

FAIRNESS FOR STUDENTS

STUDENTS FOR STRONGER PUBLIC SERVICES NOW!



Tuition Fees

Recent changes to financial aid have opened the door for thousands of students to attend college or university without having to pay for tuition fees.

The Ontario Student Grant (OSG), offered for the first time in 2017, was created by redirecting 100% of the funds from all previously existing OSAP grants into one upfront package. Although the government did not invest any new money to create the OSG, it has made it simpler for students to access financial aid and has broadened the terms of who is eligible for support.

The OSG is designed to cover the cost of "average tuition fee rates for arts and science education." The average cost for an arts and science program in Ontario is \$6,160, which could be covered by the OSG depending on a student's financial need. However, many programs cost significantly more. For example, tuition fees for dental hygiene at George Brown College is \$23,413; architecture at Carleton is \$10,300; or \$31,700 for tuition fees in undergraduate law at University of Toronto. For students in these types of programs, the out of pocket cost of tuition fees remains an issue. The same problem is especially true for Master's and PhD students.

Quick Facts



\$32,370 average fees for international undergraduate students in Ontario.



There are over 800,000 post-secondary students in Ontario – only about 300,000 have received the OSG.



\$0 | the amount, in 2017, of new money invested in post-secondary education by the Ontario government.

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The OSG is based on a flawed assumption that family income should determine how much financial aid a student should receive. Not all families, regardless of income, are in the position to invest money in a student's education.

The OSG is only a band-aid solution to the issue of skyrocketing tuition fees, which continue to increase each year as a result of government underfunding for post-secondary institutions.

Students Respond

For over 30 years, the Federation has brought together domestic, international, college as well as undergraduate and graduate students in the fight for free education. From coast to coast, students are uniting to stop tuition fee increases, advocate for more funding, and create sustainable solutions to the ballooning student debt crisis.

Students Mobilize

It is time to push the government to commit to a sustainable system of high quality post-secondary education that is accessible to everyone in their 2018 election platforms.

We are demanding that all political parties commit to:

- 1 Reduce and eliminate tuition fees for all.**
- 2 Convert loans into grants.**
- 3 Eliminate interest on existing student loans.**

In order for us to collectively achieve this goal, we must demand that candidates in the provincial election make a commitment to these demands.