

POST-SECONDARY PROGRAM

Student Orientation for Full-time Students

WELCOME

- Welcome new students, our PSP team is looking forward to working with you as you pursue your educational goals.
- This orientation is for full-time students and will cover the most important aspects related to support services and information sponsored students should be aware of.
- **“If you really want it, you will achieve it!”**

APPLICATION DEADLINES FOR SPONSORED STUDENTS

- Application Deadlines for Continued Sponsorship
- There are 2 deadlines in which full-time students need to be aware of, they are:
 - **April 1st** – for **Spring/Summer terms** (any courses between May and August) – continuing form must include Fall term marks. You will not have your final marks for the winter term; therefore, approval will be based on your monthly updates and/or contact with your Counsellor. If you are doing well, you will be conditionally approved, awaiting Winter term marks.
 - **June 30th** - for **Fall/Winter terms** (September to April) – continuing form must include your unofficial marks for the previous Fall/Winter terms and an updated bank deposit slip.
 - Students with different start dates and different term dates will abide by the above until further notice.



CRIMINAL RECORDS/CHILD ABUSE CHECKS

- Although some educational institutions do not require the above for programs when accepting students, OES does. OES has taken the proactive approach to ensure programs that lead to working in occupations having trust or custodial relationships with other people, will be required to fulfill these checks for their chosen careers. Examples, include nursing, social work, teaching, law enforcement, child care, dentistry, counselling, etc.
- Checks are required at the beginning of each new year in program., if applicable.
- OES will reimburse required checks.

BUDGETING

- Students must ensure their personal debts are manageable with the allowances provided.
- OES is not responsible for personal debts (vehicle, credit cards, rent, etc.)
- Residences – OES will pay the residence/meals on behalf of the student using anticipated student allowances for each term.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- Meet GPA of 2.0 or 2.5 for each term.
- Abide by the signed declaration of application – attendance, monthly updates, regular contact with Counsellor, etc.
- Mandatory student advising for registration of courses.
- Mandatory orientations by school and OES.
- Workshops – highly recommended, not mandatory (Writing Styles, Cree Lessons, etc.)
- Monthly Updates – “how are you doing in this course” – 2 or 3 sentences, plus any marks received on assignments, tests, etc. and include an personal issues that may affect academic performance.
- Register for required number of courses per term.

CIRCUMSTANCES AFFECTING SPONSORSHIP

- Students with low marks or did not pass a course affecting GPA can appeal to the university/college – sponsorship will be suspended awaiting outcome.
- Probation may be granted for one term dependent on circumstances.
- Students who withdraw must provide documentation and will be eligible to apply for sponsorship after 2 years.
- Students must receive approval prior to withdrawing from any courses.
- Students who quit and do not inform OES will be eligible to apply after 2 years and may include deduction of allowances received after they quit.
- Students with exceptionalities, full-time or part-time, have a lower course load but must still meet GPA requirements for continuance.
- Change of program is allowed after one year, student has to be in good standing, allowances provided for first year will be transferred to new program.
- Students can defer sponsorship for one year, due to extenuating circumstances.

ASSISTANCE FOR FT STUDENTS

- Student allowance – 835 bi-weekly (based on MB minimum wage, will increase when wage increases) Students with higher number of dependents may be subsidized from social assistance.
- School supplies – 50 at beginning of program and subsequent years.
- Tuition – maximum of 6500 per year; however, approval over 6500 can be accommodated IF it is a public educational institution, those with high tuition rates (private institutions) must seek additional resources.
- Required laptops – will be provided if it is required for the program – computer programs, etc.
- Laptop subsidy – 250 will be provided if a student purchases a laptop
- Required software – as long as it is a requirement, it will be provided.

ASSISTANCE - CONTINUED

- Reimbursement of Scholarships (based on academic performance), students who receive a scholarship and it is credited toward the student's tuition, the scholarship can be accessed from the school after OES makes payment or reimbursed by OES.
- Required textbooks (provide receipt for reimbursement, or send a quote, or sign for books at bookstore)
- Tutoring – always encouraged (no maximum during pandemic)
- Clothing allowances – 200 for all placements
- Travel – .48/km or airfare whichever is less, for students who relocated for school (Christmas, Easter, Reading Week, Year End, Thanksgiving, Beginning of Year)
- Moving Costs – 200 or dependent on distance for students who relocate
- Child care subsidy – 100 per month (automatic, need one bill at the beginning of each term)
- Emergency Travel – compassionate or bereavement, .48/km
- Bus Passes/Parking – 75 per month (receipt required)
- Cell phone subsidy – 30 per month (automatic, need one bill at the beginning of each term)

ASSISTANCE - CONTINUED

- Conferences/Workshops – 400 provided if it is a requirement of the program and if not part of program – registration fee will be paid on one-time basis
- Mandatory supplies/equipment – quote required (stethoscopes, calculators, specialized shoes/boots, etc.)
- Cultural Camps/Field Trips – 250 if required by program
- Required fees – one time basis for licensing, LSAT/MCAT admission tests, bar exams, testing fees, etc.
- Copying fees – receipt required
- Cash Advances – once per term, maximum 500, repaid in 5 payments

LENGTH OF SPONSORSHIP

- Students who receive allowances are eligible to receive an additional term (4 months) IF they are not completed within the time frame of program. After 4 months, student will revert to PT until completion of program.
- Additional Sponsorship after Completion of Program – after graduation, student is eligible for re-applying for sponsorship after 2 years or apply for continued sponsorship into a laddering program, which must be natural progression. This is one time basis only.
- Re-registration of Course for Higher Grade – student must pay their own tuition and is not part of OES's required course limit for the term. There are exceptions.
- Courses not required for program will not be funded and not be considered as part of the course limit requirements.

INCENTIVES

- Scholarships for all students, including non-sponsored, for student achievement of 2.5 and higher.
- Graduation Bursaries – based on overall cumulative GPA of program and based on Levels of Education.
- Graduation Costs – 300 toward grad pictures, grad gowns, grad caps, etc.
- Graduations/Convocations – attendance of OES (board member, SSC committee member, Counsellor
- Graduation Supper/Gifts – 300 graduation supper and graduation gift

APPEAL PROCESS

- Must be submitted 2 weeks following decision regarding discontinuance of sponsorship.
- Students are allowed 2 appeals within their existing program of studies.
- There are no appeals by new applicants not approved due to budget restrictions.
- Appeal process:
 - Appeal must be in writing (1 page in length) to the Sponsored Student Committee and forwarded to Executive Assistant;
 - Provide any supporting documents;
 - Confirmation of Appeal should be in writing;
 - Executive Assistant will arrange appeal hearing;
 - Decision of the appeal will be made by the committee and decision is final.

REVISIONS TO HANDBOOK

- Revisions to the Sponsored Student Handbook will be completed on a “as needed” basis or once per year.
- Process includes recommendations from Sponsored Student Committee, to the Finance Committee, and final approval at the Board level.
- Students are welcome to provide recommendations for student success.
- Once approved, the handbook will be uploaded to our OES website.
- www.opased.com Post-Secondary then Forms/Documents



OCN ELDERS – 7 SACRED TEACHINGS

- Wolf – mayikan - humility
- Robin – pipicew - truth
- Goose – niska - honesty
- Deer – apisimosos - respect
- Bear – muskwa - courage
- Beaver – amisk - wisdom
- Eagle – mikisew - love

GROW OUR OWN SPECIALISTS

- OCN is in desperate need of physiotherapists (Physical Therapists), Speech/Language Pathologists, School Psychologists, and Occupational Therapists).
- OCN has a growing number of children/students who have been assessed as needing specialized services. Many children are not being provided with adequate services to allow for enhanced learning tools/knowledge to ensure successful learning outcomes for their future.
- OES is offering enhanced student supports to promote these programs.
- Enhanced supports include double student allowances for maximum of 2 terms to meet the pre-requisites required for the program. Once admitted, double allowances will continue for duration of program, including 1100/mth rent while taking program in the city, plus all regular supports.

COVID FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

- Laptop
- Printer Subsidy - \$200 max (one time only)
- Wifi Subsidy - \$30 per month (one bill at the beginning of each term)
- Black Ink Subsidy - \$30 per month (receipt required)
- Colour Ink Subsidy - \$30 per month (receipt required)
- Extra Child Care - \$50 PT and \$100 FT (one bill at the beginning of each term)
- Paper (white/colour) - \$20 per month
- \$50/month (end of month) – hand sanitizers and masks
- \$50 maximum for the following:
 - * Head phones, airbuds
 - * Camera for laptop or desk top
 - * microphone

STUDY CENTERS

- Study Centers – For local students, OES offers 2 study centers for safe and quiet environment conducive for studying and/or on-line classes.
- OCN Youth Center (used to be Martha Constant Parish Hall), and Big Eddy Youth Center – 9 to 9 daily and Friday 9 to 4.
- Amenities include: laptops, cubicles, paper, pens, printers, wifi (high), snacks, door prizes, and a safe clean environment

FACEBOOK

- “Opaskwayak Sponsored-Students”
- PSP has a facebook page where all notices, reminders, information, congratulatory remarks for graduates, or students who have achieved recognition or accolades, etc. and posts are made regularly, including any scholarship or bursary information.
- It is also a place to support each other, “like” for any achievements, general questions, etc.
- All student requests must be made by email instead of the inbox, with the exception of Marlene’s students, inboxing requests will be accepted.

WEBSITE

- www.opased.com
- Click on “Post-Secondary”
- Then “Forms/Documents” for all our sponsorship forms (continuing form, change of demographic form, travel request form, etc.)
- These forms are “fillable” on-line and can be sent directly via email to your counsellor.
- * please note the handbook is presently not available – for changes and will be uploaded again soon.

STAFF

- Marlene G. Head, Post-Secondary Supervisor/Counsellor, responsible for all students in MB and Alberta, British Columbia, and Eastern Provinces
- Sophie Pitre, Post-Secondary Counsellor, responsible for all UCN students including E&T UCN trade students.
- Ron Fidler, Post-Secondary Counsellor, responsible for Saskatchewan students, E&T trades students other than UCN, and all E&T apprentice students.
- Jody Brightnose-Cowley, Study Center Coordinator, responsible for 2 study centers located in Big Eddy and OCN Townsite.
- Aric Bignell, Study Center Assistant, for study centers.



THANK YOU

- Questions, Comments
- On behalf of the PSP team, thank you, and please ensure you contact your Counsellor for all your student requests.