



## COLLEGE STUDENTS WARY OF POST-SECONDARY CHANGES IN PROVINCIAL BUDGET

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TORONTO - The Government of Ontario today announced major reforms on how post-secondary institutions will be funded in the 2019 Budget. By the 2024/2025 academic year, 60 per cent of provincial funding for colleges will be tied to only 10 performance-based metrics, down from 38. Major restructuring of provincial funding, with no consultations with college student leaders, will result in uncertainty for students and colleges alike.

Since institutions will have the flexibility to weigh the metrics that best reflect their differentiated strategic goals, it is imperative that student associations are involved in these conversations. This announcement only highlights the need for democratically elected leadership representing all students: student associations.

“The increase of percentage-based funding, with no consideration of the impacts on student accessibility and the quality of education, is a cause for concern,” said Brittany Greig, CSA president. “This change, paired with the Student Choice Initiative, could be detrimental for students.”

Also addressed in this budget is the review and promotion of skilled trades, apprenticeships and second career programs.

“Attention must be paid to helping students enter the college system,” said Greig. “Affordability and accessibility, especially for marginalized populations, is key to ensuring a fairer and more prosperous Ontario.”

The most vulnerable students will be left behind as a result of the collective 2019 changes to the post-secondary sector. CSA urges the government to work with us and other non-partisan stakeholders to ensure students - current and future - will succeed.

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### **About College Student Alliance:**

College Student Alliance (CSA) advocates on behalf of Ontario college students in partnership with college student leaders. Through our member student associations, CSA represents the collective voice of Ontario's college students. Learn more at [www.collegestudentalliance.ca](http://www.collegestudentalliance.ca).

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