

February 18, 2026

Statement Regarding Recently Announced Changes to Post-Secondary Funding, Tuition, and the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP).

The Ontario government recently announced significant changes for Colleges and Universities, including new funding of \$6.4 billion over 4 years for schools, and revisions to the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP).

While the increase in funding is a step in addressing the underfunding of Colleges and Universities, there are significant concerns with the revisions to OSAP and the elimination of the tuition freeze. These changes make post-secondary education less affordable.

Under the revised OSAP framework, students will now receive a maximum of 25% of their assistance as grants and a minimum of 75 % as repayable loans. Previously, students received up to 85% of financial aid through grants, and 15% through repayable loans.

CCSAI is disappointed by the changes to the OSAP funding model. These adjustments were made without consultation with students and come at a time when many learners across Ontario are already facing severe affordability pressures, a challenging job market, and rising living costs.



Additionally, following the 10 per cent tuition reduction implemented seven years ago, the province will permit institutions to increase tuition by up to 2 per cent annually.

We recognize that many students are frustrated and feeling worried after these announcements. For many, financial aid is essential to accessing and completing their education.

We are actively responding. CCSAI is engaging with provincial student organizations and sector stakeholders to coordinate a response and to advocate for solutions that protect accessibility, equity, and student success across Ontario.

We will be hosting an advocacy day on February 23rd in the Main Events Hall in our Student Centre at Progress Campus from 11am-4pm to listen to you, discuss the path forward, and organize together to ensure your voices are heard.

Education should be a pathway forward, not an added burden. Students must be part of the decisions that shape their future. We have the power to fight for our future.