

Dear Parents/Guardians of Grade 12 students,

We recently sent you a letter about a Life After High School workshop that your son or daughter was invited to attend at Waterloo Collegiate Institute. LifeAfterHighSchool is a pilot program that aims to help Grade 12 students keep their options open by helping them through the college and university application process. **Now that the workshop is over, your son or daughter needs your help to keep these options open**.

In the workshop, students were guided through the process of applying to Ontario's Student Assistance Program (known as OSAP) to learn about grant and loan money available to them if they choose to go to college or university. This year, more Ontario students than ever before, including many students from middle-income families will receive grants that exceed the value of their tuition. In other words, most students will pay tuition costs much lower than the published tuition rate. However, if they don't apply to OSAP, they cannot know the amount of aid on offer. *Applying does not mean a student has to accept* a financial aid package. But the information is helpful for them to make an informed decision for next year <u>and</u> to build knowledge of the process should they decide to apply in the future.

OSAP determines eligibility and amounts for grants and loans based on both student and parent information.

Your child now needs your help to complete the parent part of the OSAP application. Students who have begun their OSAP applications should now log onto their OSAP accounts together with their parents, to complete the parent portion and submit their application. Videos showing the step-by-step process for parents are available online at: www.lifeafterhighschool.ca/parents

If you have any questions about the program, please do not hesitate to contact the LifeAfterHighSchool team at info@lifeafterhighschool.ca or 1-855-707-0363 (toll free). The program is being developed and implemented by the Social Research and Demonstration Corporation - a Canadian non-profit research organization, and is funded by the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development.