

# Student Membership Guide



**Start your career on the right track with the ODA**





On behalf of the Ontario Dental Association (ODA), congratulations on your excellent choice of career. As you begin dental school, make a second excellent choice – join your professional association. The ODA is the voice and advocate for Ontario dentists. Our dedicated staff and volunteers are here to support you as you navigate each phase of your dental career.

Your student membership fee of \$69 (plus HST) covers you throughout dental school and your first year of practice in Ontario. This discounted rate will help you begin a lasting relationship with your professional association.

In this brochure, you'll find a brief overview of some of the benefits available to you as a student member. ODA members have exclusive access to a long list of solutions, services and resources designed to benefit not only their careers, but our great profession as a whole.

As you become more familiar with the ODA and the work we do, you'll see that we are committed to delivering value to our members and fighting on their behalf. We represent dentists, their teams and their patients at a provincial level and, as part of the Canadian Dental Association, at a national level. By adding your voice, you help strengthen our messages to decision makers and help us represent and advance the best interests of dentists, the public and the profession.

I have been a member of the ODA for more than 30 years. I began my volunteering with my local component society, where I fell in love with the strong sense of community and purpose that comes with being involved. Over time, that involvement grew as I worked my way up through committees until joining the ODA Board of Directors. My membership has allowed me to make incredible connections, attend important events like the Annual Spring Meeting, and helped guide the ODA and its members through challenging times, including the pandemic. Volunteering for the ODA has been rewarding and valuable to me both professionally and personally.

Take full advantage of the opportunities and resources the ODA offers you throughout your education and career.

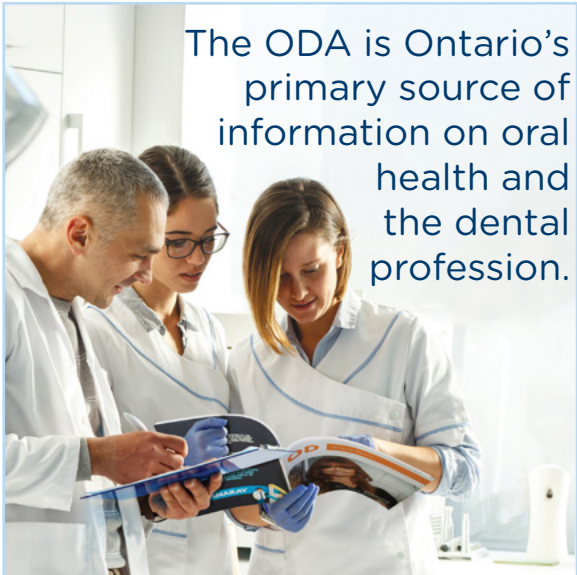
Welcome to the profession, and welcome to the ODA.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Janet Leith". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Dr. Janet Leith**  
Chair, Board of Directors and President



The ODA has been  
championing Ontario  
dentists for over  
**150 years!**



The ODA is Ontario's  
primary source of  
information on oral  
health and  
the dental  
profession.



**\$69**  
covers  
your ODA  
membership  
throughout  
dental school  
(One time payment.  
No annual renewal required).



**Kickstart your career.**  
Enjoy your first year of  
ODA membership  
absolutely  
**FREE** after  
graduation!

Introducing your dedicated ODA Coordinator, Events and Programs, Student Services: **Courtney Willis**

Courtney has established a track record in Events and Program Management. She is available to provide you with access to answers, information and any other support you need as a student member of the ODA.

You can contact Courtney at 416-922-3900 or 1-800-387-1393 (extension 3318) or by email at [cwillis@oda.ca](mailto:cwillis@oda.ca)



# Overview of benefits for student members

As an ODA student member, you're connected to the full strength of your professional association. Enjoy exclusive access to resources, programs, and support designed to help you succeed at every stage of your dental education. Take advantage of special benefits tailored specifically to your needs and experiences as a student and set yourself up for success. Here is just a glimpse of what's waiting for you.

## Ontario Dentist Journal

Complement your studies by staying up to date on all the latest news, trends, changes and events related to the dental profession and ODA. Your subscription to the *Ontario Dentist* journal puts well-written and insightful articles in your hands 10 times each year, covering topics including clinical and practice management and much more.

## Practice Management Resources

Access handy checklists and tools designed to help you purchase or open a dental practice. Plus, our tax resources simplify the complexities of accounting, tax and financial management.

## The ODA Website

It's never too early to explore the resources available on the ODA website [oda.ca](http://oda.ca). Your membership gives you full access to exclusive member benefits, valuable information and essential tools.

## The ODA Online Job & Ad Board

When you are ready to launch your career, the ODA Job & Ad board will be an essential resource. This exclusive, province-wide listing connects you with opportunities from ODA member dentists looking to hire associates, find partners, or buy and sell practices. As a member, you can also post your own ads for free putting your name and skills in front of the right people. Start your job search with confidence by visiting the Job & Ad Board on the ODA website.

## ODA Community Demographic Report

These reports provide you with insights about the dentists and the people in a community to help you better understand the specific community where you practice – or want to practice.

## Annual Spring Meeting (ASM)

Enjoy **free access** to the ODA's Annual Spring Meeting, one of the largest conferences and trade shows in North America. This one-of-a-kind event features educational seminars, excellent networking opportunities, the chance to test drive new dental products and leading-edge technologies and much more. Learn more at [asm.oda.ca](http://asm.oda.ca)

## New Dentist Symposium (NDS)

New this year: Student members receive **50% off admission** to a unique continuing education experience for dentists in practice for 10 years or less. Access education opportunities, networking sessions and direct access to experts from around the industry who can offer valuable advice at the Roundtable Exchange. Learn more at [nds.oda.ca](http://nds.oda.ca)

## Member Discount Program

As a student member, you can tap into exclusive savings on travel, accommodations, fitness, wireless plans, and more. New deals and partners are added regularly, so check the Member Discount Program page often and make the most of your membership perks.

## No-Cost Insurance and Financial Planning from CDSPI

Get objective education and advice on personal finances and no-cost life, disability, dental hand-tools and accidental death and dismemberment insurance – courtesy of CDSPI.

Created by dentists exclusively for the dental community, CDSPI is a not-for-profit organization that is endorsed and governed by the ODA and other dental associations across Canada to help dentists and dental students achieve and maintain financial wellbeing.

Join the 1,000+ dental students who have reaped the benefits of CDSPI, including:

- No-cost student insurance
- No-cost income tax returns through their partnership with MNP
- Group discounts for travel, auto and tenant insurance
- Advice on creating and sticking to a budget
- Managing debt
- Investing and preparing to start a practice
- 24/7 free wellness support and resources from the Members' Assistance Program provided by Telus Health



1.800.561.9401 [cdspi.com](http://cdspi.com)

Explore [cdspi.com/students](http://cdspi.com/students).



@CDSPInow



@CDSPInow



@CDSPI



@CDSPInow



@CDSPIDentistsFirst

**Learn how the ODA can expand your potential. Visit [yourpotential.oda.ca](http://yourpotential.oda.ca) for a complete list of all our products, programs and services.**

## Customized programs and events

As a student member, take advantage of a wide range of programs and events for each stage of your dental education.

### Welcome to the Profession

Join us for a special event where the ODA officially welcomes first-year students to the profession. Connect, celebrate and discover how ODA membership can support your growth and success.

### Practice Management Seminar Speaker Series

Our practice management seminars are designed to provide the next generation of dentists with valuable practice management information for the transition from dental school to dental practice. These free seminars focus on a range of topics that students have told us are important to them, including:

- Employment contracts
- Tax and accounting Issues for new grads
- The business side to running a successful practice: you graduated — now what?
- Financial planning and debt management

### Munch and Learn Seminars

With this series of informational and accessible events throughout the year, the ODA brings you various topics and speakers that are of interest to student members.

### Mentorship Days with Practising Dentists

Mentorship days provide you with an invaluable opportunity to spend an evening with an alumni dentist and get a glimpse into the realities of opening and running a practice. Enjoy light snacks and refreshments and get answers to all your questions about debt repayments, career/life balance and more.

\*Open to third and fourth year students..

### Fourth-Year Graduation Event

You're invited to celebrate your impending graduation and receive a special gift of a one-year free membership to the ODA (upon obtaining your *Certificate of Registration* from the Royal College of Dental Surgeons of Ontario).

### The ODA Cup Platinum Sponsor

The Ontario Dental Association is proud to support the annual charitable hockey game between the dental faculties at the University of Toronto and Western University. Fostering a collegial spirit with students and dentists, the game is open to faculty, alumni, staff, family, friends and fans. Proceeds raised are donated to a charity of each faculties' choice.

[Visit oda.ca/events to learn more about upcoming student events](https://oda.ca/events)

# Maximize value with our exclusive Member Discount Program.

Take advantage of cost savings with these offers that are tailored to meet your unique professional and personal needs.



[WWW.ODA.CA/MDP](http://WWW.ODA.CA/MDP)

Are you trying to decide where to practice?  
ODA Community Demographic Report service can help.

Reports provide the demographic profiles of  
the dentists and the people living in a community.\*



To order a report, please visit the  
**Reports to the Profession**  
page on [www.oda.ca](http://www.oda.ca).

Reports include information about:

#### Dentists

- years in practice
- specialty
- position in practice
- population per dentist

#### Potential Patients

- population projections in three years
- number of children, working age or seniors
- education/income/employment
- language/ ethnicity

**If you have any questions, contact**

**Rose Abate**

ODA Director, Research  
[rabate@oda.ca](mailto:rabate@oda.ca)

\*Communities are defined by and are typically limited to between three and five adjoining postal areas.

# Members' Assistance Program

## When the pressure builds We're here to help

Your Members' Assistance Program (MAP) provides you with immediate and confidential help for any work, health or life concern. We're available anytime and anywhere. **Let us help.**

### What is MAP?

Your MAP is a confidential and voluntary support service that can help you take the first step toward change. Let us help you find solutions to the challenges you face at any age and stage of life. You can access immediate and confidential support in a way that is most suited to your preferences, comfort level and lifestyle.

### No cost

Sponsored by CDSPI, there is no cost for you to use MAP. Your MAP can provide a series of sessions with a professional and if you need more specialized or longer-term support, our team of experts can suggest an appropriate specialist or service that is best suited to your needs. While fees for these additional services are your responsibility, they may be covered by your provincial or private health plan.

### Confidentiality

Your MAP is completely confidential within the limits of the law. No one, including CDSPI, will ever know that you have used the program unless you choose to tell them.

provided by



sponsored by CDSPI as a benefit of ODA membership



### Solutions for your work, health and life

#### Achieve wellbeing

- Stress
- Mental health concerns
- Grief and loss
- Crisis situations

#### Manage relationships and family

- Communication
- Separation/divorce
- Parenting

#### Deal with school challenges

- Stress
- Performance
- Work-life balance

#### Tackle addictions

- Alcohol
- Drugs
- Tobacco/nicotine
- Gambling

#### Online Extras

- Fitness sessions
- Assessments
- Perks – discounts and exclusive offers

#### Get legal advice

- Family law
- Separation/divorce
- Real estate

#### Find child and elder care resources

- Child care
- Schooling
- Nursing/retirement home



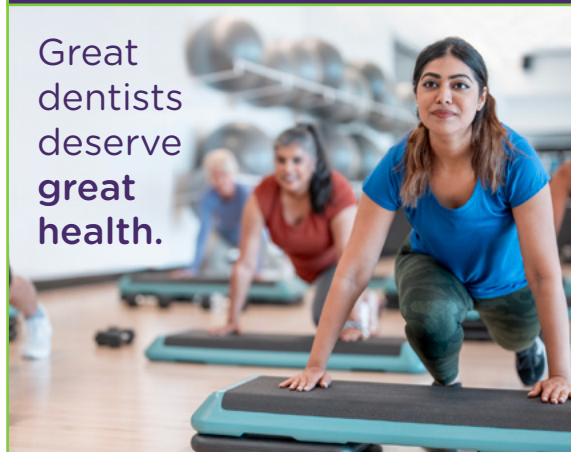
## CARE-GIVING SUPPORT

For the people you care for **beyond the chair.**



## FITNESS OFFERS

Great dentists deserve **great health.**



## FINANCIAL PLANNING

Because your finances deserve the **same care as your patients.**



## MAP PERKS

Perks aren't just for patients.



## MENTAL HEALTH

Where dental health **meets mental health.**



**Access MAP 24/7**  
by phone, web or mobile app

**1.844.578.4040**  
Online: [one.telushealth.com](https://one.telushealth.com)  
or download the  
TELUS Health One App

**Username: Dentalstudent**  
**Password: CDSPI**



# The Ontario Dental Association, Your Bridge Back Home

*You may study away from home, but your dental community is right here.*

Whether you're studying dentistry across Canada or abroad, the ODA keeps you connected to Ontario's dental community. We help you stay informed, supported and ready to build your career back home.

## Why Join Now as a Student Member

- Connection to a strong professional network and mentorship community in Ontario
- Stay updated on the Ontario healthcare system, industry trends and latest advancements
- Access the ODA's job board and demographic reports to help kick-start your career search at home
- Practice Management seminars on a broad range of topics to support your transition from dental school to dental practice, with accompanying tools, resources and checklists
- Be a part of advocacy efforts that are shaping the future of dentistry in Ontario
- Free registration to the Annual Spring Meeting, one of North America's largest dental trade shows
- Member Discounts for a variety of products and services
- Member Assistance Program (mental health support, financial guidance)
- Dedicated Student Services Coordinator to help keep you connected while you're studying away and support your transition home



"My education in Alberta has provided me with a strong clinical foundation, and I am excited to bring my passion for dentistry to Ontario upon graduation. I am grateful for the opportunities that ODA membership provides to network and connect with other professionals, as well as for the support in making my transition from dental student to practitioner a smooth one. I am committed to delivering high-quality, patient-centred dental care to the community."

**Malav Shah,**  
ODA Member,  
University of Alberta

## How Much Does It Cost?

Your out of province membership is deeply discounted to reflect your unique offer. **Our lowest cost membership at \$69 + HST**, is paid once and automatically renews every year of school. You will also receive your first year as a new dentist absolutely free.

## How Do I Apply?

Visit our website to [download an application](#) or contact: **Courtney Willis**, Coordinator Events and Programs, Student Services at [cwillis@oda.ca](mailto:cwillis@oda.ca)

# Membership Application for Students Studying Outside of Ontario

2026-2027

**The ODA Membership Fee for Students Studying Outside of Ontario is \$69 plus HST \$8.97 = \$77.97.**

This one-time fee payment covers your ODA student membership throughout dental school and your first year of practice as a licensed dentist in Ontario.

**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY**

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

English Name \_\_\_\_\_

Male    Female    Date of Birth: (MM/DD/YYYY) \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Address (for mailing): \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

HST #108090945RT0001

**Dental School:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Graduation Year:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Country of Study:**    Australia    Ireland    New Zealand    USA    Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Current Year of Study:**    First    Second    Third    Fourth

**Graduating Class:**    2026    2027    2028    2029

Once graduated, I plan to practice in Ontario:    Yes    No

**Payment Method:**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Membership ID#** (if known) \_\_\_\_\_

Pay by Cheque (Full Payment only)

Cheque enclosed (Payable to Ontario Dental Association)

**OR**

Pay by Credit Card (Full Payment only)

All credit card payments must be made by calling the ODA at 1-800-387-1393

**Application Questions**

You can contact Courtney Willis, Coordinator, Events and Programs, Student Services at 416-922-3900 or 1-800-387-1393 ext. 3318 or email [cwillis@oda.ca](mailto:cwillis@oda.ca). **Note: Do not send application with credit card by email, as email is not secure.**

**RETURN FULLY COMPLETED APPLICATION:**

**Mail:** Ontario Dental Association  
4 New Street  
Toronto, ON M5R 1P6

**ATTN:** Courtney Willis, Coordinator, Events and Programs, Student Services