

General OSAP eligibility

To be eligible for OSAP under both Ontario and Canada regulations, students must:

- be enrolled at an approved postsecondary institution
- in an approved program leading to a certificate, diploma or degree that is at least 12 weeks in length.

For full-time OSAP, a student must be enrolled in courses that constitute at least 60% of a full course load, as defined by the institution awarding the credential.

OSAP eligibility for programs offered in partnership between Indigenous Institutes and publicly assisted colleges and universities

Many students attending programs delivered by Indigenous Institutes in partnership with publicly assisted colleges and universities are already eligible for OSAP funding. For programs that are approved for full-time OSAP, students can apply under the partner college or university and can reach out to the partner institution's Financial Aid Office for assistance with their OSAP application (or OSAP account).

However, there are some partnership programs that are not OSAP eligible. In addition to meeting the general OSAP eligibility criteria noted above, the program must be approved by the Minister and supported publicly through operating grant funds for the program to be OSAP eligible. The partnered public college or university that is granting the credential would submit the program for ministry approval (also known as operating grant approval) for the program to be considered OSAP eligible.

We encourage Indigenous Institutes to continue to work with their postsecondary education partners on any OSAP-related matters; the partner institution may be interested in submitting the program to the ministry for operating grant approval to be able to offer OSAP to students enrolled in the program.

OSAP eligibility for Indigenous Institute programs that are not offered in partnership with a publicly assisted college and university

Indigenous Institutes may also offer programs that are not offered in partnership with a publicly assisted college or university. These programs may be considered for OSAP approval after an Indigenous Institute (and program) have received approval to grant the credential from the Indigenous Advanced Education and Skills Council (or in some cases the Postsecondary Education Quality Assessment Board). These programs will also need to meet the general OSAP eligibility requirements prior to being considered OSAP approved.