

2026–2027 Indigenous Student Handbook

Your Journey Starts Here

Boozhoo, She:kon, Tunngasuigit, Tawnshi, Kwe, Welcome!



Centre for Indigenous Student Services (CISS)

CISS provides a communal space that meets the needs of our diverse Indigenous students and community. Our staff are committed to the success of 350+ self-identified Indigenous learners at York University. go.yorku.ca/ciss-indg

Keep in Touch

246 York Lanes (Keele Campus) (416) 736-5571 cissinfo@yorku.ca



Cultural Workshops

Facilitated by Indigenous community artisans year-round, workshops draw upon traditional teachings. Learn how to make ribbon skirts, moccasins, gauntlet mittens, hand drums and beading.

Indigenous Peer Mentorship Program

This student-driven mentoring program offers a space for Indigenous learners to meet and co-create, co-develop and sustain a learning environment of peer leaders. Meet with members in one-on-one or small group settings and attend community events.

Visiting Elders Program

Elders and Traditional Knowledge Keepers share Indigenous knowledge, teachings and wisdom. Join in sharing circles, one-on-one sessions and ceremonies based on Indigenous protocols.

Events

- Orientation Days for Incoming Indigenous Students
- Welcome Feast
- End-of-Term Celebration
- Graduation and Year-End Celebration



Student Resources

- Elders / Traditional Knowledge Keepers
- Peer support
- Personal counselling
- Advocacy
- Cultural workshops
- Writing support
- Library research consultations
- Referrals to community resources
- · Financial assistance information
- One-on-one counselling with Traditional Counsellor

Indigenous Student Success

We believe Indigenous student success is achieved by living in balance with one's spiritual, emotional, physical and mental realities.

Skennen'kó:wa Gamig

"pab.4 PL"

Skennen'kó:wa Gamig (house of great peace), a renovated log cabin and Tipi, provides a dedicated community space to gather, learn, support and share teachings. Indigenous community members use Gamig for studying, hosting events and cultural reclamation.



Indigenous Student Association at York

The Indigenous Student Association at York (ISAY) is a student-run group under the York Federation of Students. ISAY's mandate is to advocate for Indigenous students, create cultural programming, social events and community outreach. ISAY has hosted events, such as: Rattle Making, Metis Culture Workshop, Inuit Storytelling, First Nations Teachings, Afro-Indigenous Open Mic Night, 2S Sharing Circle, Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women Pin Bead Workshop, Care Packages, Spring Food Basket and more.



Indigenous Council at York

The Indigenous Council at York oversees the educational requirements and services that meet the needs of Indigenous learners on campus. The Council supports relationships between Indigenous communities and York University by advocating for Indigenous peoples to facilitate access to higher education.





"I have used the Centre for Indigenous Student Services (CISS) and its resources to help build my relationship with my culture. As someone who grew up really involved and immersed in their culture... it has really helped me feel connected at times when I can't show up for my own community ceremonies or events."

Sophie Chrisjohn-Weiler (she/her), English '25 go.yorku.ca/sophie-indg

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Your Partners in Success

Caring student peers, advisors and staff empower you to be your best self with a wealth of resources designed to support your academic, social, physical and mental well-being.



Get support with writing, studying, time management and more. Whether you're adjusting to university or returning as a mature student, these services can help you succeed.

- Student Accessibility Services
- Writing Centre
- Libraries (including Indigenous Teaching & Learning Librarian)
- Academic Advising

Transition and Thrive

Start strong with services that support your transition into university life. These supports are also here for you as your needs grow and change.

- Atkinson Centre for Mature & Parttime Students (ACMAPS)
- York University Mature Students Organization (YUMSO)
- Centre for Student Community & Leadership Development (SCLD)
- Career Centre

Support Your Whole Self

Your wellness is essential for effective learning and personal success. Build your sense of community, health and well-being.

- Athletics & Recreation
- Student Counselling Health & Well-being
- Childcare Services (Lee Wiggins Childcare Centre and York University Cooperative Daycare Centre)

To learn more, visit go.yorku.ca/services-indg.

Go Beyond the Classroom

At York, you're launching your career. We offer unique work-integrated learning experiences in and outside of the classroom, meaningful job opportunities and career coaching.

92% of York grads are employed within 2 years of graduation



6,000+
employers
recruit from
our campuses
annually



90% employer

employer satisfaction rate with York graduates in the GTA





Last Year:

36,000+

employment opportunities

were available to York

students (2024–2025).*

* Including part-time, full-time, internship, co-op and new graduate opportunities.

Scholarships and Awards

We award more than \$11 million in entrance scholarships and awards each year. Eligibility varies from academic achievement to specific criteria. Search the awards database to determine additional funding for which you may be eligible at **go.yorku.ca/scholarships-indg**. Use keywords, such as your city/region, ancestry, community involvement and academic interests.

| Award Name & Type | Consideration Criteria (Complete criteria at go.yorku.ca/scholarships-indg) | Minimum Average | Value of Award |
|---|---|--------------------|---|
| Alpha Foundation Bursary ♥ ☑ 🖹 | First Nations heritage Resident of Ontario Demonstrated community volunteerism | None | \$1,500 |
| Bennett Family Award for Black and Indigenous Students * ☑ 🖹 | Indigenous ancestry Resident of Ontario | None | \$30,000 * (\$7,500 x 4 years) |
| Governor's Awards of Distinction * \(\begin{align*} \equiv \equiv \\ \equiv | Accomplishments in community service, leadership, the arts or sports | 90% | \$32,000* (\$8,000 x 4 years) plus cost of residence in first year |
| Harry W. Arthurs Alumni Families Entrance Scholarship | Accomplishments in community service, leadership, the arts or sports Must be the child, sibling or grandchild of a York graduate | 90% | \$24,000 * (\$6,000 x 4 years) |
| Indigenous Student Bursary ♥ ☑ 🖹 | Indigenous ancestry Resident of Ontario | None | Varies with number of applicants |
| Metis Nation of Ontario Student Bursary | Must be a Canadian citizen, permanent resident or protected person Must demonstrate financial need Resident of Ontario Verified Métis citizens of the Métis Nation of Ontario | None | \$1,400 |
| Ontario Indigenous Travel Grant 🌞 🗹 🖹 | Indigenous ancestry Resident of Ontario | None | Varies |
| York Entrance Bursary for Aboriginal Students ❖ ☑ 🖹 | Indigenous ancestry Resident of Ontario | None | \$8,800 (\$2,200 x 4 years) |
| York University President's Scholarship 🌞 | Automatically awarded to high school applicants (domestic and international) with the highest admission average in their Faculty at the time of assessment No application required | None | \$21,600 * (\$5,400 x 4 years) |
| York University Renewable Entrance Athletic Scholarship | Inquire with the head coach of your intended interuniversity team | 80% | Up to \$25,000* (\$1,000 – \$5,000 x 5 years) |

- Must be a Canadian citizen, permanent resident or protected person.
- Must demonstrate financial need.
- Application required: details at go.yorku.ca/scholarships-indg.
- * Indicates that the award or scholarship is renewable for an additional three years of full-time undergraduate study, as long as you maintain high academic standing each year.

Indspire Scholarships

Indspire supports Indigenous students with funding for school costs.

Apply by completing the post-secondary and bursary form on Indspire's website.

go.yorku.ca/indspire-indg

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How to Apply

Understand Your Application Requirements

Visit go.yorku.ca/apply-indg to find admission requirements for your program of interest.

To apply, you will need:

- Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD);
- Six 4U/4M courses, including ENG4U or FRA4U;
- ✓ All applicable program-specific requirements;
- A supplementary application (if required for the program); and
- A proof of language proficiency (if required).

To see if you meet English proficiency requirements, visit go.yorku.ca/lang2025-indg.

Meeting the minimum requirements or admission average ranges listed online or within University publications is not a guarantee of admission go.yorku.ca/disclaimer-indg.

Are You Applying as an Out-of-Province, Transfer or Mature Student?

Visit go.yorku.ca/requirements-indg for your specific admission requirements.

Submit Your Application

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Submit your application through the Ontario Universities' Application Centre (OUAC) at ouac.on.ca.

Applicants from outside of Ontario or with previous post-secondary education may apply directly via the York University application for most programs. Visit **go.yorku.ca/apply-indg** for details.



After you apply, you will receive access to MyFile, York's applicant portal. Here you can monitor your admission status and submit or upload any required documents to complete your application. These may include official transcripts, language proficiency requirements, a supplementary application and course descriptions to be assessed for transfer credit.

Submit an Indigenous Application Information Form



After you apply, we invite you to complete an additional information form, to receive important information on Indigenous programs, scholarships and bursaries as well as Indigenous community events and student services.

This form also allows York University Admissions, with guidance from the Indigenous Council, to take into consideration your lived experience when reviewing your application. While academic performance is the main criterion for admission consideration at York University, we understand that there may be other factors that you may wish to bring to our attention during the admissions assessment process.

Visit go.yorku.ca/indg-form for details.

Application Deadlines

Your application deadline depends on when you'd like to start and where you're applying from.

go.yorku.ca/deadlines-indg

| | Start Term at York | Application Deadline* | |
|---|-----------------------|---|--|
| | Winter 2026 (January) | November 14, 2025 | |
| | Summer 2026 (May) | April 1, 2026 | |
| F | Fall 2026 (September) | January 15, 2026 (for Ontario high school applicants) | |
| | | February 2, 2026 (for out-of-province and transfer/mature applicants) | |

*Reminder: some programs have additional supplementary application deadlines. Visit go.yorku.ca/deadlines-indg for details.

Stay on Track



OCTOBER – NOVEMBER '25

Be on the lookout for recruitment events offered by the Aboriginal Post-Secondary Information Program (APSIP).

www.apsip.ca

Join us for Fall Campus Day:

October 25, 2025 (Keele Campus) October 26, 2025 (Glendon Campus) November 1, 2025 (Markham Campus)

Learn about our exciting programs, and how to start your application. go.yorku.ca/fcd-indg



DECEMBER '25

Begin applying for York entrance awards and scholarships.

You do not need an offer of admission to apply. Scholarship deadlines vary but extend through April.

Find out more at go.yorku.ca/scholarships-indg.

JANUARY – FEBRUARY '26

Get your application and supplementary evaluations in by the deadline!

Ontario secondary school applicants:
Apply by the OUAC application deadline,
January 15, 2026, for guaranteed
consideration to your top choice programs.

Submit your Supplementary Application or documentationif required for your program.

Join us and meet the York community at our Virtual Applicant Receptions on **February 19 & 25, 2026**.

MARCH - APRIL '26

Come and say hello!

Join us for a campus tour,
March Break visit or attend
our Spring Open House
to experience York and connect
with the community.
go.yorku.ca/soh-indg



MAY - JUNE '26

Apply for guaranteed residence by **June 1, 2026** if you are an Ontario high school student and by **May 1, 2026** if you are an out-of-province high school student.

Attend an academic advising session with your Faculty Watch for details about your enrolment window to enrol in your first-year courses.

York University strives to ensure the completeness and accuracy of information contained in this publication. However, the University reserves the right to change any of the information at any time without notice.

Visit Us on Campus!

Book a Tour: go.yorku.ca/tours



York University is committed to reducing its ecological footprint. This handbook was printed on FSC® certified paper.

Fall Campus Day - go.yorku.ca/fcd

Keele Campus Glendon Campus Markham Campus October 25, 2025 October 26, 2025 November 1, 2025

Spring Open House - go.yorku.ca/soh

Come and say hello! Join us for a campus tour, March Break visit or attend our Spring Open House to experience York and connect with the community.



Stay Connected with Us!

Scan the OR code to receive information about York University programs, admission and events.

futurestudents.yorku.ca







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