

Confederation Secondary School

\$

**Con\$idering Po\$t-\$econdary
Finance\$**



Tuition, Residence, Books, Meal Plan, Transportation, School Supplies, Miscellaneous Fees, Socializing.....

How much will it all cost?

EVERY school, be it a university or a college, can be accessed online.

www.ontariocolleges.ca is the site through which all college applicants must apply to their programs of choice. Within this site is a wealth of information regarding not only programs, but also finances.

www.electronicinfo.ca is the site through which all university applicants must apply to their programs of choice. A wealth of information is also found here.

Everything is ONLINE

GOOGLE individual institutions of interest; they are all online. All information pertaining to frequently asked questions can be found – if you come up with a unique question – you can utilize the “contact us” function.

Laurentian University

We can go to www.laurentian.ca and look for tuition and related fees under “Academic Programs”.

Cambrian College

We can visit www.cambriancollege.ca to determine what costs are associated with its programs. We would find the costs under “Parents/Family”, then “Financial Information”.

Compare Institutions

There are many very helpful online resources.

Common University Data Ontario

For lots of valuable and integrated information, and the ability to compare universities, visit Common University Data Ontario: www.cudo.cou.on.ca

This is a relatively new site, but it already enables access to lots of useful information.

My Blueprint

www.myBlueprint.ca/Rainbow

This site enables education planning from elementary through post-secondary and beyond. All students within the Rainbow Schools have free access to this site. *This year, all 9s, 10s and 11s were to create an account that is easily accessed at school or at home.*

In the “Post Secondary Planner Program Finder”, students can select a program of interest and view details. They can then scroll down to the “Institution Details – Useful Websites” section and click the “Financial Aid” direct link.

Now that you know How Much?

It's time to consider **How?**

Paying for Post-Secondary Studies

A post-secondary education is one of the most valuable investments you will ever make. There are options available to help finance your education.

30% Off Ontario Tuition. Do you qualify?

This translates into a **\$1 680.00** rebate for university/college degree programs and a **\$770.00** rebate for college diploma or certificate programs.

You could be eligible if:

- You're a full-time student at a public college or university in Ontario
- It's been less than four years since you left high school
- You're in a program that you can apply to directly from high school
- You're a resident of Ontario
- Your parents' gross income is \$160,000 or less

Ontario Student Assistance Program

OSAP offers a range of programs based on financial need. There are non-repayable grants, as well as loans you must repay.

Maximum Amounts?

\$12 240.00

- for full-time single students with no dependents

\$19 040.00

- for a full-time student who is married, in a common-law relationship or a sole-support parent

More About OSAP...

For any two-term academic year, your annual **debt is capped** at **\$7,300**, even if you get more in loans. Loans are **interest free** while you're studying, and for six months after you graduate.

Find out more about how [OSAP](#) can help you pay for your education. Apply for OSAP and be considered for up to 10 grants and loans, including 30% Off Ontario Tuition.

Personal Savings and RESPs

Everyone is familiar with these options for post-secondary by now. If you're fortunate enough to have access to either, you're ahead of the game.

RESPs allow for a 20% top up by the government to a maximum of about \$7 200.00. The lifetime contribution limit is \$50 000.00. Remember, your child will have to pay tax on the money he/she receives from this program.

Loans

A loan must be paid back, usually over a period of time. There are many sources for post-secondary loans – banks typically require a co-signature before a student loan is considered.

Bursaries

Grants and bursaries are awarded to students who demonstrate financial need. Other factors such as academic achievement, athletic skill or special ability may also be considered.

Scholarships & Awards

Scholarships and awards are generally based on merit and do not have to be paid back.

How does one find/secure scholarships/bursaries?

Entrance Scholarships

These are based solely on merit (academic performance). Generally, these are granted automatically, with no need for application. Not all post-secondary institutions are equal when considering the amount of money awarded.

www.laurentian.ca

www.registrar.uottawa.ca

Other scholarships involve competition through an application process. The criteria for different scholarship programs vary. Most programs are available ONLINE.

\$80 000.00

www.loranaward.ca The Loran Award is based primarily on academic excellence.

\$70 000.00

www.tdcanadatrust.com The TD Canada Trust Award is based primarily upon community involvement.

Note that the application process and the deadline for submission of applications is different for each scholarship.

Criteria for other scholarships may include any combination of the following and more:

- Most improved
- Entering a particular field of study
- Has a disability
- Involvement in athletics
- Financial need
- Employed part-time
- Community involvement
- Submission of a winning poster or video regarding a specific cause
- High academic achievement
- Studying in a second language

Where do I find a list of scholarships?

There are different scholarships available. They differ in dollar amount, and in criteria for selection of recipients. Where does one begin?

Confederation Secondary School is ONLINE

Our very own Confederation Secondary School Website provides useful websites and a scholarship listing for all graduates to access freely.

<http://confed.rainbowschools.ca>

Some work on the part of students is required as application deadlines change (usually slightly) from year to year. Students may have to Google the particular award to determine up-to-date information – that's why starting the search in Grade 11 is wise.

We realize not all scholarships are contained in our site, but we do provide information that students can use to complete a more comprehensive search.

Explore all Options

We urge all of our students to visit the sites listed on our website. Membership with the following sites is free and will provide a heads up regarding upcoming deadlines for different scholarships, based upon individual eligibility.

www.studentawards.com

www.canadascholarships.com

Absolute Musts:

Check the student awards site of the post-secondary institution your son/daughter hopes to attend.....call and inquire about scholarships and bursaries. Remember, entrance scholarships are automatically applied.

Apply for OSAP online in the spring: www.osap.gov.on.ca *even if you don't think you'll qualify for anything. It opens up options for other financial opportunities.*

Inquire about scholarship programs offered from your employer. Many scholarships are offered through private industry (www.aucc.ca).

What might be involved in the application process?

Most scholarship or bursary programs require:

An Introductory Letter

Introduce yourself and indicate why you are a suitable candidate for the award (you meet the criteria set forth).

One or More Letters of Reference

You may required letters of support or recommendation from teachers, school administration, employers, or from community members (give these people plenty of time to do this for you).

*Application for a bursary will likely require some formal **proof of financial need**.

Other requirements vary, depending upon the source and nature of any scholarship.

Sponsorship from your school or community group

Past/current involvement in a particular organization (ie. Brownies or Scouts Canada)

Completion of a Formal Application Form

Your Official Transcript

An Essay

A Portfolio

Attendance at a Formal Interview

Advice?

One good introductory letter can be saved and adapted to fit multiple scholarship applications.

Create a chronological list of awards and recognitions, as well as notable accomplishments (nothing is too small) to be given to anyone who is asked to provide a letter of reference or support.

Give your supporters an outline of the criteria for the award.

Give your supporters PLENTY of TIME to provide a great letter.

Be VERY aware of deadlines ... applications that are submitted late are not considered. READ carefully to find out whether the application must be received by a specific date, or mailed by a specific date.

Many application packages are required in multiples (they are considered by committee). READ carefully.

Sometimes applications are discarded if all materials are not submitted in the order specified. READ carefully.

Edit EVERYTHING very carefully. Many teachers have been willing to assist with this.

Contact the **Student Awards** office of any institution you wish to attend.

How much money can I get in scholarships?

There is no limit.

The greatest success story?????

A student who averaged 80% to 90% decided to strategize. He quit his part-time job at the local grocery store to devote time to applying for scholarships. It was a gamble.

His outcome?

\$30 000.00

Explore your financial options NOW

The potential for significant financial returns is worth a little bit of effort.

Though we can't force you and we won't chase you,
we will support you.