

## Ontario Student Assistance Program

- The three stakeholders involved with Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) are:
  - The Office of Student Financial Aid & Scholarships at McMaster University
  - The Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities
  - The National Student Loans Service Centre.
- The OSAP Aid Estimator and OSAP application are available online at <https://osap.gov.on.ca>.
- To be eligible for OSAP funding, the student must be:
  - A Canadian citizen, permanent resident or protected person
  - An Ontario residents (specific criteria can be found at <http://sfas.mcmaster.ca>)
  - Enrolled in an OSAP eligible degree program
  - Be fully-registered in at least a 60% course load per term or 40% course load per term for students with a permanent disability.
  - *Students in a 'continuing' or 'irregular' status are not OSAP eligible*
- Complete your OSAP application by July 1<sup>st</sup> to ensure you have funding at the beginning of the school year.
- First time OSAP applicants will complete the Master Student Financial Assistance Agreement (MSFAA) and take it to a designated Canada Post Outlet. Your social insurance card and valid government photo id are required.
- Approximately 60% of OSAP funding is deposited into your personal bank account in the fall term and 40% in the winter term.
- OSAP funding, including the OTG, is deposited to the student's personal bank account. It is the student's responsibility to make a fee payment to McMaster by the deadline date.
- Students can check their OSAP status online at <https://osap.gov.on.ca>. As requirements are completed they will disappear from the student's online checklist.
- Students who have past OSAP loans but are not receiving OSAP while enrolled in full-time studies / coop may complete a Continuation of Interest Free Status form to keep their loans in an interest-free, non-repayable status.