

Within Reach

How to Finance Your
University of Toronto Experience:
A Guide for First-Entry Programs



UNIVERSITY OF
TORONTO

// **My own dreams of practicing medicine were realized when I made the decision to study at the University of Toronto.**

—Everton A. Gooden, BSc 1991, MD 1996, PGMt 2001, FRCSC, and past recipient of the Dr. Anderson Abbott Award.



Welcome!

As a University of Toronto alumnus, I extend to you a warm welcome.

I know this is an exciting time in your life, filled with hopes, dreams and aspirations, as you begin exploring your post-secondary options. My own dreams of practicing medicine were realized when I made the decision to study at the University of Toronto. Without the financial support I received from the university, my dreams would not have been realized.

As a past beneficiary of student financial services, I strongly encourage you to take advantage of the resources offered in an effort to help with the financial challenges of a university education.

Studying at the University of Toronto will provide you with the opportunity to learn with the best and brightest minds from around the world. When you complete your studies, you will join an elite group of international alumni and scholars on the world stage.

The University of Toronto has a long tradition of excellence and you too can turn your dreams into reality.

We are here to help. Your future at the University of Toronto is within reach.

Everton A. Gooden, BSc, MD, FRCSC
Chief, Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery
North York General Hospital
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University of Toronto

Your Future at the University of Toronto is Within Reach

As Canada's largest university, we welcome over 17,000+ new students every September from across the country and around the world. It is our hope that you will soon be among them.

We know that financing a university education is no small undertaking. It may involve a mix of financial resources—from student awards to government grants to part-time employment.

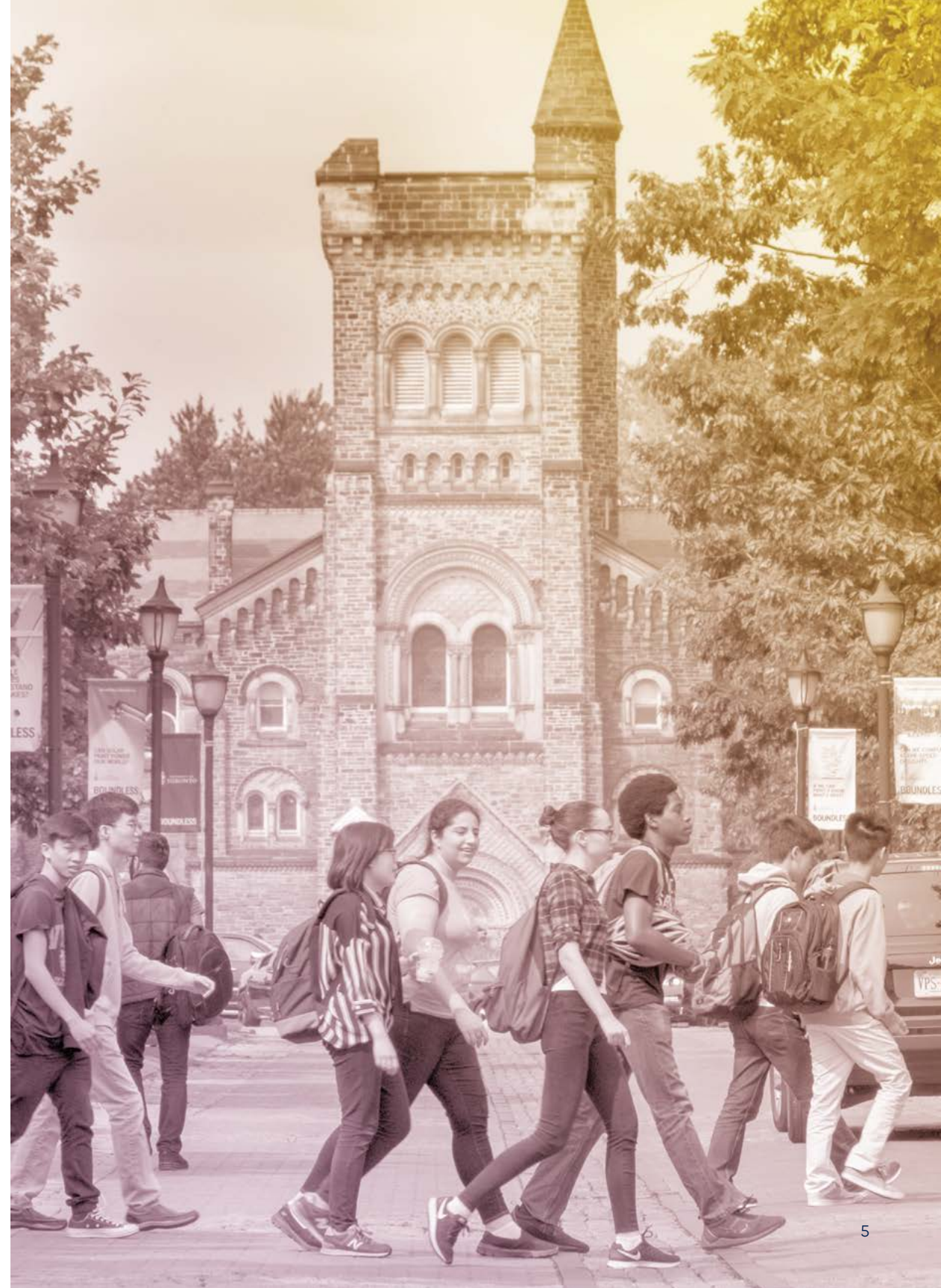
It will also involve, most importantly, you.

In addition to the financial aid programs we've outlined here, prospective students and their families may wish to consider resources beyond those offered by the government and institution. These may include RESPs; external awards and scholarships offered by community organizations or companies; financial assistance and loans offered through banks and credit unions; part-time employment income; and contributions from family members.

At U of T, our goal is to help students like you bring your dream of a university education within reach.

For further information, visit:
future.utoronto.ca/finances

We wish to acknowledge this land on which the University of Toronto operates. For thousands of years it has been the traditional land of the Huron-Wendat, the Seneca, and the Mississaugas of the Credit. Today, this meeting place is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work on this land.



Resources. Assistance. Advice.

All Within your Reach.

HOW WE DEFINE ...

AWARD

A scholarship, fellowship, prize, grant or bursary.

GRANT

A monetary award based primarily on financial need. This can also be referred to as a **bursary**.

SCHOLARSHIP

A monetary award based on academic excellence alone or in combination with financial need.

AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS & GRANTS



Thousands of non-repayable awards worth more than \$100 million are available annually, based on merit, financial need, or a combination of both.

- Award Explorer
- Awards Profile

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GOVERNMENT AID



Help from the government in the form of non-repayable grants and repayable loans.

- OSAP (Ontario Student Assistance Program)
- Provincial/Territorial government-funded student aid
- Aid from the Federal government through Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)

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RESOURCE

OVERVIEW

DIVISIONAL AID



Each faculty and college at U of T offers both non-repayable need-based financial aid and merit-based awards.

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UTAPS



Get additional help from U of T when government funds are not enough.

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WORK/STUDY



Get hired for paid work on campus while enrolled as a student.

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TUITION DEFERRALS



Students can defer paying their tuition fees if they are expecting OSAP, Out of Province loans, a U.S. Direct Loan, or a U of T merit-based award that will be put toward their tuition. You may register without payment by requesting a tuition deferral.

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See the many sources available to help you cover the costs of your education: future.utoronto.ca/finances

Student Spotlight

A member of the Mohawk Nation, Turtle Clan, and an alumna of Woodsworth College's Millie Rotman Shime Academic Bridging Program, Andrea pursued an Honours B.A. at the Faculty of Arts & Science, specializing in Indigenous Studies and double-minoring in Book & Media Studies and Creative Expression & Society. Andrea received the 2019 President's Award for Outstanding Indigenous Student and was a Bennett Scholar in 2018 and 2019.

Tell me a bit about yourself.

I grew up in Reno, Nevada, but my family moved to Canada when I was in fifth grade. My family are from Six Nations of the Grand River. I was a 4th year undergraduate student specializing in Indigenous Studies and double-minoring in Book and Media Studies and Creative Expression and Society, and I was part of Woodsworth College. I hope to work within the urban Indigenous community and continue on to my MA or PhD since finishing my undergrad! I am also the founder of Indigenous Languages Club, a UTSU-recognized club that seeks to promote the use of Indigenous Languages and arts programming on-campus.

How did you find the process of applying for student awards and assistance?

The streamlined awards process is much easier now than when I first started! Before, you had to drop off applications in-person and at multiple locations. Now it is one application.

What additional (outside of U of T) resources did you research? e.g. community or corporate scholarships or bursaries?

Miziwe Biik, Indigenous scholarships offered through the Government of Canada and other bursaries from corporations.

How did you find out about the financial resources available to you at U of T?

Woodsworth College was extremely helpful during my time at U of T. They helped support my international experience while studying in New Zealand in the summer of 2018. First Nations House was also instrumental in providing financial assistance, cultural programming and generally just a spot to feel at home!

How has receiving awards and scholarships helped you fulfill your goals?

Having access to financial help was extremely beneficial in allowing me to focus on my studies and not worry about working so many hours. This allowed me to fulfill my potential as a student and I made the Dean's List two years in a row!

What advice do you have for prospective students?

Check first through your college, as well as the awards centre at U of T. There are so many scholarships and opportunities for financial assistance, you just have to look for it! The Government of Canada also has a website with all available scholarships and bursaries for Indigenous students and other available financial assistance.



“ First Nations House was instrumental in providing financial assistance, cultural programming and generally just a spot to feel at home!

Awards Scholarships & Grants



Awards are non-repayable monetary awards issued based on criteria such as merit, financial need, community engagement, leadership and athletic performance.

At U of T, there are a few different types of awards that may be of interest to you as an incoming undergraduate student:

ADMISSION AWARDS

Admission awards are for newly admitted students entering the University of Toronto in year one of their undergraduate studies. You are automatically considered for a variety of admission awards when you apply to the University. There are also admission awards that require you to complete a separate application or awards profile.

IN-COURSE AND GRADUATING AWARDS

In-course awards are open to current U of T students; graduating awards are awarded to graduating students who are in the final year of their degree. **These awards are issued based on academic merit and/or financial need.**

GRANTS

Grants are non-repayable monetary awards based primarily on financial need. Sometimes "grant" and "bursary" are used interchangeably, but "grant" is the more common term used at U of T.

7,100+

admission scholarships

more than

\$166M

annually in merit-based awards

7,900+

in-course awards each year

DID YOU KNOW?

- U of T, through its colleges and divisions, **awards more than 7,100 admission scholarships**, totalling more than \$166 million, and over 7,900 in-course awards each year.
- **The majority of our admission scholarships are awarded automatically.** A separate application is not required for these merit-based admission awards.
- **You can apply for as many awards as you like**, and most awards can be combined with each other.
- **Each faculty and college at U of T offers non-repayable merit- and need-based awards.** To learn more about **Divisional Aid**, get in touch with the specific college or faculty directly.

Awards Scholarships & Grants

INDIGENOUS STUDENTS

U of T's First Nations House helps Indigenous students discover and access a variety of scholarships and grants.

Learn more at:

studentlife.utoronto.ca/service/financial-aid-advising

DON'T MISS OUT ON THESE OPPORTUNITIES...

Ask your parents, or organizations in your community, about scholarships for graduating secondary school students. Some organizations and companies offer scholarships to children of members or employees.

EMERGENCY GRANTS

For unexpected financial needs, the University of Toronto has grants available for emergency situations. Our Emergency Undergraduate Grant assists current U of T undergrads, both domestic and international, who need immediate, short-term financial relief due to unexpected expenses.

Ready to discover what's within your reach?
Visit: future.utoronto.ca/finances/awards

Jamar completed a B.Com. at the Faculty of Arts & Science (Rotman Commerce), specializing in Finance & Economics. Jamar was in our National Scholarship Program's 2018 cohort.

What led you to apply for the National Scholarship?

I did not have the financial resources to move away from home (Vancouver) to Toronto and fund my education and living expenses. During my senior year, I realized my extra-curricular involvements and academic success well-positioned me to apply for scholarships; I applied for the National Scholarship as a long-shot opportunity, and it just so happened to be a great fit.

How did receiving the National Scholarship impact your post-secondary journey?

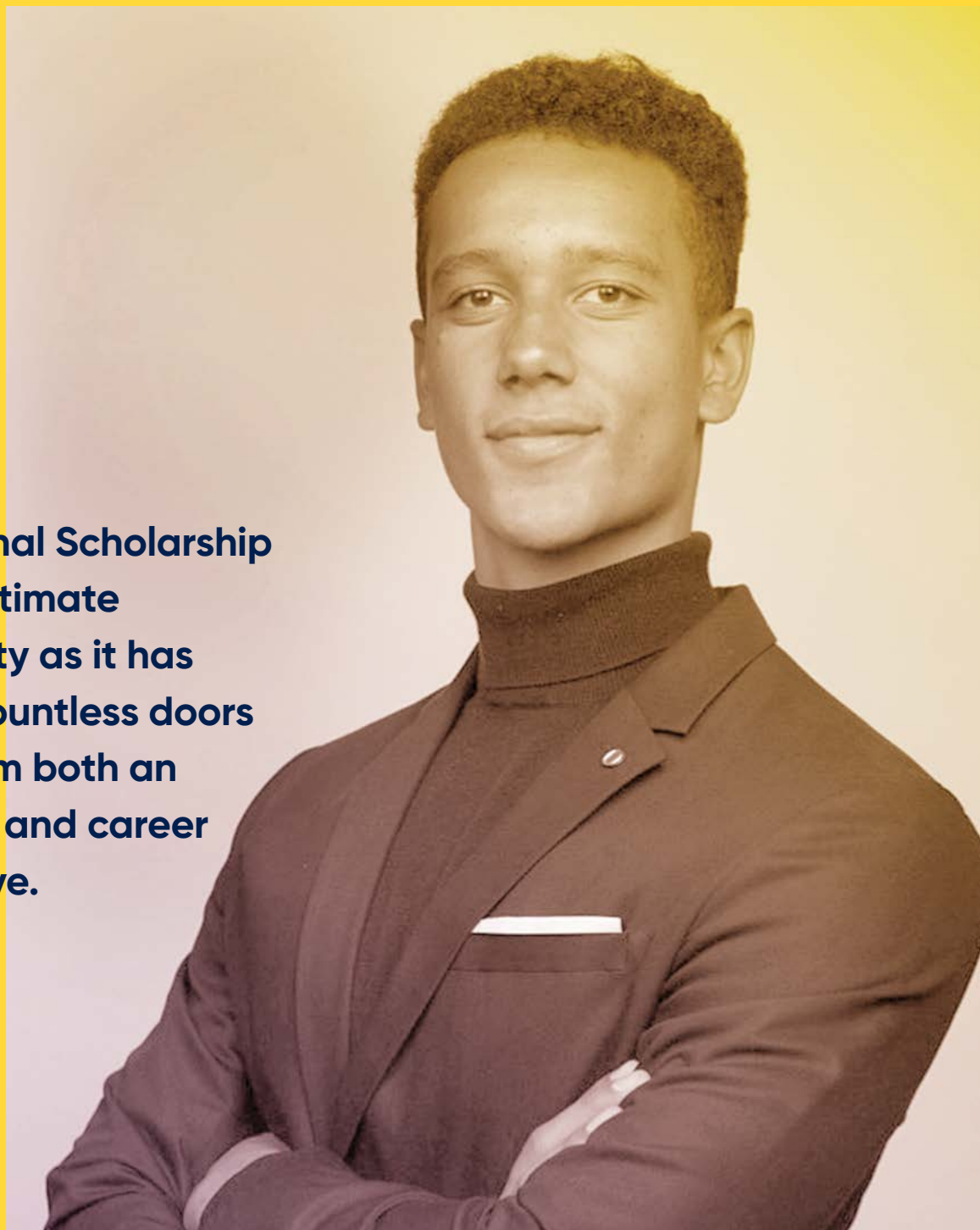
Being relieved of the stress and hardships associated with struggling to make bill payments, I was able to dedicate 100% of my energy to my degree, multiple student groups, and multiple athletic teams.

How did it feel to receive the largest entrance scholarship at Canada's flagship university?

Put simply: the most life-changing and joyous feeling someone can experience. This award sent a ripple effect of hope and happiness through my entire family, and that is why the National Scholarship is so special. Knowing the impact that this award had on me and my family, I approached every day at U of T as a chance to make a lasting difference within my field of study.

How were you involved on campus? Did you participate in any clubs, committees, athletics etc?

U of T is the best place to be if you are looking to get involved with your campus. If I had the time, I would have been involved in twice as many groups as I was, but here are the titles I held: Director of Finance at the Black Students Association, Analyst at Toronto Student Investment Council, Corporate Relations & Finance Lead at Black Rotman Commerce, Player for St. George Red's Tri-Campus Soccer Team, and of course active within all of the National Scholarship related involvements.



// The National Scholarship was the ultimate opportunity as it has opened countless doors for me from both an academic and career perspective.

Award Explorer

WHAT IS AWARD EXPLORER?

A searchable database of thousands of awards available at the University of Toronto.

This tool can help you explore the diverse funding opportunities available to students who are making a difference. Most of our scholarships are awarded to multiple recipients. Learn more about the below award programs, and many others, at awardexplorer.utoronto.ca

JUST A FEW OF OUR AWARDS

National Scholarship Program

- Tuition, residence and meal plan for 4 years.
- For Canadian secondary school students.
- **Application required.**

Pearson Scholarship

- Tuition, residence and meal plan for 4 years.
- \$2,000 stipend for 4 years.
- For international students. (International students who are attending secondary school in Canada are also eligible.)
- **Application required.**

President's Scholars of Excellence Program (PSEP)

- \$10,000 for one year.
- Automatic consideration.
- **No need to apply.**

University of Toronto Scholars Program

- \$7,500 for one year.
- Automatic consideration.
- **No need to apply.**

C. David Naylor Scholarship

- \$20,000 for one year.
- For Canadian secondary school students.
- **Application required.**

Scholars and Students at Risk Award Program

- Awarded to asylum-seekers and refugees.
- **Application required.**

Dr. Anderson Abbott Award

- \$4,000 for one year.
- Awarded to a Black undergraduate student based on academic achievement, financial need and contributions to the community.
- **Application required.**

Bennett Scholars

- Awarded to full-time, undergraduate students based on financial need.
- Preference given to students with Indigenous backgrounds or whose parents did not attend university or college. Students should self-identify in their Awards Profile.

Explore these and other awards:
awardexplorer.utoronto.ca

Awards Profile

MAXIMIZE YOUR ELIGIBILITY FOR A WIDE RANGE OF AWARDS.

The Awards Profile makes it possible for U of T applicants to be considered for admission awards based on financial need, academic merit, leadership, and other criteria.

- To create an Awards Profile, you first need access to the **JOIN U of T applicant portal**. After applying through OUAC, you'll receive an email with instructions on how to activate your JOINid and log into the applicant portal. Once inside, you'll be able to fill out your Awards Profile.
- Some faculties and colleges also have their own Awards Profiles, so be sure to check your faculty and/or college website and complete any separate awards profile that they may require.

The University of Toronto is committed to enhancing access and equity across all of our campuses.

We strive to recruit students who reflect Canada's diversity and can strengthen our community with a breadth of viewpoints and lived experiences. To this end, we strongly encourage applicants to comprehensively self-identify when completing their Awards Profiles.

The Awards Profile is each student's best opportunity to make themselves eligible for a wide range of awards with a single application, including awards for Black students, Indigenous students, convention refugees, service members, the economically disadvantaged, and more. Self-identification is voluntary and kept confidential.

Student Spotlight

Emma completed an Honours B.Sc. at the University of Toronto Scarborough, majoring in Biochemistry and Neuroscience. Emma received a President's Scholarship of Excellence in 2016, and a U of T Scarborough Admission Scholarship in 2016.

Tell us a bit about yourself.

My name is Emma Cheng and I'm from the small farm town of Lindsay, Ontario. I completed my studies at the University of Toronto – Scarborough, majoring in biochemistry and neuroscience. My goal is to complete my master's degree and work at a university, helping students with both their academic and career goals.

How did you find out about the financial resources available to you at U of T?

I had great guidance counsellors in high school, and I also had the help of the U of T Scarborough viewbook and website. They provide excellent resources that are easy to navigate for information. At the time, I knew about the automatic entrance scholarships, but I did not know about the President's Scholarship! It was a very nice surprise to receive a letter in the mail informing me that I had received a scholarship I didn't even know I was eligible for!

What additional resources did you research outside of U of T? (e.g. community or corporate scholarships or bursaries)

Through my research, I applied to the Loran Scholars Foundation as an independent without a school sponsorship.

How did you find the process of applying for student awards and assistance?

The process was very simple, especially for the entrance scholarships where you are automatically considered. For other awards that require applications, the Awards Profile was very easy to use.

How has receiving awards and scholarships helped you fulfill your goals?

Not having to worry about paying for tuition meant a lot. I was able to pay off all of my tuition and my residence fees for first year, and the money I received every year from scholarships gave me more flexibility when looking for off-campus housing. I was able to focus my attention on school and extracurriculars/jobs, and this was all thanks to my scholarship.

What advice do you have for prospective students?

Apply to as many scholarships as you are eligible for—you never know when you might get awarded!

“Applying for awards was simpler than I thought, as there are some scholarships that require no application. Using the Awards Profile was easy too.”



Government Aid



The Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) is a government-funded student aid program. Funding consists of a mix of grants and loans.

OSAP assumes that a student's parent(s) or guardian(s), or spouse if applicable, will financially contribute to the student's educational expenses. The income of your parent, guardian, or spouse will be taken into consideration when you apply for OSAP.

Once you apply and qualify for OSAP, or for government student aid from your province or territory, you should apply for the University of Toronto Advanced Planning for Students (UTAPS) program to be considered for non-repayable grants from the University. Indigenous students not applying for government aid, who are receiving educational funding for Indigenous students should also apply.

WHO CAN APPLY FOR OSAP?

Canadian citizens, permanent residents, or protected persons who are Ontario residents may apply for OSAP.

HOW MUCH MIGHT YOU RECEIVE FROM OSAP?

Get a quick estimate of how much you might get from OSAP. Visit [Ontario.ca/OSAP](https://www.utoronto.ca/osap).

29,000+

total OSAP recipients at the University of Toronto

\$300M+

in OSAP grants & loans go to our students annually

45%

of first-year OSAP recipients come from families that earn \$50K or less

A little more than

\$19,700

is the average repayable OSAP debt of a student graduating from the University of Toronto

For more details on government student aid, visit: future.utoronto.ca/finances/financial-aid

DID YOU KNOW?

U of T accepts Band Funding.

Contact your Band's Education Office/Coordinator to inquire about funding to support post-secondary education.

Indigenous Tuition Initiative

U of T will cover the cost of tuition for students from nine First Nations in Ontario as part of its efforts to make the university more accessible. Indigenous students from the rest of Canada, and Native American/Alaska Native students from the continental U.S.A. may be eligible for domestic Ontario tuition fee.

There are additional government grants that may apply to you:

Ontario Bursary for Students with Disabilities (BSWD)

Ontario First Generation Bursary

This is for students who are the first in their family to pursue a post-secondary education.

Indigenous Student Bursary

This is for Indigenous students who are residents of Ontario, and demonstrate financial need.

Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)

The federal government has funding programs for First Nations, Inuit, and Métis students enrolled in eligible postsecondary programs.

Divisional Aid

Each faculty and college at U of T offers non-repayable merit and need-based awards.

These awards are based on your academic division's, college's or faculty's assessment of your individual circumstances.

To learn more about Divisional Aid, get in touch directly with the specific college or faculty to which you've been admitted.

About

\$60M

in support available across U of T's academic divisions.

UTAPS

University of Toronto

Advanced Planning for Students



UTAPS covers unmet financial need.

UTAPS is the University of Toronto's largest need-based support program and covers the financial gap between a student's actual education costs and the costs recognized by their provincial/territorial government student financial aid program.

DO YOU QUALIFY?

To be eligible for UTAPS funding, you must:

- Be a Canadian citizen, permanent resident, or a protected person (recognized convention refugee); **and**
- Be registered in a full-time course load (per OSAP requirements) during the Fall and/or Winter semesters; **and**
- Be receiving government student aid (OSAP/other provincial or territorial aid) or Indigenous education First Nations band funding (e.g., Post-Secondary Student Support Program); and have remaining financial need (or unmet need), that is not covered by these programs.

UNIQUE TO US.

The University of Toronto is the only Ontario post-secondary institution to provide non-repayable grants over and above what is required by government. Through UTAPS, U of T not only helps students with tuition and book costs not covered by government student aid, but with living costs too.

PROVINCIAL AND TERRITORIAL GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE OUTSIDE OF ONTARIO

Not living in Ontario? Students who are Canadian citizens, permanent residents, or protected persons may qualify for financial assistance from their province or territory.

DID YOU KNOW?

Most recently, over \$36.8 million in UTAPS grants were distributed to more than 15,500 students.

How Anca made it work

Anca is a third year Bachelor of Arts student specializing in Computer Science. Both of their parents are deceased.

As OSAP did not fully meet their needs, the University of Toronto provided Anca with a \$4,560 UTAPs grant.

While they were in school, interest that accrued on Anca's OSAP loan was paid by the government.

NET TUITION

Anca's tuition and fees expenses were effectively reduced to \$2,563 or just 20% of the published fees after subtracting **non-repayable** aid.

\$2,563

net tuition

\$12,835

tuition & fees

\$5,712

OSAP grants

\$4,560

UTAPS grant

plus

\$8,793

OSAP loans

“Financial aid such as UTAPS helped to ensure that I could excel in my studies, without worrying too much about paying for my education.”



Bhajan completed an Honours B.Sc. at the University of Toronto Mississauga. She won the 2017 and 2018 Nancy Salmon Scholarship at the Community Foundation of Mississauga and received U of T Mississauga grants in 2017 and 2019, as well as UTAPS funding in 2019.

Tell me a bit about yourself.

My name is Bhajan Gill and I recently completed an Honours Bachelor of Science Student at the University of Toronto – Mississauga campus. I hope to one day work in the field of Public Health, with a focus on equity and mental health work.

How did you find the process of applying for student awards and assistance?

I personally found the process of applying for awards/financial assistance through U of T very easy, as all the information is available on one platform.

How did you find out about the financial resources available to you at U of T?

I first found out about financial aid through an advisor at U of T Mississauga. I discovered that I was eligible for UTAPS. Coming from a family where my two other siblings were in post-secondary studies as well, and whom were also financially supported by my parents, I wanted to research the potential financial resources available to me, to help pay for my undergraduate education.

What impact has the assistance you received had on your goal of attending university?

Receiving financial aid through U of T was extremely beneficial towards my academic career as an undergraduate student. The additional financial support allowed me to both focus on my studies, as well as explore the various student opportunities available to me. I was able to enjoy everything that the University has to offer, without having to worry too much about paying for my education.

What advice do you have for prospective students?

Explore the opportunities and resources available to you. There are a multitude of financial aid options and scholarships provided by the university, and they are intended to help support students. The University provides these aids to make sure students are able to excel in their studies.

Work Study Program



Open to all students, the Work Study Program (WSP) is a great way to gain work experience and earn money.

THE WORK STUDY PROGRAM

- About 5,000 students participate in the Work Study Program every year.
- Offered in fall-winter and summer.
- Paid, on-campus positions that provide you with a work-integrated learning experience to deepen your knowledge, strengthen your skills and explore how your academic studies translate to career possibilities.

7,000+

Work Study positions available each year

Tuition Deferrals



Tuition deferrals are a special arrangement between you and the University if you cannot make the minimum tuition payment by the registration deadline for the upcoming session.

This may be, for example, because you are awaiting confirmation on an external loan for which you have applied.

Students who qualify for a fee deferral do so with the understanding that this arrangement temporarily delays their need to make their tuition payment until their student aid funding arrives.

HOW TO REQUEST A TUITION DEFERRAL

- Log in to **ACORN** (acorn.utoronto.ca).
- Select "Tuition Fee Deferral" under the **Finances** menu, and accept the terms and conditions.
- If your request was approved, your registration status will say "Registered" for the upcoming semester.

You will know immediately if your fee deferral request was successful or not. If your first attempt is unsuccessful, try again within 1-2 business days. If you continue to experience problems, contact your Registrar's Office immediately. When you receive your student aid funding, make your tuition payments accordingly.

REMINDER

U of T Grants are available to both domestic and international students.

Want to learn more? Visit:
clnx.utoronto.ca/students/wspublicstudents

Have questions about loans or lines of credit for students? Visit: future.utoronto.ca/finances

**Be Resourceful.
Be Creative.
Be Prepared.**

**Financing your Future
is Within your Reach.**



Discover the many sources available to help you with your educational expenses:
future.utoronto.ca/finances

TIMELINE FOR

FINANCIAL AID

OCTOBER TO JANUARY

Populate the Awards Profile in your JOIN applicant portal in order to be considered for all award opportunities for which you're eligible.

Apply for the National Scholarship Program:
future.utoronto.ca/national-scholarship

APRIL TO JUNE

Apply for government funded student aid, like OSAP, and provide any needed documents to support your student aid application.

Apply for UTAPS:
registrar.utoronto.ca/finances-and-funding/utaps

MID-JULY TO AUGUST

Official student loan assessments should be released.

OSAP applicants, consult with the University Registrar's Office as needed: **registrar.utoronto.ca/contacts**

Apply to defer tuition fees.

AUGUST

First tuition fee due (for those who have not applied for a tuition deferral).

SEPTEMBER

Fall OSAP funds released; these will be directed to outstanding Fall fees first.

JANUARY

Winter OSAP funds released; directed to outstanding fees first.

During the secondary school year prior to the start of your bachelor's degree.



UNIVERSITY OF
TORONTO

Answers and Information... Within Reach.

VISIT US IN PERSON.

University Admissions & Outreach

University of Toronto
172 St. George Street
Toronto, Ontario
M5R 0A3

Telephone:

416-978-2190

Fax:

416-978-7022

REACH OUT ONLINE.

For questions about financial aid including OSAP, UTAPS, Part-Time, Out-of-Province, US Student Aid, etc., visit the University Registrar's Office Help Desk at:

uthrprod.service-now.com/enrolment

- Select "Get Help".
- Select an area of inquiry: Financial Aid (OSAP, BSWD, UTAPS, Out-of-Province Student Aid, US Student Aid, etc.).
- Enter your contact information and your questions and we'll get back to you!

This guidebook was prepared for prospective applicants to our first-entry degree programs, which admit students directly from high school. If you are interested in a second-entry degree program that has admission requirements at the university level, we encourage you to learn more at: **uoft.me/second-entry**