

OSAP: Non-supporting step parent Review

To allow a Full-time OSAP assessment to proceed without reference to a step-parent's income information, the student's situation must meet the following criteria:

- the step-parent is refusing to support the student
- the step-parent has never supported the student directly or indirectly since the parental union

If the student resides in the parental home and the natural parent's income is minimal (less than \$20,000), the step-parent may be deemed to be indirectly supporting the student.

Required Documentation:

- a **letter from the student** detailing the situation and their relationship with their step-parent
- a **letter from the natural parent** providing the date of marriage or common-law union, a description of any prenuptial arrangements regarding the support of the children, and an explanation of how the natural parent has supported the student since the union
- a **letter from the step-parent** explaining the reason(s) why he or she will not support the student
- a copy of the prenuptial agreement/marriage contract, if one exists
- additional documentation if the parental union occurred before the student turned 16 years of age:
 - evidence of formal arrangements/prenuptial agreements that show the step-parent is not directly or indirectly contributing to the student's expenses
 - *the document must be signed by both parents, and witnessed by at least two individuals and dated prior to the marriage*
 - *if signed by witnesses only and not notarized or done in consultation with a lawyer, the name and address of witnesses and date of witness signatures must be included in the document.*
 - a family budget completed by the natural parent indicating only his or her actual monthly gross and net income, expenses and the amount of support provided to the student
- If prior year taxable income for the natural parent has not been verified, a copy of their CRA Notice of Assessment for the prior year.

Please forward documentation to the Student Awards & Financial Aid Office (finaid@nipissingu.ca).