

Ministry of Colleges and Universities
Student Financial Assistance Branch

Ministère des Collèges et Universités
Direction de l'aide financière aux
étudiantes et étudiants

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MEMORANDUM TO: Foster Parents Society of Ontario

FROM: Maria Mellas
Director, Student Financial Assistance Branch

DATE: February 16, 2021

SUBJECT: Changes to Ontario Student Assistance Program Policy
Regarding the Requirement to Report Foster Care Per
Diems and Declare Foster Children as Dependents on the
OSAP Application for Full-Time Students

I am pleased to tell you about a recent decision regarding changes to Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) policy with respect to the treatment of foster care per diems and foster children in the OSAP Application for Full-Time Students. Beginning in the 2021-22 academic year, applicants will no longer be required to report foster care per diems as income on the OSAP Application for Full-Time Students, and foster children will be removed from Ontario's definition of dependents.

The Ministry of Colleges and Universities recognizes the important role that foster parents play in providing a safe and stable home for every child and youth in care. Foster parents are truly an essential component in helping children and youth in care to grow and excel in life.

If you have any questions regarding these policy changes, please contact Julia Chan of the Student Financial Assistance Branch at Julia.Chan@ontario.ca.

I would like to thank you for your attention to these matters and for the work you do in supporting foster children and their families.

Sincerely,



Maria Mellas