



## Aboriginal Access & Student Services

# New to Okanagan College?

Are you a new Okanagan College student and just arrived on campus? Here are some important steps to be aware of for your first few months at Okanagan College.

The following is a checklist of important steps for your first few months at Okanagan College (The months shown in brackets are suggested timeframes for when each task should be completed).

### ORIENTATIONS:

Take advantage of any orientation events taking place at your campus. They are always free and provide a lot of useful information for new students (one week prior to the start of classes or during the first three weeks of classes).\*

### ABORIGINAL SUPPORT SERVICES:

Okanagan College has free Aboriginal support services on each of its four major campuses. You are not required to use these services, but at least make yourself aware of who you can contact and where you can find them if you have any questions or concerns. Please see below for the contact information (one week prior to the start of classes or during the first week of classes).

### OKANAGAN COLLEGE STUDENT IDENTIFICATION:

Locations and times for getting your card made will be posted at [www.okanagan.bc.ca](http://www.okanagan.bc.ca). Your card is useful for providing identification for a number of on-campus services. Your card can also be used at photocopying machines; the more money you add to your card, the more copies you can make (one week prior to the start of classes or during the first week of classes).

### PARKING:

Students and visitors are required to pay for parking at Okanagan College. Student parking passes are available for purchase at each campus (one week prior to the start of classes or during the first week of classes).

### BOOKS:

All the prescribed books and supplies that you will need for your classes are available at your local campus bookstore. If you are being sponsored by your band, the campus bookstores should have copies of your sponsorship letters so that they can invoice your band (one week prior to the start of classes or during the first week of classes).

## FEES:

Make sure you are aware of the last day that you can pay your tuition. To avoid being de-registered from your classes, you should inform your sponsor so that they are aware of this deadline as well (The dates for this depends on when you start your program and what program you are in. Please refer to the Okanagan College website for more information on this: [www.okanagan.bc.ca](http://www.okanagan.bc.ca)).

## HEALTH AND DENTAL COVERAGE:

All Kelowna, Penticton and Salmon Arm students who are registered in a degree program or two year diploma program are automatically enrolled in the Students' Association Extended Health and Dental Plan. For vocational/trades programs, students must be enrolled in a program of at least 16 weeks. The fees are added to the student's assessment at the time of registration. Arrangements to waive the fees may only be made through the Student Union office. Band sponsored students may be eligible to waive these fees. A waiver is only possible if a student can demonstrate equivalent coverage by another extended health and/or dental plan. Proof of such coverage must be provided before the stated deadline for the Fall and Winter semesters (one week prior to the start of classes or during the first week of classes).

## COURSE REGISTRATION AND WITHDRAWAL:

There are deadlines for the last day that you can register in a course for each semester and deadlines for the last day that you can withdraw from a course with a full tuition rebate. Make sure you are aware of these deadlines by checking out the online calendar at [www.okanagan.bc.ca/calendar](http://www.okanagan.bc.ca/calendar) (one week prior to the start of classes or during the first week of classes).

## BURSARIES/SCHOLARSHIPS/AWARDS:

Get a list of relevant grants, bursaries and scholarships from your band office, the college aboriginal student centre in your area, the college financial aid office or online (Ongoing).

\* Please note the suggested time frames are only meant to serve as guidelines. Several programs start at different times throughout the year and thus you may need to adjust the time frames accordingly.

**For more information, please feel free to contact:**

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