

## Major Changes to OSAP and E.I

Going back to school once you've entered the workforce can be a daunting task. However with recent changes to OSAP and E.I, it may just be getting a little bit easier.



**You can afford to go back to school**  
We've got you covered

**STARTING**  
**1 AUGUST**  
**2018**

Sarah will get **\$10,140**  
in Canada Student Grants and Loans  
**+\$200** / month in a **SKILLS BOOST**  
top-up grant for adult learners.

Canada

*This is a three year pilot project which means that if you've been considering going back to school, now might be the time to consider it in more detail, as after the pilot project is over, there is no guarantee that it will continue.*

Some of the quick facts of the announcement are as follows:

"The pilot project top-up grant funding will be prorated based on the length of the study period. For example, those registered for an eight-month school year will receive \$1,600, while those registered for a 12-month school year will receive \$2,400. This funding will be provided on top of any other grants the student qualifies for.

Using a working or newly unemployed Canadian's current income rather than the previous year's earnings means they could become eligible for income-tested Canada Student Grants, including up to \$3,000 for the Canada Student Grant for Full-time Students as well as the top-up funding.

The top-up funding is available to full-time students pursuing an undergraduate degree, certificate or diploma of at least two years in duration at a designated post-secondary institution who have been out of high school for at least 10 years.

Support is also coming this fall for Canadians who find themselves out of work and want to go back to school. Today, if an unemployed worker is receiving Employment Insurance (EI) benefits, they may lose their eligibility for those benefits if they return to school or undertake training, which interferes with their availability for work, without the necessary referral from designated authorities. Starting in fall 2018, an unemployed person will be able to go back to school to get the training they need to find a new job—without fear of losing the EI benefits she needs to pay rent and buy groceries" ([Employment and Social Development Canada](#))

**With the reduction in hours many entry level workers are facing due to Bill 148, now may be the time to seize the day and increase the education they have to gain a higher skill set, higher pay position, by gaining a post-secondary education.**

## Eagle Lake Career Fair

Northwest Employment Works in Dryden was happy to attend and be a part of Eagle Lake First Nation's Career Fair, with 80-100 in attendance and 20 employers/service providers represented it was a great way to connect job seekers to opportunities.



The Employers that were represented were: Domtar, Resolute Forest Products, Treasury Metals, Dryden Regional Health Centre, Tikinagan Child & Family Services, Kenora Chiefs Advisory, and Confederation College, to name a few.

Northwest Employment Works would like to thank Eagle Lake First Nation and Ontario Works for hosting and inviting us to be a partner in the event. We would also like to thank any clients that signed onto our services after attending the event, we are here to help you with your employment needs!

Thank You

## Q&A: Ask an Expert

**Q:** Why should I work a part time job while I'm on E.I.; won't it just get deducted dollar for dollar?

**A:** That's a great question! And the answer is surprisingly no, it won't get deducted dollar for dollar. There is currently a pilot project in effect that allows you to work while on E.I



Watch this [video](#) to learn more about how working while on E.I actually can benefit you.

Also working a part time job can lead to other employment opportunities as many Employers will often hire from their pool of part time employees.

Read this [interesting article](#) to learn more on how to take a part time job and turn it into a full time one.

Other benefits of working part time are that you increase your network, and skill set. It also shows Employers your motivation level and lastly it gives you a chance to check out the Employer and see if it's the right fit for you.

Have a question you want answered? Contact us and we would be happy to help you find the answers.

[www.northwestworks.ca](http://www.northwestworks.ca)