

Purpose

The Ontario Out-of-Country Bursary for Students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing provides non-repayable assistance to students who are Deaf, deaf, deafened, or hard of hearing and are attending a postsecondary institution outside of Canada. This bursary assists students with eligible education costs that exceed the funding received through the **Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) for Full-Time Students**.

Eligibility requirements

To be eligible for this bursary, you must meet all of the following requirements:

- You have a verified permanent disability or a verified persistent or prolonged disability on your OSAP profile and confirmed that you are Deaf, deaf, deafened or hard of hearing;
- You are enrolled in a postsecondary school outside of Canada that is approved for OSAP purposes;
- You are enrolled in an eligible program of study where the only or principal language of instruction is American Sign Language (ASL) or Langues de Signes Québécoises (LSQ) (see the “Eligible programs of study” section, below);
- You are taking 40% or more of a full course load;
- Your eligible education costs exceed the Canada-Ontario Integrated Student Loan (COISL) maximums for your study period; and
- You have submitted a **2025-26 OSAP Application for Full-Time Students**, including all required documents and have met all eligibility requirements for that program.

Eligible programs of study

Programs provided in ASL at the following schools outside Canada are considered eligible programs for the purposes of this bursary:

- Gallaudet University in Washington, D.C.
- National Technical Institute for the Deaf in Rochester, New York
- Rochester Institute of Technology in Rochester, New York

In addition, programs offered by Rochester Institute of Technology that are delivered in English (or French) but provide ASL (or LSQ) interpretation are eligible for this bursary.

Other schools outside Canada where students are enrolled in a program where the only or principal language of instruction is ASL or LSQ may also be eligible.

If you are not sure if you or your program of study are eligible for the purposes of this bursary, contact the Student Financial Assistance Branch. See the “Questions?” section on page 3 for contact information.

Note regarding currency conversion

The Ministry of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security (ministry) requires that some documented costs be provided in U.S. dollars (USD). The ministry uses the “high average” of the Canadian dollar to USD conversion rate from January 1 to the date your bursary funding is processed, according to the Bank of Canada’s website. Any differences between the exchange rate used to calculate your bursary funding and the exchange rate at the time you receive your bursary funding will not be adjusted.

Reminder

To be considered for this bursary, you must also submit a **2025-26 OSAP Application for Full-Time Students** including all required supporting documents. Your application and required documents must also be received by the corresponding deadlines.

Application and required document deadlines

To be considered for this bursary, your completed bursary application must be received by the ministry at the address listed on this page no later than 60 days before the end of your study period.

All required supporting documentation must be received by the ministry no later than 40 days before the end of your study period.

Where to send your application and required documentation

Your completed 2025-26 Application for Ontario Out-of-Country Bursary for Students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing and all required documentation must be sent to the ministry at the following address:

Student Financial Assistance Branch
Attention: Institution Services Unit, Ontario Out-of-Country Bursary for Students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing
Ministry of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security
PO Box 4500, 189 Red River Road, 4th Floor
Thunder Bay, Ontario
P7B 6G9

Getting your funding

Your bursary entitlement will be calculated at the beginning of each term/semester. Each instalment will be in the form of a cheque issued in Canadian dollars and sent to the mailing address on your OSAP profile. Your school must confirm your enrolment before the bursary cheque can be issued to you.

Bursary funds must be used to pay the academic fees owing to your institution first.

Questions

If you have any questions regarding this application, you may contact the Student Financial Assistance Branch.

- Email: TDD@ontario.ca

Telephone service is available Monday to Friday, 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM (Eastern Time).

- TTY: 1-800-465-3958
- Non-TTY: 807-343-7260 or toll-free in North America: 1-877-OSAP-411 or 1-877-672-7411
- Fax: 807-343-7278 (Attention: Administrator, Out-of-Country Bursary for Students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing)
- Canada Video Relay Service

U.S. Immigration rules for students attending U.S. postsecondary institutions

It is your responsibility to make arrangements with your postsecondary institution to ensure that a U.S. Immigration Form I-20 is issued in time for you to obtain a visa for study in the U.S. The ministry cannot assist with this process, nor can the ministry sign any immigration forms.

Contact the school you are planning to attend if you have any questions regarding the process to obtain a study visa.

Section C: Financial information

Do you expect to receive Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) funding during your 2025-26 study period?

Yes - Enter the monthly amount of ODSP income support you expect to receive during your 2025-26 study period:

per month

Note: You must report any OSAP funding you receive to your ODSP caseworker.

No

Section D: Study period costs and living arrangements

Enter the costs in currency listed for each question. Do not enter cents or use periods or commas.

What is the cost of one return trip, by the most economical means available, from your school to your permanent Canadian address?

Enter amounts in Canadian dollars.

What is the cost of your out-of-country health insurance during your 2025-26 study period?
(if you're studying online only while residing in Canada, leave blank)

Enter amounts in Canadian dollars.

Required documentation: Proof of the cost entered such as a written estimate from your insurance company or the cost charged by your school for out-of-country health coverage.

Will you be living on campus in residence during all or part of your 2025-26 study period?

Yes

No

If "Yes" answer the following:

How many weeks will you be living in the campus residence of your school?

What is the total amount of your room and board for your entire 2025-26 study period while living on campus in residence?

Enter the amount in United States dollars.

Required documentation: Documentation from your school indicating the actual room and board costs charged to you for living on campus in residence during your 2025-26 study period (e.g., a quote from Student Affairs/Student Accounting confirming the residence hall, room option/type and/or meal plan, as applicable). Costs provided must be in United States dollars.

Applicant’s declaration

- I have given complete and true information on and in connection with this application.
- I understand that information I provide in connection with this application will be verified and audited and the ministry may also conduct inspections and investigations.
- I understand that the financial assistance I receive under the Bursary must be used to pay my academic fees first.
- I understand that I may be required to repay all or part of the bursary award if the information I provide in connection with this application is found to be inaccurate for any reason or if any information I provide changes, including my study period and/or my course load.
- I understand that any change to the information I provide and any change resulting from verification and audit may affect my eligibility for and the amount of my Bursary and that I may be required to repay all or a part of the Bursary award.
- I understand that I can withdraw any consent I have given in this section by writing to the Director, Student Financial Assistance Branch, Ministry of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security, PO Box 4500, 189 Red River Road, 4th Floor, Thunder Bay, Ontario, P7B 6G9; 807-343-7260 or toll free in North America at 1-877-672-7411 at any time before I accept a Bursary award. I understand that if I withdraw my consent it will affect my eligibility for and the amount of Bursary assistance.
- I understand that if I fail to provide complete and true information; fail to promptly notify my school’s financial aid office or the ministry in writing of changes to any information I have provided, including my disability, my address and/or financial, academic, family, and/or study period status; or fail to fulfil any obligations respecting the repayment of any overawards the ministry may restrict me from receiving this Bursary or other OSAP assistance in the future, and may take legal action and may require me to repay any assistance that I received. I further understand that it is an offence to knowingly provide false information for the purpose of obtaining or receiving OSAP assistance. If convicted, I may be liable for a fine of up to \$25,000 and one year in prison.

I have read and understood this section, including the notice of collection, use and disclosure of my personal information and my signature attests to my consent to the indirect collection, use and disclosure of my personal information and that my declaration is complete and true.

Note: if you are completing this form electronically, use the “Fill & Sign” feature or “Digital ID” in Adobe Reader or your PDF program to add your signature.

Signature of applicant:

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Date:

Day Month Year

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