



ON JUNE 7TH

POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION IS ON THE BALLOT HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

INCREASING TUITION FEES AND DEBT FOR STUDENTS CAN BE A LARGE BARRIER TO ATTENDING UNIVERSITY OR COLLEGE.

THE FEES

High fees unfairly impact low-income families and students who cannot afford to pay upfront. Students from lower-income households are more likely to rely on student loans. The average cost of tuition for one academic year in Ontario college programs are:



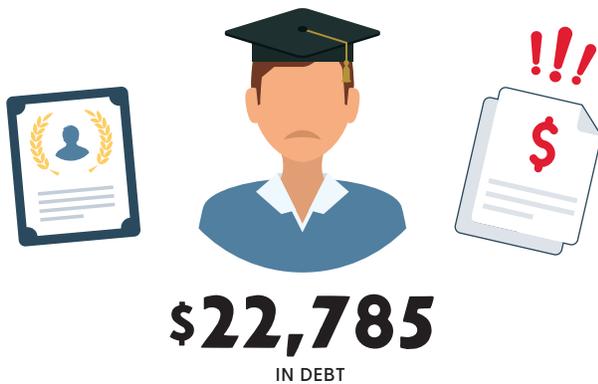
DIPLOMA PROGRAMS
\$2,400



GRADUATE CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS
\$3,600



BACHELOR'S DEGREE PROGRAMS
\$6,100



\$22,785
IN DEBT

STUDENT DEBT

In Ontario, **student-loan debt at the time of graduation averages approximately \$22,785 per student.** Lower-income students with loans are forced to pay back more than other students who can afford to pay upfront. Interest on loans is often two to three times higher than the borrowed amount. The burden of paying off student loan debts limits a person's ability to save, invest, plan for retirement, start a family, or purchase a home. Ontario students need help from the Ontario Government in accessing affordable post-secondary education.

RIGHT NOW, THIS IS BEING DONE

The Government of Ontario is now accepting applications for the new Ontario Student Assistance Program [OSAP], which, they suggest, helps to make **tuition free for more than 210,000 students.** Eligible students whose parents earn \$50,000 or less will receive grant money to cover the average cost of college or university tuition. The new OSAP will also provide more grants to students.

STUDENTS WHOSE PARENTS
EARN LESS THAN



\$50,000



GRANT MONEY TO COVER THE AVERAGE
COST OF COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY TUITION



**APATHY
IS BORING.**
Connect, Educate
and Activate.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



WHY IS AFFORDABLE TUITION FOR POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION IMPORTANT?

College or university education helps everyone gain knowledge and experiences for participating in the social and economic development of our communities. Rising tuition costs, however, means that low-income people are either accumulating massive debts to complete their degrees or are choosing to not attend college or university. The unaffordability of post-secondary education maintains ongoing inequities in our communities. For example, upon graduation, it takes longer for Aboriginal people, women, recent immigrants, and racialized people to pay back their loans regardless of their educational attainment.

IS POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION “FREE” FOR LOW-INCOME STUDENTS WITH THE NEW OSAP?

The new OSAP program fully covers the cost of tuition for most college and university undergraduate programs for low income students. It also makes low interest loans available to cover most additional expenses like textbooks, fees and living expenses. The average student is still expected to contribute \$3,000 annually to cover living expenses.

The OSAP program does not cover the full cost of some professional and graduate degree programs.

QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR CANDIDATES

- + How will your party help students avoid going into debt from pursuing a college or university degree?
- + When will your party take action to reduce student debts?
- + What are your party's strategies to make college and university tuitions affordable for everyone?

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives:
www.policyalternatives.ca

Canadian Federation of Students Ontario:
www.cfsontario.ca



TO LEARN MORE ABOUT WHAT'S ON THE BALLOT, VISIT APATHYISBORING.COM

ON JUNE 7TH
**VOTE IN THE ONTARIO PROVINCIAL ELECTION FOR
BETTER POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION**