Congratulations – your student is heading off to university!

At Western, we will introduce your student to a number of supports, however they will also look to you for advice and guidance. For this reason, we have created this guide to help you support your student to transition to university life.

This publication includes information about the following:

- Starting classes in new subjects;
- Developing new study skills and mastering new testing techniques;
- Being accountable for personal time and coursework;
- Moving into residence and living with new people;
- Managing personal finances and budgeting;
- Knowing where to turn for help when you are not available; and
- Looking beyond classroom studies for experiential learning opportunities.

Every student will have a different university experience. Western makes every effort to ensure your student connects to the campus community and finds the resources they need to get the most out of their time at Western.
Summer Academic Orientation (SAO)

SAO 2016
University Community Centre, Main Campus
June 27 – July 28
Monday – Friday
(no program on July 1)
Student & Guest
Sign-up
Online: sao.uwo.ca
Online sign-up will
open early June (watch
website for dates)
Telephone: 519.661.2100
Starting early June
Monday - Friday
9 a.m. - 4 p.m. EST

SAO is a unique program to help all full-time Main Campus students admitted to first-year programs prepare for the start of university.

By attending SAO students will:

• Speak individually with a faculty member or academic advisor who will counsel them on the appropriate first-year course selection for their intended program.

• Create a personalized timetable, with assistance, and register for their courses.

• Learn about Western’s services, the campus and university life.

SAO is a full-day program. Please plan accordingly. Telephone/Skype program advising is available if your student lives more than four hours away from London. Beginning in early June, book your SAO appointment online at sao.uwo.ca. For assistance with booking your SAO appointment, please call us at 519.661.2100.

Questions? Email: sao_registration@uwo.ca

IMPORTANT

HOW TO USE THE FIRST YEAR CALENDAR

In preparation for Summer Academic Orientation, we highly recommend that students review the First Year Calendar and complete the SAO Course Selection worksheet on page 23. As a parent, you can encourage your student to review the First Year Calendar keeping in mind the program to which they have been admitted, the module(s) in which they would like to enrol (i.e., Honors Specialization or Major), and future academic goals (such as professional programs or graduate degree options).

It is important for students to understand which first-year courses are required for their program and how many electives they will take in first year. Reading the calendar will inform students of this information. There are brief course descriptions located in the latter part of the calendar so students can get an idea of the topics being covered in each course and the secondary school prerequisites required in order to enrol in each course.

When students complete the SAO Course Selection worksheet and bring it to their advising session (or have it on-hand for telephone/Skype advising sessions), they will find the time spent with the advisor is more productive. Students who are not prepared will realize they may need to read the calendar and select their courses online without the assistance of our student leaders.

Remember, you are welcome to attend SAO at Western. We allow up to two guests per student.
Planning for the Academic Year

This information has been developed for full-time, first-year students. Not all activities are applicable to students who are registered in part-time studies.

SEPTEMBER
• Move into residence (if applicable)
• Orientation Week activities
• Pick up bus pass and Student Planner
• Get to know roommate(s) and residence
• Find class locations and determine travel time from one class to another
• Plan study times for the year
• Last day to add a first-term half course or full course
• Join a club at Clubs Week
• Participate in Western Serves
• First assignments might be due
• Homecoming events

OCTOBER
• Register for Western’s Co-Curricular Record
• Mid-term exams begin
• First visit home might be at Thanksgiving or during Fall Study Break
• Apply for Alternative Spring Break

NOVEMBER
• Mid-term exams continue
• Mid-term grades are distributed
• Essays and major term assignments are due
• Start to prepare for first-term final exams
• Last day to drop a full course or a full-year half course without academic penalty

DECEMBER
• First-term classes end
• Final exams begin for half courses
• Mid-term exams continue for full courses
• Prepare for the holidays

JANUARY
• Return from holidays and catch up with friends
• Classes resume
• Last day to add a second-term half course
• First semester grades are released
• Attend Campus Job Fair

FEBRUARY
• Essays and major second-term assignments might be due
• Meet with academic counsellors to discuss future degree plans and options
• Begin thinking about selecting a program/module for next year
• Mid-term exams begin
• Reading Week/Alternative Spring Break
• Plan for accommodations for next year

MARCH
• Last day to drop a second-term half course
• Attend an Intent to Register session to prepare for second year
• Essays and major term assignments may be due
• Look for summer employment
• Summer registration begins for those who wish to take summer courses

APRIL
• Hand in final assignments
• Easter holiday weekend
• Classes end
• Final exams begin
• Pack up and move home for the summer

Detailed information about Undergraduate Sessional dates (i.e., start of classes, breaks, exam schedules, etc.) can be found in the Undergraduate Calendar. Please visit westerncalendar.uwo.ca for more details.
Transitioning to University

Making the adjustment to university can be stressful for first-year students. Along with adapting to a new environment, new people, a new schedule and new found independence, students are trying to ensure academic success as undergraduates. Check in regularly with your student to find out how they’re doing, especially in first year. Remind them that while change can be stressful, they are not alone: academic and personal help exists at Western.

What are some of the differences between secondary school and university?
Leaving secondary school and entering postsecondary study is a big adjustment for many students. If your student is aware of some of these differences, they will be better prepared for the changes in attitudes and behaviours necessary for success. Some of the differences between secondary school and university are as follows:

• Classes are usually larger than those in secondary school and there are many more students on the university campus.
• Students are responsible for making their own class schedules and following them conscientiously.
• Instruction is primarily through lecture format with students taking notes independently.
• Familiarity with library resources and effective use of libraries is essential.
• Student progress and attendance is not generally closely monitored by instructors.
• Students need to be self-directed and are expected to be independent.
• There is, generally, less ongoing contact with instructors and less individual attention unless initiated by students.
• There are fewer hours of in-class time and many more hours of homework and independent study per course.
• Classes may have a lab or tutorial session located in a different room or building, and may be facilitated by a teaching assistant.
• Professors and teaching assistants often hold office hours each week for students to drop in to chat or ask questions about assignments and class topics. Professors really do want to see students during this time!
• Course textbooks or required readings are not provided by the University; they must be purchased from a bookstore or borrowed from a library.
• Not all course materials are in the form of textbooks, they may be individual scholarly articles that students will need to locate in academic journals available in the libraries.
• Group projects are often required so students need to work well with others.
• Grades can often be based on only two or three test results, or a major essay/project and a few exam results.
• Time management and planning are critical to success. Procrastination can lead to serious academic difficulties.
• Failing to meet progression requirements and/or failing two or more courses may result in being asked to withdraw from the program and from the University.

Services to Help Your Student Succeed
Many services are available to help students with the transition to university. Please encourage your student to seek out these resources, including:

The Student Success Centre (SSC) which offers programs and services designed to help students discover the best they can be. The SSC offers leadership development and career exploration, skill development, mentoring, community engagement opportunities and social networks; just to name a few. The SSC helps students find their place to be actively engaged in learning inside and outside the classroom.

success.uwo.ca | successcentre@uwo.ca | 519.661.3559

The Student Development Centre (SDC) which is home to a variety of services specifically designed to meet the needs of undergraduate and graduate students. Staff members are highly trained and experienced professionals who know what campus life is all about. A dedicated group of student volunteers work with the SDC to provide programs to help your student excel at university. Programs include peer-to-peer mentorship, writing support, learning skills services, and more.

sdc.uwo.ca | 519.661.3031

Please note: All information disclosed by students to staff in the Student Development Centre is confidential. It will not be shared with family, university staff, course instructors, or others without the student’s written permission and will not become part of academic records. Rather than contacting us on your student’s behalf, encourage your student to contact us directly with questions or concerns.
Supporting Your Student

As a parent, you play an important role in your student’s success at university. While it is important to give them independence at university, your student may need your support from time to time. Here are some tips on how to support your student during their transition to university life.

Be Prepared for Change
University is a time for growth. Encourage your student to keep an open-mind, and be supportive of new friends, interests, and decisions.

Be Prepared to Support
Listen, validate, and encourage. This may be the first time your student faces academic challenges. Remind him/her that they always have your love and support.

Be Prepared for Challenges
From study habits to writing tests, everyone faces challenges. Highlight the help available from peers, professors, and campus services.

Manage Expectations
Discuss what your student expects from Western, what Western expects from them, and consider how they will meet these expectations. Ask your student how they plan to take initiative, respect deadlines, and be independent in their learning.

Recommend Helpful Services and Programs
Help your student recognize when they need assistance. Direct them to Western’s services. All are confidential and professional, and most are completely free.

Be Prepared for Distance
Your student is gaining independence and learning how to function in “the real world.” Students need space to adjust. Offer advice, but respect that young adults have to make decisions for themselves.

Talk About Finances Openly and Honestly
Students should be aware of their finances, no matter who pays for tuition. Discuss budgets, who pays for what, and how to manage a credit card. Encourage them to seek out financial aid and information as needed, especially if money management is a new skill.

Encourage your Student to Stay Happy, Healthy and Safe
A healthy work-life balance is key. Encourage your student to stay active, take advantage of safety services, and reach out to health and wellness resources, if desired.

Support New Living Arrangements
Teach life skills (such as cooking and laundry) before your student leaves home. Encourage healthy relationships with roommates, and talk about effective communication.

Stay in Touch
Students appreciate hearing a friendly voice or seeing a familiar face. Schedule a call or video-chat with them, even if it’s just to say “hi”. Your student probably misses you more than they’re willing to admit.
Helping Your Student Manage Their Time

Allocate Adequate Time for School Each Week

Often times, the biggest challenge students face is juggling competing demands for time. It is especially important to be realistic about all these demands. How much time do university courses require? If your student has a total of 14 to 18 hours of scheduled class time each week, a guideline is to allocate two hours outside of class for every hour in class to complete the associated work (i.e., reading the textbook, doing problems, using the study guide). This is only a guideline. Some courses may require more (or less) independent work; some students may require more (or less) time to complete course tasks. This guideline is still useful for anticipating how much time to initially allocate to their studies. If they have greater than 18 hours per week of scheduled class time, students should aim for a total of 45 to 50 hours in and out of classes on coursework. As the term unfolds, adjustments can be made as warranted.

Treat School Like a Job

If your student is registered full-time, school is their primary job. Just like a full-time career, to be successful may require 35 to 55 hours each week. Sound like a lot? Keep in mind that a 40-hour workweek could take the form of five, eight-hour days. This still leaves 16 hours on each of those days and an additional 48 hours each week for other things. While approximately eight hours each day should be spent sleeping, that still leaves plenty of time for sports, clubs, cultural, social, and other activities.

Spend Time on Each Course Every Week

Cramming is stressful and often ineffective at university. Students should prepare for and attend all their classes and spend some time each week learning new material. Learning as they go helps to identify and clarify material they don’t understand early so they build a sound knowledge base. It also reinforces important information as a course unfolds. Beware of courses that your student dislikes or finds particularly challenging. Students should work on them regularly, at a time when their concentration is best and in a place where they won’t be distracted.

Plan Each Week and Term

Successful students often develop a plan to increase the likelihood that their goals are realized. A goal in itself is not sufficient. Some tools available at the Student Development Centre (SDC) to help students plan include:

- Term calendars;
- Weekly planners.

Seek Out Support Services

Each year many Western students access Learning Skills or Psychological Services. The SDC provides a number of important services that can help your student have the best student experience. Students need to take responsibility for their learning but this does not mean doing everything on their own. Independent students are able to assess when they can benefit from support services and know how to find and ask for help. Encourage your student to become their own best advocate by learning about the different student services at Western and making good use of them.

Time Management Self Assessment

Students will receive a course outline or syllabus detailing important contact information, due dates and course expectations in each subject. They should keep this outline handy for easy reference; it is their responsibility to keep track of weekly readings, due dates and upcoming tests. Encourage your student to note due dates on a calendar and use a day planner to organize activities through the week. If your student is struggling with their work, they may want to complete the Time Management Assessment to learn ideas for improvement.

sdc.uwo.ca/learning/selfhelp/assess_your_skills/time_management_selfassessment.html
**Financial Resources**

The following information is available on our Student Financial website: registrar.uwo.ca/student_finances

- Admission Bursary Application;
- Admission Scholarships;
- Tuition Fee Schedules.

**OSAP**

Apply for OSAP online: osap.gov.on.ca

**CAN LEARN**

The National Student Loans Centre’s official site to help you plan your finances, and help with information about repaying your loans. canlearn.ca

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**IMPORTANT DATES**

**JUNE 30**

- Recommended deadline to submit OSAP application.

**JULY/AUGUST**

- First-year statement of accounts will be available to view online at: student.uwo.ca
  A hard copy bill will not be mailed.

**EARLY AUGUST**

- First-year tuition fees due.

**LATE AUGUST**

- Notification emailed to eligible students receiving an admission scholarship.
- Western to confirm enrolment for students before OSAP funds can be released.

**EARLY TO MID-SEPTEMBER**

- Students start to receive funding.
Scholarships and Awards

NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
National Scholarships are designed to recognize all-around excellence. They are awarded on the basis of outstanding academic performance to candidates who demonstrate ability for creative and innovative thought and a passion for the pursuit of learning. National Scholarships also recognize exceptional achievement in extracurricular activities such as the arts and athletics. A special emphasis is placed on a candidate’s commitment to community service through ongoing contributions to school and community life. Scholarships range in value from $30,000 to $65,000.

Eligibility Criteria
- Dependent on citizenship status – see program website for more details
- Minimum 90 per cent in Grade 12 courses
- Application Deadline: February 14

For application and more information: registrar.uwo.ca/student_finances/scholarships_awards/national_scholarship_program.html

ADMISSION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
Western’s Admission Scholarships are unlimited and are awarded automatically upon admission to Main Campus at Western. Both international and Canadian students are considered. No application is required. In order to be eligible for an admission scholarship, a student must apply directly from secondary school (or equivalent) to Western’s Main Campus for full-time, first-year studies. Eligibility is based on successful completion of the secondary school diploma and the student’s final admission average, including prerequisite courses, as calculated by Western for the program to which the student has confirmed acceptance.

Western will determine averages for applicants who are not studying in a Canadian secondary school curriculum based on: curriculum, grading practices, grading scale interpretation and performance of previous students from that curriculum while at Western.

The value of the scholarship will be based on final grades and applied to the student’s tuition account in September. Note: students who attended a postsecondary institution, or students who attended a postsecondary institution and then returned to secondary school are not eligible.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCHOLARSHIP</th>
<th>FINAL AVERAGE</th>
<th>VALUE</th>
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<tr>
<td>Continuing Admission Scholarship</td>
<td>95%+</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Scholarship of Excellence</td>
<td>90 – 94.9%</td>
<td>$2,000 each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Scholarship of Distinction</td>
<td>88 – 89.9%</td>
<td>$1,000 each</td>
</tr>
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*The Don Wright Faculty of Music will select the Continuing Admission Scholarship recipients for the Music program.

OTHER ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS
In addition to the unlimited Admission Scholarships outlined above, Western also offers faculty-specific entrance awards and scholarships of varying values and criteria. These awards have been established in cooperation with the University, alumni, private donors and corporations who wish to recognize the achievements of Western students. These entrance awards have been combined with the Admission Scholarship Program, and are automatically awarded to students beginning first year at Western. If a student qualifies for one of these awards, they will be notified in the fall. The award will replace or be in addition to the student’s existing Admission Scholarship, and be of either equal or greater value. No application is required to be considered for these scholarships.

registrar.uwo.ca/student_finances/scholarships_awards/admission_scholarship_program.html

TIP:
Students do not have to wait for an offer of admission to submit an admission bursary application.

ADMISSION BURSARIES
Admission Bursaries are non-repayable grants that are awarded on the basis of financial need and supplement students’ primary sources of funding such as government student loans, bank loans/lines of credit and parental/spousal contributions. Financial need is determined in a manner similar to the Canada and Ontario Student Loans assessment. It involves assessing the costs of the program to which the student is applying, and the resources available to them.

The online Admission Bursary application becomes available in the January preceding the Fall/Winter study period. For example, if applying for admission to Western for September 2016, students can begin applying for bursary consideration starting January 2016.

Students will be considered for both Admission Bursaries and Need-Based Awards by completing the online Admission Bursary application.

Eligibility Requirements
- Be a Canadian citizen or a permanent resident applying to Main Campus, in a full-time program
- Demonstrate financial need

Online application and more information is available at: registrar.uwo.ca/student_finances/bursaries.html
ONTARIO STUDENTS
OSAP is an excellent primary resource for all students to consider. There are many financial options, so be sure to look at all that are available.

What is OSAP?
The Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) is a government-funded financial assistance resource available for residents of Ontario. Students living in other provinces throughout Canada are encouraged to contact their provincial or territorial government for financial assistance resources. OSAP loans remain interest free while remaining a full-time student. OSAP offers many non-repayable grants and bursaries through their financial assessment.

Why apply for OSAP?
The application process is free and students will receive an estimate for funding following the submission of their information. Students should not disqualify themselves because they think they won’t qualify. They may be surprised with the outcome.
OSAP funding will be distributed approximately in a 60/40 split. Sixty per cent of funding will be given at the beginning of studies and the remaining forty per cent will be released in January. Once Western confirms enrolment each term, funds will be released to the student’s bank account or towards outstanding tuition.

How to keep their OSAP loans in good standing?
Are they interest free?
Loans remain interest free while students are enrolled full-time at university. If your student does not require OSAP in a given academic year and they remain a full-time student, they need to fill out a Continuation of Interest Free Status form so the government does not put their loans into repayment. Downloadable forms are available at: osap.gov.on.ca

NON-ONTARIO STUDENTS
Students can apply for assistance through their provincial Ministry of Education. Each province in Canada has its own application process. Please visit the appropriate provincial website for more details.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS
The Ministry of Employment and Immigration requires all international students to prove that they have adequate resources before they may be admitted to Canada. Consequently, a bursary will normally be awarded only if there is evidence that circumstances have changed since their arrival in Canada. Obtain information about the Visa Student Bursary Program from the International Student Centre, on the second floor of the International and Graduate Affairs Building.

Make an Appointment with a Student Financial Aid Officer
Should students have concerns about their educational finances and need to discuss them confidentially, they can make an appointment with one of our Student Financial Aid Officers. During this appointment, topics of discussion may include: reviewing their OSAP entitlement, applying for financial assistance, developing a personal budget, student financial planning, debt management advice or emergency financial assistance. Appointments are made online by logging into their Student Center (student.uwo.ca) and selecting Financial Assistance.

APPLY EARLY!
Beginning in February/March, applications are available online at: osap.gov.on.ca
PAYING TUITION AND FEES
Students should check their account balance online at student.uwo.ca. Their Western username and password are needed to access this site. A hard copy of the fee bill will not be mailed.

Tuition fee payment and refund policies are currently under review. See registrar.uwo.ca/student_finances/fees_refunds for more information.

Students who have an OSAP entitlement calculated on or before the August tuition payment deadline will have the OSAP portion of their tuition payment deferred to the first day of classes in September. Students should check their Online Statement of Account for when the second installment of tuition is due.

How to Make a Tuition Fee Payment
• By internet banking through any Canadian bank – in the payee list, look for “University of Western Ontario” and select “Tuition.” Your student’s student number is their account number.
• By cheque, money order, or Canadian debit in person at Student Central located in room 1120 of the Western Student Services Building (WSSB).
• By mailing a money order or cheque to:
  Student Financial Services
  Western University
  Western Student Services Building
  Room 1140
  London, ON N6A 3K7
Payment by credit cards or cash are not accepted. For inquiries, please have your student contact the Registrar’s Helpline at 519.661.2100.

Payments must be received in our office by the due date. Postmarks are not sufficient.

Tuition fees for international students differ from domestic tuition fees. Western University receives no government funding for international students. Refer to registrar.uwo.ca for the most up-to-date fee information.

Avoid Additional Charges
Be sure your student makes their full payment in advance of their due date to ensure payment is received in our office by the tuition deadline. Have your student contact Student Financial Services at 519.661.2100 if they have any questions about their fee payment.

Scholarship & Admission Bursary Payment
First-year scholarships are not confirmed until after first-year fees are due. Students in scholarship contention should pay the full amount of their tuition fees or their first installment to avoid late payment charges. Admission Scholarships cannot be deducted from the first installment. When the scholarship is confirmed, it will be applied to the student’s tuition account by September 30. If this results in a credit on their account, a cheque will be issued at the end of October. If a student is eligible for an Admission Bursary it will be applied to their first installment of tuition.

Refundable Fees
By the end of September, students may opt out of health and dental plans and the faculty donation fee. Visit westernusc.ca/services for more information regarding health and dental plans. Students should contact the Dean’s Office of their faculty in early September for faculty donation opt out information.

Academic Sanctions, Deregistration and Reinstatement
A student’s registration is dependent upon payment of fees and academic eligibility. Students are considered full-time if they register in 3.5 credits or more and will pay full-time undergraduate fees. Students will pay part-time undergraduate fees on a per course basis if they are registered in three credits or less. Failure to complete the registration process during the designated time will result in a late registration fee.

It is the student’s responsibility to be familiar with and understand all the University regulations contained in the Academic Calendar; to understand how adding and dropping a course or courses, withdrawal, etc., affects a tuition fee account; and to ensure that tuition fees are paid in full without any notice from the University. Failure to pay outstanding tuition and other related fees will result in academic and financial penalties up to and including removal from courses.

For more information, refer to the Academic Sanctions, Deregistration and Reinstatement sections of the Academic Calendar (westerncalendar.uwo.ca).
Financial FAQs

When should my student apply for the Ontario student assistance program (OSAP)?
We recommend students apply to OSAP by June 30 due to the lengthy processing period.

osap.gov.on.ca

Can my student apply for OSAP without receiving or accepting admission to a university or college?
Yes, a student can submit an OSAP application for each school of interest. Only one application can be processed. Therefore, once admission is confirmed, it is important to ensure that all other OSAP applications have been closed.

Do students apply for OSAP every year?
Yes, a student must reapply to OSAP every academic year. If a student has applied in a previous year, a condensed version of the application will be available.

Is the same amount of funding granted every year?
No. OSAP eligibility is based on financial need; therefore, a number of variables are used in the need assessment calculation. Parental income and student income are significant factors in the OSAP assessment and can vary from year to year.

What is the maximum income level to be considered eligible for OSAP?
Unfortunately, we cannot predict the amount of OSAP funding one may be eligible to receive solely on parental income. Other factors, such as the number of dependants in the home and RESP contributions, affect the outcome of the assessment. The Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities expects a parental contribution and a very basic calculation is used to determine this: Gross Income (less EI, CPP and Income Tax Paid) = Net Income. Net Income (less the Provincial standard of living according to family size) = Discretionary Income. Discretionary Income divided by the number of dependants in the family attending college or university = Expected parental contribution.

What happens if we are denied OSAP assistance and our financial situation has changed?
If your student has received a $0 OSAP assessment, but your family situation has changed from the time their application was submitted, we strongly suggest that your student contact our Student Financial Aid Office. Our Financial Aid Officers can review the available OSAP appeals to determine if any are applicable.

Does OSAP consider the family’s personal debt load?
Unfortunately, family and individual debt is not taken into consideration through the OSAP assessment. Spending priorities and debt load vary from family to family. Therefore, OSAP uses a standardized assessment in order that the application and eligibility requirements are equitable.

Does OSAP cover all program expenses?
No. OSAP is considered to be a financial assistance program designed to help supplement the expected contributions of both parents and students.

Can I speak to someone on behalf of my student to discuss OSAP or other financial options?
Yes, with consent noted on the OSAP application. We encourage the guidance and support of parents and feel strongly that you partner with your student in the education process. For other financial matters, including tuition accounts, your student will need to give permission by logging into their Student Center using their Western username and password and selecting the “Release of Information” link under “Personal Information.” Unfortunately, without this consent, we cannot discuss any information with you, due to the guidelines regarding the protection of privacy.

If we do not receive OSAP, my student cannot attend Western. What can we do?
There are many other possibilities for funding a university education and OSAP is only one option. A Student Line of Credit can also be obtained from any banking institution. In addition, Western has an excellent bursary and scholarship program to help supplement OSAP, parental and student contributions.

NEW TUITION CALCULATOR

Western recently launched a new online Financial Resource Workbook to help you and your student budget for university life.

The online tool is for applicants who are residents of Ontario, and who are Canadian citizens or permanent residents, entering first year, full-time studies on Main Campus.

The workbook allows applicants to input their anticipated financial resources – and based on the program in which they plan on registering, their anticipated final high school average and whether they plan to live at home, in residence or off campus – the workbook will let them know what the difference is between their costs and available financial resources for the year.

Calculate your costs today:
http://financialresourceworkbook.uwo.ca/calc.cfm
I am using Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP) funds to help with my student’s education. How do I use this money to make payment on my student’s tuition account?

All RESP service providers vary with respect to the release of funding. We advise that you contact your provider for detailed instructions. If your service provider requires confirmation of your student’s enrolment, please contact Student Central to request an official Western letter or to have the RESP form from your provider completed.

What is a bursary?

Bursaries are non-repayable grants awarded based on financial need. Students are required to fill out the online application in order to have an assessment of their financial need. Western’s bursary assistance ranges in value from $250 – $4,000. This assistance is made possible through generous donations to the University and through the Government of Ontario’s Student Access Guarantee. It is important to note that bursaries are granted to help supplement other financial resources that have already been exhausted.

Students will be considered for both Admission Bursaries and Need-Based Awards by completing the online Admission Bursary application. Need-Based Awards are awarded based on academic merit and financial need. The Admission Bursary application is available in the January preceding the Fall/Winter study period. For example, if applying for acceptance to Western in September 2016 students can begin applying for bursary consideration starting January 2016.

What is the difference between scholarships and bursaries?

Scholarships are awarded based on academic merit. Bursaries are awarded on the basis of financial need.

What is the contact information for Student Central?

Student Central
Western Student Services Building
Room 1120
Phone: 519.661.2100
Web: registrar.uwo.ca
Email: contact@uwo.ca
Living in London

With a diverse population of more than 366,000, London is the educational, cultural and economic hub of southwestern Ontario.

Affectionately known as the Forest City, London boasts an extensive trail system for walking, running, biking and inline skating. Tree-lined trails run along the Thames River – right into Western’s campus. London is a great place to shop, dine and enjoy the nightlife with unique retailers, trendy stores, suburban shopping malls, intimate cafés, pubs and fine dining culinary experiences.

Home to a thriving creative community, London hosts professional offerings from the Grand Theatre and Museum London to countless other museums, community ensembles and Western’s own McIntosh Art Gallery and Paul Davenport Theatre.

Londoners also love to celebrate diversity. Our city is home to numerous festivals year-round including Sunfest, Home County Music and Art Festival, Pride London Festival and Snowfest.

Discover London’s spirit online at: londontourism.ca

WHERE IS LONDON ONTARIO?

Located in the centre of southwestern Ontario, London is approximately two hours driving distance from Toronto and Detroit.
Living in Residence

Western’s residence community provides a supportive environment for students to live and learn together as they transition to university life. Residence life engages and connects students to the university community and fosters their growth as a leader. There are ample opportunities for leadership and involvement in a range of activities.

Why Residence?

The Academic Edge: Studies have shown that students who live in residence do better academically than those living off campus.² Residence life staff work hard to support your student’s academic efforts. Residence provides an inclusive and supportive environment where students can focus on their studies. Staff offer support through exam review sessions, study groups, academic cafés, and study skill workshops.

Convenient Location and Focus on Safety: Western is home to nine residences, all within a 5-10 minute walk to classes, libraries, recreation facilities and campus services. In residence, our front doors are locked 24/7, and front desk service is only a call away.

Dining Made Easy: Our flexible meal plan provides students with easy access to any residence dining halls and campus eateries, plus many off-campus meal plan partners. Our chefs prepare a wide selection of food in-house, so there’s always something new to try. Allergies? Dietary restrictions? No problem. Nutritional content is available online for our menu items. Vegetarian, vegan, gluten- and nut-free options are offered daily.

Roommate Assignments: Our roommate matching process will successfully assign your student a roommate based on your student’s lifestyle preferences completed as part of the online residence placement questionnaire. Both traditional-style and suite-style rooms are available. Plus, hybrid-style residences offer single and double rooms with semi-private washrooms.

Living on Campus After First Year: Students can continue to live in residence and enjoy a great community environment, leadership opportunities, the convenience of on-campus living, and an optional meal plan. Alumni House and London Hall are two suite-style residences that are exclusively reserved for upper-year students.

Seamless Move-In: Our 850 sophs (student volunteer leaders) ensure move-in day is stress-free for you and your student. If you let us, we’ll unpack your vehicle, and ensure your student’s belongings are taken straight to the room. International students are welcomed a couple of days prior to the designated move-in weekend to allow students travelling a long distance time to recoup, and orient themselves to the campus.

² Source: Office of Institutional Planning & Budgeting, Western University, internal data 2002-2013

To learn more about Western’s first-rate residence system and amenities, please visit the Residence at Western website at: residenceatwestern.ca. On our website, you will find a parent’s section with an abundance of information that you can use as a tool to help your student with the transition to university life.
A Safe and Healthy Learning Environment

Campus Safety
Western offers a variety of services and resources to promote and maintain a safe and respectful learning environment, including:

Campus Community Police Service (CCPS)
Western is patrolled every day by professionally trained special constables, backed with the same authority on campus as the city police. CCPS is involved in activities ranging from patrols to crime prevention to fire safety.

uwo.ca/police

Emergency Preparedness
There are 21 emergency phones located throughout campus so students are only a few seconds away from a direct link to campus police should they require assistance. Digital signage is available in high traffic areas around campus to allow direct emergency communications to all members of the Western community during emergency situations. A weather siren is located in the centre of campus. In case of a weather emergency, the siren will sound and voice commands with instructions for action will follow.

uwo.ca/weather_siren.html

Student Emergency Response Team (SERT)
SERT is a 24-hour, on campus, volunteer student emergency response team. CCPS dispatches a co-ed SERT team of three to any medical emergency on campus, with an average response time of two minutes.

sert.uwo.ca/home

Western Foot Patrol
Western Foot Patrol is a free service that provides safe escorts, deters crime and promotes safety awareness on Main Campus and the Affiliated University Colleges. Volunteers will wait with students at bus stops, walk them to their car or escort them to their residence after hours.

uwo.ca/footpatrol

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**Health Services**
Western provides several health-related services right on campus. Whether your student comes down with a bad cold, or is feeling blue, help is only a few steps away. We offer student health services, dental clinics, psychological services, physiotherapy, and chiropractic care. We also have an optometry and a pharmacy located in the University Community Centre.

health.uwo.ca

Medical: 519.661.3030 | Counselling: 519.661.3771

**Healthy Living**
Western recognizes that wellness is an active, lifelong process of becoming aware of choices and making decisions toward a more balanced and fulfilling life. Wellness is all about maintaining a balance between the many different aspects of your life. Since everyone’s optimal wellness will be different, depending on his or her own needs, experiences, personality, and circumstances, we offer a number of support services to help your student try and maintain as much of a balance as possible.

health.uwo.ca/living
Connecting Classroom Learning with Real-World Experience

Western University offers the best student experience, both inside and outside the classroom. Many campus areas – including The Student Success Centre, Student Development Centre, Residence Life, University Students’ Council, Campus Recreation, and more – offer a wide variety of co-curricular activities that can help your student develop key skills such as leadership, communication and social responsibility.

These activities include academic workshops, health and wellness events, community service, experiential learning programs, and leadership opportunities, among others.

While at Western, these skills and competencies will help your student thrive in their academic studies as they connect classroom learning with real-world experiences. But, that is not where it ends.

A Transcript Only Tells Half the Story

Western is proud to offer the Co-Curricular Record. This record will help students showcase the skills and abilities they have gained through their co-curricular activities such as the Community Service Learning Network (offering opportunities for students to connect with non-profit organizations in the London area), Alternative Spring Break (a week-long, hands-on service learning experience), Western Serves (a one-day event for faculty, staff and students to get engaged with the London community), Western’s Volunteer Program (offering students practical experience to enhance their learning and civic responsibility), and more.

Students can use the record to showcase the transferable skills they have gained through co-curricular involvement, enhancing their résumé and increasing their profile with employers and graduate schools.

Key Benefits

Ease of use: Students can print their record at any time, and they can include only the activities they want to showcase.

Value: The Co-Curricular Record is validated, which means a faculty or staff member approves your student’s co-curricular activities before they are added to the record.

Potential: Students can reflect on, and identify, key learning outcomes gained throughout their activities at Western.

For more information about Western’s Co-Curricular Record, please visit myexperience.uwo.ca
Preparing For The Future

Career planning takes careful self-reflection and research. At Western, we have several career counsellors available to help your student explore their career options. Counsellors will encourage your student to get involved with volunteer and leadership opportunities while actively seeking practical experiences to help your student determine what kind of work best fits their needs and aspirations.

The Student Success Centre and various faculty-based Career Offices offer a variety of events and tools to help your student start planning for the future, including:

• Classes and workshops targeted toward finding a career path and conducting a strategic job search;
• Job, career and education fairs where we bring recruiters to campus to network with students;
• Career networking events, including employer information sessions;
• CareerCentral – an online portal for event registration and job postings including summer, part-time, on-campus, full-time, new graduate, volunteer, internship and experiential opportunities;
• Western’s Employment Resource Centre (WERC) – a drop-in service where students can find assistance with résumés and cover letters;
• Career Resource Library.

Western also offers many opportunities for students to explore various careers and gain valuable knowledge of the real world through experiential learning, including:

• Internships;
• Co-ops;
• Job shadowing;
• Fieldwork;
• Work-study.

Community Engaged Learning (CEL) opportunities also exist, including:

• Volunteers in Progress (VIP);
• Western Serves;
• Alternative Spring Break (ASB);
• Community Service Learning Network (CSLN).

Western has established a new centre for entrepreneurship to build bridges with students, researchers, industry and businesses in the city to help student ventures get off the ground. Students can engage in experiential learning while working for start-ups, participate in entrepreneurship-related events and educational opportunities, and launch their own start-ups. The centre also assists with mentorship, financing and connections to other related organizations in the community.

For more information about career preparation and experiential learning, please visit success.uwo.ca

LAURA SMITH
SOFTWARE ENGINEERING WITH BUSINESS

LAURA SPENT HER SUMMER IN SAN FRANCISCO COMPLETING A FOUR-MONTH SUMMER CO-OP AT PINTEREST AS A MEMBER OF THEIR IOS TEAM – WORKING ON IPHONE AND IPAD APPS.

“THE ‘PINTERNSHIP’ WAS AN INCREDIBLE OPPORTUNITY TO WORK AT A COMPANY AT THE FOREFRONT OF SOCIAL MEDIA. I ALSO HAD THE BENEFIT OF LEARNING FROM WORLD-CLASS ENGINEERS IN THE BEAUTIFUL CITY OF SAN FRANCISCO.”
Extraordinary starts here.

Western is proud to have more than 270,000 alumni working in more than 150 countries as business and innovation leaders, including 55 alumni who have been named to the Order of Canada – this country’s highest civilian honour. Western has also celebrated many Honorary Degree recipients and hosted world-renowned visiting scholars who have added their knowledge and insight to the Western Experience.

**Stephan Moccio, BMus’94.** is one of the world’s brightest composers and producers. From Olympic anthems to chart-topping hits for artists such as Miley Cyrus, Josh Groban and Celine Dion, Moccio keeps millions around the world singing melodies from his songbook. And, he found his rhythm at Western.

**Vava Angwenyi, BSc’03.** is percolating change in Kenya with her company, Vava Coffee Limited. She works with farmers from across Kenya to produce her coffee and employs HIV-positive women to sew cloth bags for the company’s high-end blends while former street kids make packaging from recycled paper products for Vava’s other blends.

**Alice Munro** is a Canadian author who was recently awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature for 2013. In the 1950s, Alice studied English at Western and returned to campus in 1974 as a Writer-in-Residence. Today, Western has the longest standing Writer-in-Residence program of any Canadian university.

**Ken Chu, BACS’96, LLD’07.** is the driving force behind China’s growing sports, leisure, retail and entertainment industries. As Chairman and CEO of Mission Hills Group, he has transformed hectares of wasteland into the world’s largest golf and resort destination. He is also creating a better tomorrow for youth through his support of education and community causes.
Western University is obligated to follow the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA) and the Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act (PIPEDA) to protect your student’s privacy. In July 2006, the University published a Personal Information Collection Notice to help students and their parents understand the reasons for collecting personal information about students. When your student becomes registered at Western, he or she can provide a Release of Information (ROI) by logging onto the Student Center. A Release of Information can allow you as a parent/guardian to inquire about the status of your student’s tuition account, course registration and/or to request proof of enrolment documentation or a transcript. Students can specify what the permission is specifically for and whether the permission is for one time only or for their entire duration as students at Western. Please note that a student can revoke this permission at any time without notice. In order to complete an ROI form, students must login to: registrar.uwo.ca/general-information/release_of_information.html

The online Student Directory is an online searchable database that allows individuals and the general public to search for and connect with students. The Directory can be accessed at: uwo.ca/directory

The Directory Removal Service enables students to be excluded from the online Student Directory if they wish. The Directory Removal Service can be accessed at: registrar.uwo.ca/student_records/updating_personal_information.html