing Financial Aid](#)

Scholarship Tips:

- A blog outlining the most common mistakes on scholarship applications - <https://scholartree.ca/blog/the-6-most-common-mistakes-when-applying-to-scholarships>
- [And the financial award goes to ... those who apply. apply. apply](#)
(The Globe and Mail)
- [How to get a university scholarship: six tips for success](#)
(Macleans)
- [The cost of a Canadian university education in six charts](#)
(Macleans)
- [The 6 Most Common Mistakes When Applying to Scholarships](#)
(Scholar Tree)
- [Scholarships: your chances are better than you think!](#)
(Janet MacDonald Scholarship Consultant - mycampusGPS Education Consulting)

School Year Budget Planner: (Scholar Tree)

- At the bottom of <https://scholartree.ca/educators>, there is a **downloadable budget planner** that students can use to prepare for next year
- [School Year Budget Planner](#)
- **Budgeting outline:**
<https://www.canada.ca/en/financial-consumer-agency/services/budget-student-life/student-budget-worksheet.html>

If you know or learn of others that should be added to this list, please let guidance know!

Searchable Scholarships Links:

- [Scholarship Advice \(video\)](#)
- [Telus Scholarships \(Scholarship Success \(MyCampusGPS\)\)](#)
- [Ottawa Community Housing - Inspired by Learning Bursary](#)
- [Scholar Tree](#)

Not all awards will apply to all students. For students to get a list customized to them and weekly email reminders of deadlines, they should create a profile on ScholarTree. At the top left, they can use the filter "Applications Open" only to see those scholarships that are currently accepting applications.

Scholarship season is fully underway. Over 10 Million Dollars worth of scholarships are currently open for applications on ScholarTree! This week alone, we have added 50 scholarships worth over \$500,000.

Once students complete their profiles, they will be matched to all the awards for which they qualify. However, many students overlook the fact that at the top left-hand corner of their scholarship list, they can filter scholarships by various categories, including Program of Study, Ethnicity, Financial Need, etc.

Here is a list of scholarships available this month

- **[Google Sheet - October 2025 Scholarship List](#)**
[Excel File - October 2025 Scholarship List](#)
[PDF - October 2025 Scholarship List](#)
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- [Ontario Universities Info \(Ontario university scholarships\)](#)
- [Scholarships Canada](#)
- [yconic](#)
- [Student Scholarships](#)
- [Grantme](#)
- [Studentawards](#)
- [Ontarioscholarships](#)
- [Scholarship Partners Canada](#)
- [Horatio Alger Vocational & Technical Education Scholarships](#)
- [The Lynch-Getty Global Student Award](#)
- [Shannen's Dream \(First Nation's Youth\)](#)
- [TD Bank scholarship for Indigenous Peoples](#)
- [Easter Seals Scholarship \(for students with disabilities\)](#)
- [Fast Web](#)
- [Campus Access](#)

- [School Finder](#)
- [Universities Canada](#)
- [Ontario School Counsellors' Association](#)
- [Carleton University](#)
- [University of Ottawa](#)
- [Algonquin College](#)
- [Algonquin College First Year Scholarships Contest](#)
- [St. Paul University](#)
- [Marion Dewar Scholarship](#)
- [Ilana and Steven Rubin Education Scholarship](#) (through the Ottawa Jewish Family Foundation)
- [Black Canadian Scholarship 2024 \(university only\)](#)
- [Bill 7 Award](#) (Post Secondary Scholarship for Lesbian, Gay, Bi, Trans, Two-Spirited and Queer Students in Ontario)

Government:

- [Ontario Student Assistance Program](#)
([How to Apply for OSAP video](#))
- [Government of Canada Student Financial Assistance](#)
- [Government of Canada Student Loans](#)
- [Government of Canada Loan Repayment Estimator](#)
- [Ontario Work Info Net](#)
- [Government of Canada National Student Loans Service](#)
- [Bill 7 Award](#) (Lesbian, Gay, Bi, Trans, 2-Spirited and Queer Students in Ontario)

Other

- Ask your employer
- Talk to your family about:
 - military background (for Legion Scholarship)
 - union membership (for National Union of Public and General Employees scholarships)
 - family income (for scholarships for financial need)
 - possible scholarships at their workplace (eg. for teachers/ RCMP/Ottawa Hydro)

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