

Ridgeback Report



October is Cybersecurity Month!

Join IT Services in raising awareness about the importance of cybersecurity and ensuring we all have the resources we need to be safer, and more secure online.

This year, we are focusing on four themes which will be released every Monday on Twitter ([@OT_ITServices](#)). Watch each video and answer a quick question for the chance to win a weekly prize. **Bonus:** Compete to win a \$50 gift card of your choice at the end of the month.

For more information, [visit the Cybersecurity Month web page](#).

Academic Support



- The Teaching and Learning Centre's **Open Education Lab** [student support team](#) is running drop-in support sessions over Google Meets throughout the fall semester. If you can't make the drop-in sessions, feel free to contact CanvasForStudents@ontariotechu.ca with your questions. The team can assist you with Canvas, Google, Kaltura and other Ed-Tech queries.
- The **Stride Learning Skills program** provides a variety of online learning skill workshops, offered at critical times throughout the year. You'll be introduced to learning strategies that will contribute to your academic success—time management skills, memory strategies, note-taking, goal setting and more. There are also study sessions available, one-on-one appointments, and small group appointments for individual students, peer groups and student clubs. For more information, [visit the Stride web page](#).
- The Student Learning Centre offers a variety of **peer learning programs**. If you're looking for academic support, you can access Peer Assisted Study Sessions (PASS) that occur weekly for help in reviewing courses that are historically challenging. For the schedule, [visit the PASS web page](#). If you're looking for extra support, [one-on-one peer tutoring sessions](#) are also available. Both programs are offered fully online via Google Meets.
- Note-taking is an essential service to support some students with long- or short-term disabilities. Student Accessibility Services invites you to get involved with this rewarding opportunity; submissions are anonymous and note-taking can be included on your [Student Experience Record](#). For more information, [visit the volunteer note-takers web page](#).

Career Readiness



- The **Reverse Career Fair** will be happening virtually from **October 12 to 15** for students in Year 2 and above—as well as 2021 graduates—from the faculties of Business and IT, Energy Systems and Nuclear Science, Engineering and Applied Science, and Science. Attend sessions where employers are recruiting for co-ops, internships and new graduate roles. The

sessions will start with employers giving an overview of their company and the remaining time will be spent networking with students. [Register in advance](#) to get access to all sessions.

- **International students:** The Career Centre's virtual drop-in sessions happen on **Wednesdays from 1 to 3 p.m.** These sessions are designed to support career development and your employment journey; no appointment is necessary. For more information and for the meeting link, [visit the Student Life Portal](#).
- **Career Chats** is an initiative that takes place on the **last Tuesday and Thursday of each month.** They provide you with an opportunity to talk directly with human resource professionals to receive resumé, LinkedIn, interview or job-searching advice from industry-leading employers. [Register through the Student Life Portal](#).
- Do you have an interview coming up? The Career Centre offers practice interviews with an Employment Advisor. To book an appointment, [visit the Student Life Portal](#).

Community



- If you or your family have been affected by the legacy of residential schools in Canada, support is available. The Indigenous Cultural Advisor is available for traditional counselling support. Contact Indigenous@ontariotechu.ca to make an appointment. If you are in crisis or need immediate support, contact the National Indian Residential School Crisis Line (24 hours) at 1.866.925.4419.
- **Student Mental Health Services** offers a range of groups and workshops to support your mental health. [Register online](#) if you'd like to participate.
- **Mental Health Peer Mentors** are undergraduate or graduate students at the university, who listen and provide social and emotional support to students in a one-on-one setting. To learn more about the program and Peer Mentors—and to book an appointment—[visit the Mental Health Peer Mentors web page](#).
- **Conversation Café** runs on **Thursdays from 3 to 4 p.m.** This is an opportunity to meet international students and learn about other cultures, as well as a chance to practice English speaking and listening skills. [Visit the Student Life Portal](#) to view the schedule, register in advance if possible, or sign in before you begin.
- The newly designed, digital **Ucard** is one of the most important pieces of identification you can have as a student. For more information or to get yours, [visit the Ucard web page](#).

Equity and Inclusion



- **Respecting Individuals, Supporting Equity (RISE):** The RISE program is a suite of workshops scheduled throughout the fall, that provides training and education on what participants can do on an individual level to foster a safer, and more inclusive campus community. To learn more and register, [visit the equity groups and workshops web page](#).
- **Equity discussion groups and student-centred spaces** are running throughout the fall. Learn about equity topics in open discussion groups or discuss your experiences with those who may share them in a closed, student-centred space. To see which groups are available and register, [visit the equity groups and workshops web page](#).
- **Campus Connected** is about caring and kindness, and listening for understanding, empathy and without judgment. The session is two hours long and is offered on many different dates, in hopes that you can find one that suits your busy schedule. [Register on the Student Life Portal](#).

Athletics and Wellness



- Ridgebacks are looking for curlers. If you're interested in joining the Ridgebacks' Varsity Curling team, [register online](#) or [contact head coach Mike Stauffer](#).
- Come cheer on the Ridgebacks at home games! Schedules can be found on the [Ridgebacks' website](#).
- Need the latest news on what's happening in Athletics? Make sure to [follow them on Instagram](#) (@ot_ridgebacks).
- No appointment is needed for the FLEX fitness centre; there will be limited capacity. For more details, [visit the Campus Recreation and Wellness Centre \(CRWC\) website](#).
- Looking for something to do on campus? Check out the open gym and field times, and student skating time schedules on the [CRWC website](#).
- [Download the Ontario Tech mobile app](#) and [follow campus rec on Instagram](#) (@dcotcampusrec) for the latest updates on recreational opportunities.

Money Matters



Show Me the Money virtual workshop

- Join the Student Awards and Financial Aid (SAFA) team on **Wednesday, October 13 from 2:15 to 3 p.m.** for the fall financial literacy workshop—Show me the Money—presented [live and virtually via Google Meets](#) from the comfort of your home. This workshop is specifically designed to assist you in taking steps toward managing your finances effectively. The team will cover information about the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP), the university's bursary options, scholarship and award opportunities, and explore a wide range of financial resources. [Register](#) for the workshop.

OSAP

- OSAP for the 2021-2022 academic year is now available. If you haven't already, [apply now](#).
- Your course load, program, and year of study reported on your OSAP application **must match your Ontario Tech course registration** for your funding to be released each semester. If they don't match, there will be a delay in your funding. [Contact the SAFA team](#) to make updates.
- Confirmation of enrolment began at the end of August. Check your status on the [OSAP website](#) to see if your funding has been released. Once your enrolment is confirmed, it takes up to 10 working days for the funds to reach the university and/or your bank account.
- [Check MyCampus](#) for your tuition account balance and your net-cost view by semester. This will show if you owe any tuition fees after your OSAP funds are applied.
- Continue to monitor the status of your OSAP application and remember to make all necessary updates with the [SAFA team](#).

Student awards

- The General Bursary application is available. The application can be found on [MyCampus](#), on the **OT awards and financial aid** tab, by selecting the **awards application** in the **helpful links** section.

Additional resources

- Don't forget to [check MyCampus](#) for important payment deadlines and to review your tuition account balance.

- For the most up-to-date financial information, [visit the Student Awards and Financial Aid website](#). Additionally, please ensure you're checking the **OT awards and financial aid** tab of [MyCampus](#) regularly. If you have any further questions or concerns, contact us at connect@ontariotechu.ca.

Other News



- **MyCampus login:** Some users are currently experiencing login issues while trying to access self-service options in [MyCampus](#). If you're experiencing this issue, you will need to log in through either **Firefox or Safari**, as those are the only supporting browsers at this time.



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