

Quick Reference Sheet – BSWD

The BSWD (Bursary for Students with Disabilities) and the Canada Study Grant for the Accommodation of Students with Permanent Disabilities are financial assistance programs provided through the Government of Ontario for disability related services and equipment that help students access post-secondary school. These funds do not have to be paid back to the government and are not taxable.

How much is Available?

Eligible student received up to \$2000 from the Ontario Bursary for Student with Disabilities (BSWD) and up to \$8000 from the Canada Student Grant for Services and Equipment for Persons with Permanent Disabilities (CSG/PDSE).

Who is Eligible?

To be eligible, a student must meet the following criteria:

- Canadian citizen, a permanent resident, or a Protected Person and an Ontario resident
- Applied and eligible for Canada-Ontario Integrated Student Loan if a full-time student (OSAP)
- Applied and eligible for Part –Time Canada Student Loan or Ontario Special Bursary if part-time
- Have a permanent disability (students with a temporary disability may be eligible for BSWD funding only)
- have disability-related educational costs for services or equipment that are not covered by another agency or service
- require these services/equipment to participate in postsecondary studies

What Can the Money be Used For?

- Psycho-educational, medical and psychological assessments
- Assistive Technology
- Readers, note-takers, interpreters
- Counselling
- ADHD Coaching
- Tutoring services
- Attendant care for studies

When Should I Apply?

If you are taking a one-term program, the deadline for applying is within the first 30 days of your study period. If you are taking a two-or-three-term program, the deadline for applying is 60 days before the end of your study period.

How Do I Apply?

- Apply for and be eligible by \$1 for OSAP
- Meet with your Disabilities Counsellor to speak about disability related technology and supports – your Disabilities Counsellor will submit the bursary application for approved disability related expenses on your behalf
- Complete necessary training on software (such as inspiration, TextHelp, Dragon, Kurzweil) with an Assistive Technologist Specialist
- Ensure you have system requirements for software. Reasonable guidelines are provided by the Assistive Technology Specialist. If you are working above these guidelines you need to be prepared to explain why you require these specification or be prepared to pay above the guideline
- Submit receipts for purchased technology and services and any unused funds to Student Financial Services

More information about the BSWD can be found at:

<https://osap.gov.on.ca/OSAPPortal/en/A-ZListofAid/PRDR013041.html>

Scholarships and Bursaries available for students with LDs, ADHD, Autism, Intellectual Disabilities

- 1) Shire Canada Inc. – ADHD Scholarship Program for post-secondary students, www.shireadhd scholarship.com/CA-EN/default.aspx
 - a. Students 18 and over, diagnosed with ADHD, under the care of a regulated health professional
 - b. Accepted to, or currently enrolled in, a post-secondary program at a Canadian accredited 2- or 4-year college, university, trade/tech/vocational school
 - c. A 1-year scholarship AND 1-year of ADHD coaching services by the Edge Foundation
- 2) Roy Cooper Memorial Scholarship, www.ldao.ca
 - a. Offered through the LDAO to LD/ADHD students in high school accepted to a post-secondary institution in a Bachelor of Engineering or Bachelor of Science in a physical science program
 - b. Annual scholarship
- 3) Association of Universities and Colleges Awards Program, www.AUCC.ca
 - a. Mattinson Endowment Fund Scholarship for Disabled Students – for an undergraduate program in a degree-granting program
 - i. A 1-year scholarship
 - b. Imperial Tobacco Canada Ltd Scholarship Fund for Disabled Students – for university/college studies
 - i. An Annual scholarship
- 4) Justin Eves Foundation Scholarship, www.justinevesfoundation.com
 - i. A 1-year scholarship for a student attending college/university

Other Information available:

- 1) National Directory of Financial Assistance Programs for Post-Secondary Students with Disabilities, www.neads.ca
- 2) Canadian database of 1000's of scholarships, bursaries, fellowships, grants and other financial awards, www.studentawards.com/english/can
- 3) Ontario Post Secondary School Supports for Students with a Disability, www.dpcdsb.org/nr/rdonlyres/043bc812-e3b0-4963-ba1c-1153346de49a/77985/supportforstudentswithadisability.pdf

Autism Information:

- 1) Autism Ontario offers scholarships to students with ASD attending college/university
- 2) Humber College offers a specific program – Community Integration through Co-operative Education (CICE) – 2-year program for students 19 yrs and up
- 3) Other college and vocational schools have programs for students with ASD or intellectual disabilities
 - a. List of community colleges with programs geared to individuals with Autism/MID/DD – www.AutismSpeaks.org/community/fsdb/search.php