PAYING FOR COLLEGE
TIP: Check Your Email!

Important emails about money are sent to you from the Office of the Registrar or the Fees, Financial Aid and Student Awards Services office. Add @fanshawec.ca to your ‘safe’ list so college emails don’t end up in your spam or junk mail folders!

As a student, you’ll receive a Fanshawe Online (FOL) email when you register. This email address will be used for all communications from Fanshawe College, so make sure you check it regularly.

- Watch for important emails about money (how to get money and what/when to pay)
- Add @fanshawec.ca to your ‘safe’ list so you don’t miss out
- Fanshawe students get a Fanshawe Online email address. Check yours often.
You CAN pay for college!

We get it: student life can add up. From the cost of tuition and books to expenses like food and housing, post-secondary education can get expensive. We also know finding a way to finance it can be an important part of deciding where and when you go to school.

We’re here for you!

With a variety of ways to help you pay for college - like more than $5 million in scholarships, awards and bursaries, plus OSAP grants and student loans - we’re here to help you access the financial resources you need to invest in your future.

Going to college in Ontario is one of the best investments you can make, and there are plenty of financial options available.

Use this booklet and our website as a guide to help put together your personal “paying for college” plan.
Nobody wants debt.

You’ll need to plan and be disciplined to avoid financial trouble. Here are some important steps:

**Research** and apply for bursaries and scholarships starting today (no matter how old you are or when you plan to start your studies).

**Apply for OSAP**, even if you don’t think you’ll use it. Many grants are only available to OSAP applicants, and you can request grant-only funding.

**Create a budget!** Budgeting helps you make smart decisions to meet your future goals. Budgeting isn’t just about listing your expenses and income. It’s about creating a plan that helps you manage your money.

**Make an “out” list.** Identify all your expenses for the period you’ll be in school. September to April (8 months) is a standard study period. You may need to do some research and be realistic. Don’t forget, amounts you owe on credit cards are debt, too.

**Make an “in” list.** Identify all your funding options such as family resources, government income, part-time job earnings, OSAP or a student line of credit. Be realistic: if you are guessing, guess low.

**Now compare these two lists.** Do you have more money coming in than going out? Good! Do you have more going out than coming in? Not so good. What expenses can you cut? What other funding can you find? Should you get a job and save more before coming to school?

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**The biggest roadblocks to creating a budget (and sticking to it):**

- **Discipline:** make responsible choices
- **Attitude:** have a positive approach to meet your goals
- **Procrastination:** don’t delay making a plan
- **Expectations:** don’t rely on others to bail you out if you get in financial trouble.
The average cost of college will change depending on your choice of program, campus and living situation. Here’s a sample budget for eight months of study at Fanshawe (September to April). Amounts vary, but these are standard items included in most budgets.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuition per academic year:</th>
<th>Fanshawe College</th>
<th>Other School</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Diploma</td>
<td>$ 2,720</td>
<td>$__________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate certificate</td>
<td>$ 3,920</td>
<td>$__________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honours Bachelor degree</td>
<td>$ 6,344</td>
<td>$__________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collaborative degree</td>
<td>$ 6,205</td>
<td>$__________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Fees</td>
<td>$ 635</td>
<td>$__________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books and Supplies <em>(amounts vary by program)</em></td>
<td>$ 1,823</td>
<td>$__________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Living Expenses <em>(at home, on or off campus)</em></td>
<td>$__________</td>
<td>$__________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation and Parking</td>
<td>$__________</td>
<td>$__________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food <em>(meal plan vs. grocery shopping)</em></td>
<td>$__________</td>
<td>$__________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entertainment</td>
<td>$__________</td>
<td>$__________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>$__________</td>
<td>$__________</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These are approximate amounts only. Visit [fanshawec.ca/fees](http://fanshawec.ca/fees) or program webpages for costing by program. **NOTE:** For most students, the maximum OSAP funding you can get will be less than this total, and most students do not get the maximum OSAP amount.
The Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) is a financial aid program that can help you pay for college. To find out if you are eligible, visit [ontario.ca/osap](http://ontario.ca/osap). For support contact the Financial Aid office at Fanshawe, FAD@fanshawec.ca.

**Plan Ahead**

Check in the spring for OSAP estimates. An estimate will help you plan ahead financially by showing how much OSAP could go towards your tuition costs and how much may remain for other expenses.

**Don’t Forget!**

To apply for OSAP, you’ll first need to create an online account and user profile. Once it opens, complete an OSAP application. Complete your lifetime student loan agreement (MFSAA) online. Submit any documents required by OSAP (listed at the end of your online OSAP application). Try to have it all done by two months before your classes begin to allow enough time for your application to be processed.

- Create your OSAP profile
- Apply for OSAP in early spring
- Submit required OSAP documents
- Complete your lifetime loan agreement (MSFAA)

**Two kinds of money**

Financial aid for school is available through combination of grants and student loans.

**GRANT:** money you don’t have to pay back (some exceptions apply)

**LOAN:** money you need to repay
Part of your bigger budget plan

OSAP is meant to supplement what you and your family may be expected to contribute. The amount of money you receive will be based on the cost of your program, your living expenses and your current financial situation, including family income and other financial resources. OSAP expects most students to save and contribute $1,800 per term to a maximum of $3,600 per academic year.

OSAP, awards, scholarships, and bursaries should all be parts of a bigger budget plan. Be prepared by setting aside resources to help you cover the cost of your education.

I’ve just gotten my OSAP money... now what?

Don’t spend it all at once! Keep it in the bank. Plan wisely. Set aside money for the whole time you’re in school for rent, food and other budget expenses. Most students get more OSAP at the start - for example, 60% of funding is released for the first term, and 40% for the next term. Make sure you review your OSAP account and learn how much you’re getting (loan and grant). Learn how many installments you’re getting, when you’re getting them and how long the money needs to last.

Repaying OSAP

Remember loans need to be paid back. Check out the OSAP repayment calculator to help you understand how much it will cost to borrow or take OSAP loans.

If you need help to repay your loans, there may be options available. Visit the National Student Loan Service Centre, nslsc.ca, to learn more.

Students with disabilities

We recognize there may be some increased costs associated with managing a disability at college. Find out more about OSAP for students with a disability online at ontario.ca/osap.

- Make sure to apply for OSAP!
- Complete the OSAP Disability Verification Form as early as possible.
- Contact Counselling and Accessibility Services for more information about accessibility services at Fanshawe College.

Identify Early: If you have a documented disability, identify with us early at fanshawec.ca/earlyid.
What is a scholarship?
A scholarship is an award based on academic achievement. Other criteria may be considered, like leadership skills or community involvement. You don't have to repay a scholarship.

What is a bursary?
A bursary is an award for a student in financial need. Bursaries are designed to help students who can show that they require additional resources to meet their education and living expenses. Some may be based partly on your marks as well. You don't have to repay a bursary.

What are external awards?
Many different organizations and companies outside of Fanshawe offer funding to students. These companies are independent from the College, but their awards or grants may be promoted on our website. Some awards are open to all students; others may be offered only to students in specific programs.

Are you an international student?
Check out fanshawec.ca/international-awards
Financial Aid

Entrance Bursary
The Entrance Bursary is available to full-time students who have never attended Fanshawe College as a full-time post-secondary student before, and can show financial need. The application opens in the spring, before you start attending Fanshawe.

Work Study Bursary
The work-study program provides work opportunities to full-time post-secondary students with a demonstrated financial need. If approved, students can search and apply for available work-study jobs.

Fanshawe College Student Assistance Bursary (FCSAB)
These bursaries are available to full-time post-secondary students who have a demonstrated financial need while in school.

International Student Work Experience Program (ISWEP)
An on-campus work experience program for international students at Fanshawe College. Gain experience in a Canadian work environment, improve your résumé and prepare to enter the work force while earning an income.

Student Awards

Financial Need Bursaries
Bursary assistance is available through the Student Awards office and made possible by the generous support of many associations, groups, companies and individuals.

Program-specific and College-wide Awards
Do you excel academically? Are you involved in student life activities? Do you volunteer within the community or at Fanshawe College? Do you possess leadership qualities? You may be eligible for one of our many program-specific or college-wide awards.

First Generation Bursary
If neither of your parents has attended a program at college or university, and you can show financial need, the First Generation Bursary may be for you.

Fanshawe College International Learning Opportunity Scholarship
This scholarship provides financial support for a minimum one month academic study, work term, or co-op placement outside North America as part of a current academic program.

Continuing Education Bursary
These bursaries are for low-income students pursuing their first certificate, diploma, degree or academic upgrading skills, on a part-time basis. For more information about eligibility, see the application online at fanshawec.ca/bursaries.

FINANCIAL AID
519-452-4280 | bursaries@fanshawec.ca

STUDENT AWARDS
519-452-4466 | studentawards@fanshawec.ca
How can I afford to go to school full-time for 8 months?

- Have you discussed with your parents or family members what help they can provide – how much, how often and when?
- What money have you saved for your education?
- What scholarships and bursaries can you get before school starts?
- Do you receive any government income?
- Are you going to apply for OSAP? You can get an estimate by filling out the online application. Apply early as the process can take a long time. Go to: ontario.ca/osap.
- Have you applied for a student line of credit?
- Compare your resources to your expenses. Think realistically about how you can cut costs and seek out other resources.

Smart borrowing

- Consider all types of financial aid carefully, and use up non-repayable (“free”) funding first.
- Educate yourself on loan options, terms and conditions before borrowing.
- Keep track of how much you borrow, and remember: you don’t need to spend the full amount of your loans.
- Send a note to your future self: “Pay back unused loans as soon as possible!”
- Plan to pay regularly and on time. Inconsistent or late payments could hurt your credit rating.
How can parents, guardians and supporters help?

Sending a child to college can be an exciting time, and you are a big part of your student’s success!

- **Start early**
  Encourage your student to start making a budget, saving for college, applying for scholarships and learning more about loans and debt management right away. The sooner you start, the more prepared you and your student will be to face the financial challenges ahead.

- **Educate yourself**
  Stay up to date with OSAP and other financial aid rules. High school websites, student portals, school boards or community agencies may provide information about scholarships, bursaries, awards and loans.

- **Plan together**
  Help your student prepare for the financial challenges of college. Talk together about the kinds of costs to expect and share in the effort to research, calculate and compare options. Review potential monthly payments and discuss how interest might impact repayment.

- **Lead by example**
  Model good savings and budgeting habits, and pass on any tips for keeping track of payment amounts and deadlines. Talk openly about how you manage your finances. If you choose to co-sign for a loan, use the experience to teach your student more about your system and have clear expectations.

- **Offer support**
  Students often need encouragement to keep at it, especially after a scholarship rejection or a bursary denial. Help your student to stay positive. Offer to proofread their applications, double-check their paperwork or provide suggestions as they make big financial decisions.
Looking for external scholarships?
[yconic.com](http://yconic.com)
scholarshipscanada.com

National Student Loan Service Centre (NSLSC):
nslsc.ca

Financial Consumer Agency of Canada:
fac-acfc.gc.ca