Grad Handbook 2023 - 2024



"Goals are the fuel in the furnace of achievement."
-Brian Tracy

POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION COSTS ESTIMATED 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR

Estimated Education Expenses (1st year)

(Living away from home)

,	College	University
	(2 year program)	(4 year program) Bachelor
		of Commerce
Tuition	\$ 2 871.21	\$ 8 694.90
Books and Supplies	1 500.00	1 500.00
Student Fees	1 427.00	2 570.00
Transportation	500.00	500.00
Accommodation	8 240.00	8 240.00
Food	6 549.00	6 549.00
Personal Expenses	<u>3 000.00</u>	3 000.00
·	\$24 087.21	\$31 053.90
2 nd year @ 3% inflation rate	\$24 809.83	\$31 985.52
3rd year @ 3% inflation rate		\$32 945.08
4th year @ 3% inflation rate		\$33 933.43
Estimated Total	<u>\$48 897.04</u>	<u>\$129 917.93</u>

HOW CAN COSTS BE MET?

- PARENTS/RELATIVES
- 2. STUDENT INCOME (part-time, summer, co-op)
- 3. SCHOLARSHIPS & BURSARIES (pg.12)
- 4. OSAP ONTARIO STUDENT ASSISTANT PROGRAM (pg.13)
- 5. STUDENT LOANS/LINE OF CREDIT
- 6. For information on financial and budget planning visit

 www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/education.html

 Hint: University/college websites usually include a budget calculator

THREE MAIN DECISION-MAKING FACTORS:

- What program(s) am I interested in?
 Do I have the required prerequisite courses and marks?
- 2. How much can I afford? For how long?
- 3. Where will I be comfortable?

How far away from home?

How large a university/college do I want to attend?

Class size preference?

Small or large city?

*Helpful hint:

- 1. Visit myBlueprint take "Who am I" surveys; Search by possible "career clusters" [click on work → occupations → career clusters]
- 2. Visit www.ontario.ca/page/labour-market Scroll down to Search job profiles. You can also take a career quiz.

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT APPLYING TO UNIVERSITY

To apply to an Ontario university, you should first:

- A) Be sure you are **eligible** (6 university (U), university/college preparation courses (M)) and have the correct **prerequisites** for the programs you are considering. (For example, engineering programs require certain science and math university, preparation courses). Check as well that your marks meet the estimated cut-offs. All this information is available online at www.ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca
- B) Select the 3 or more **universities** and/or **programs** to which you will apply.
- C) Complete the application process. All applications are directed to the University Application Centre (OUAC) in Guelph, which communicates with the universities. All applications will include Grade 11 and 12 completed marks. Be sure to check with the individual universities and the OUAC site for details concerning their individual admission procedures. See a guidance counsellor for details.

UNIVERSITY TERMS YOU SHOULD BE FAMILIAR WITH

Honours Degree

Consists of 20 full year courses typically completed over four years of full-time study.

General Degree

Consists of 15 full year courses typically completed over three years of full-time study.

Major

The main area(s) of study in a degree.

Minor

A secondary area of study when completing a single major honours degree.

Single Major Degree

Consists of one major.

Joint Major Degree

Consists of two majors. Also known as a Double Major Degree.

Specialization

A group of courses in a particular area of study that may only be completed with a specific major.

Emphasis Program

A group of courses in a particular area of study that may be completed with any major.

Credit

The equivalent of one hour of instruction per week for a 15-week semester. It is assumed that for every credit hour, the student will spend at least an additional hour per week in homework/preparation.

Undergraduate Degree

The first degree you earn at university - i.e. Bachelor of Arts/Science.

Graduate Degree

Any degree you earn after your undergraduate degree - i.e. Masters Degree.

Professional Degree

A Graduate degree earned in a particular profession - i.e. medicine, law, education.

Concurrent Education Program

A six-year program that combines Bachelor of Arts or Science degree with Bachelor of Education degree.

Consecutive Education Program: Completing a three or four-year degree and then continuing on to the Bachelor of Education degree at the same or at another university.

FALL 2023 UNIVERSITY SEMINARS		
Thursday, September 28	Toronto Metropolitan University	1:15 pm
Monday, October 2	Ontario Tech	8:45 am
Tuesday, October 3	Carleton University	8:45 am
Thursday, October 5	Trent University	9:50 am
Friday, October 13	McMaster University	10:00 am
Thursday, October 19	Laurentian University	1:15 pm
Tuesday, October 24	Brock University	8:45 am
Wednesday, October 25	University of Windsor	1:15 pm
Tuesday, November 7	York University	8:45 am
Thursday, November 9	University of Guelph	1:15 pm
Monday, November 13	University of Guelph-Humber	8:45 am
Wednesday, November 22	Queen's University	9:50 am

IMPORTANT DATES

OCTOBER 1, 2023: The OUAC 101 Undergraduate application will be available through OUAC's website: www.ouac.on.ca The cost of applying is \$156.00 or higher if there is a supplemental program fee. Additional choices can be made at a cost of \$50.00 each. Applications must be submitted electronically to OUAC by January 15, 2024 to be given equal consideration. Check your information very carefully to ensure that it is accurate. Students may make program changes online at this time. Applicants should log in to their online application to monitor and amend their application data as required and to respond to offers of admission. Acknowledgement emails are immediately sent to applicants once the online application is successfully submitted.

You will need your **OEN** (Ontario Education Number) to complete the application. You can find this number on any of your report cards. You will add your OEN in the Education section of your application.

NOVEMBER 17, 2023: Deadline for the OUAC to receive all midterm grades for first semester course for 4U/M courses from Ontario high schools. We send the grades.

JANUARY 15, 2024: <u>DEADLINE FOR STUDENTS TO SUBMIT COMPLETED ONLINE APPLICATIONS TO OUAC</u>

However, the earlier you apply, the better, applications can be modified after submission. **Note:** Although the deadline for the online applications is January 15, 2024, problems could arise if all students wait until that date to apply.

FEBRUARY 15, 2024: Deadline for the OUAC to receive all final first semester grades and current full-year grades for 4U/M courses from Ontario high schools.

MARCH-JUNE 2024: Ongoing <u>conditional</u> offers of admission may be received. An online response instructional video is available at: https://guidance.ouac.on.ca/student-resources/how-to-videos/#respond

APRIL 25, 2024: Deadline date for receipt of 2nd semester mid-term marks to the OUAC.

MAY 29, 2024: The latest date all high school applicants can expect a response from a university. This includes: a) an offer of admission; b) a refusal; c) a deferral pending receipt of additional information.

JUNE 3, 2024: The earliest date by which Ontario universities may require a response to an offer of admission and give a financial commitment of any kind (e.g. registration deposit, residence deposit, etc.) from an Ontario secondary school student. All other admissions-related elements including scholarships, other forms of student assistance or financial incentives and offers of residence are considered part of the offer of admission. Therefore, a student may accept these other offers prior to June 1, 2023, but Ontario universities shall not compel a student in any way to make an earlier decision.

JULY 4, 2024: Deadline for the OUAC to receive all final grades for 4U/M courses from Ontario high schools.

NB. The preceding information relates only to Ontario universities. Please contact the Guidance office for information on applying to institutions outside of Ontario. *Helpful hint: All "How-to" videos for the undergraduate application can be found at https://guidance.ouac.on.ca/student-resources/how-to-videos/

UNIVERSITY INFORMATION SESSIONS

Ontario Universities' Fair (OUF) 2023: Saturday, October 21, 2023 and Sunday, October 22, 2023 (10:00 am to 5:00 pm daily) Metro Toronto Convention Centre, South Building, 222 Bremner Blvd. Register for your pass.

<u>Ontario Universities Virtual Information Session:</u> Tuesday, September 26, 2023, Wednesday, November 22, 2023

Ontario Universities' Regional Fairs (OURF): Wednesday, November 15, 2023 5:00 – 9:00 p.m. at Trent University Athletic Centre, Peterborough.

<u>Study and Go Abroad Virtual Fair 2023:</u> October 1, 2023 Metro Toronto Convention Centre (This is for students who will be graduating from high school and wish to pursue their university studies outside of Canada.). Register at studyandgoabroad.com

<u>Maclean's</u>: <u>www.macleans.ca/education-hub</u> Information on education and campus news stories. This site also has national university ranking for undergraduate and post-graduate programs.

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT APPLYING TO COMMUNITY COLLEGES (Colleges of Applied Arts & Technology)

To apply to community college, you should first:

- A) Be sure you are **eligible** and have the correct **admission requirements** including prerequisites for the program you are considering.
- B) This information is available in the individual college calendars in the Guidance office, or online at the college's websites. Program information is also available online at www.ontariocolleges.ca and you must select the "Find a Program" link. Course calendars are also available at the College Information Program at Durham College.
- C) You may apply to <u>five</u> colleges with no more than three program choices at any one college. Private institutions and colleges outside Ontario require a separate application. See the institution's website for details. There is a User Guide under the "How to Apply" tab if necessary.
- D) Complete the on-line application at: www.ontariocolleges.ca Your grades are directed automatically to the College Application Centre (OCAS) in Guelph. There is a processing fee.

TYPES OF PROGRAM DELIVERY

Certificate

Certificate programs require the completion of two semesters (or one year) of study, as approved by the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities.

Diploma (Regular/Advanced)

Regular diploma programs require the completion of at least four semesters (or two years) of study, as approved by the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities. An advanced diploma is granted after six semesters (or three years).

Post-Diploma/Post-Graduate/Post-Certificate

Building on knowledge or broad experience gained through previous post-secondary study, these programs require a college diploma/certificate or university degree for admission.

Bachelor's Degree

Four-year academic programs offer the best of both worlds - the practical, technical strengths of a college education and the theoretical foundation of a bachelor's degree.

Joint College/University (Collaborative)

Collaborative programs involve taking courses at both the college and university levels. Students may earn either one credential or two credentials (one from the college and one from the university).

Co-op

Scheduled periods of employment in related industries within the academic year give coop students an edge and help them to relate in-school training with real work experience. These placements are typically paid positions and are usually a requirement for graduation. Also offered are field placements, work terms and internships. Students are usually not paid during this type of placement.

FALL 2023 COLLEGE SEMINARS			
Monday, September 25	Fleming College	9:50 am	
Friday, October 6	St Lawrence College	8:45 am	
Thursday, October 12	Georgian College	9:50 am	
Monday, October 16	Durham College	9:50 am	
Monday, October 23	Loyalist College	1:15 pm	
Thursday, October 26	Algonquin College	9:45 am	
Monday, October 30	Seneca College	10:00 am	
Monday, November 6	Centennial College	10:00 am	
Wednesday, November 8	Humber College	8:45 am	

COLLEGE INFORMATION SESSIONS

<u>Fall 2023 Ontario College Fair</u>: Wednesday, October 18, 5:00 pm – 9:00 pm, Thursday, October 19, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm Enercare Centre – Hall B, Exhibition Place, Toronto

Ontario College Information Program at Durham College: Thursday, October 26, 2023 Oshawa Campus 10:00 am – 12:00 pm, Whitby Campus 6:00 – 8:00 pm,

5 Reasons to attend the In-school College visits:

- 1. Learn about careers available and which college programs will best prepare you for those careers.
- 2. Find out about unique programs that can only be offered at Ontario colleges.
- 3. Get more information on how and when to apply.
- 4. Hear about campus life, housing and student services.
- 5. Find out how to pay for college.

IMPORTANT DATES

OCTOBER 2023: In consultation with parents, students will select program and college choices. Access the online college application at **www.ontariocolleges.ca** Instructional video on how to apply is on this site.

The **online** application will be available through **www.ontariocolleges.ca** The cost of applying is \$125.00. **Applications must be submitted electronically to OCAS by February 1, 2024 to be given equal consideration.** Check your application **very carefully** to ensure that the information is accurate. Students may make program changes at this time.

NOVEMBER 17, 2023: First semester midterm marks transmitted by high schools.

FEBRUARY 1, 2024: <u>DEADLINE FOR STUDENTS TO SUBMIT COMPLETED ONLINE APPLICATIONS</u>. All applications received and paid for on or before this date will be given equal consideration for acceptance. **Note**: *Applicants are encouraged to apply before this date as website volumes are at their highest at this time*. Some programs

continue to accept applications after February 1st. The "Find a Program" tool will show eligible remaining programs.

FEBRUARY 16, 2024: First semester final marks and currently enrolled second semester courses are transmitted by high schools to OCAS.

FEBRUARY/APRIL 2024: Depending on the program, students will receive questionnaires or requests for interviews from the colleges concerned. Additional information required may include: portfolios, interviews, auditions and testing. Failure to complete requests usually results in the application being terminated. It is essential you adhere to all dates and return information on time.

APRIL 26, 2024: Second semester midterm marks transmitted by high schools.

MARCH – MAY 2024: Colleges are giving offers of admission in your OCAS accounts under View Offers. Candidates must respond by confirming their acceptance. Students may accept only one offer of admission. A confirmation email of acceptance will follow from OCAS. If students apply early, they **may** receive an offer, earlier than March.

MAY 1, 2024: Students must confirm acceptances of an offer of admission to their chosen program through ontariocolleges.ca by this date.

JUNE 1, 2024: Earliest date that colleges may expect payment of tuition. This will be communicated to you by the college.

JULY 5, 2024: Second semester final marks and proof of graduation transmitted by high schools.

COLLEGE ADMISSION PROCESS

Admission Requirements:

Requirements vary from program to program. Selection criteria may be based on any combination of the following:

- a review of the applicant's academic record;
- a review of any additional documentation submitted to support the application as required by the program (i.e. volunteer or work experience, including co-op);
- results of a test, an essay or questionnaire;
- a review of a portfolio;
- an interview.

Selection of Applicants:

Selections will be based on all criteria listed under individual program descriptions as entrance requirements. All applications received and paid for on or before **February 1**, **2024** will be considered equally. Early application is encouraged. Candidates are then rank ordered and the best-qualified applicants are offered seats or placed on a waiting list.

Highly Competitive Programs:

The term "Highly Competitive" denotes programs for which there are more qualified Ontario applicants than there are available seats. As a result, qualified applicants who

have submitted applications no later than <u>February 1</u> will undergo a specific selection process. Visit ontariocolleges.ca →Applying→Highly Competitive Programs for each colleges list and requirements for these programs. The admissions office reserves the right to add to or delete from their list based on applicant demand, program changes, etc.

Student Checklist

Applying to Ontario's colleges		
Explo	ore your college options.	
	Check out college publications, websites and tours.	
	Research program admission requirements.	
	Take a look at the Ontario College Guide online at www.ontariocolleges.ca	
	Get a valid email account.	
	Think of a unique username and password.	
	Know your Ontario Education Number (OEN).	
	Know your correct address and postal code.	
	Have a VISA, MasterCard or American Express number, including the expiry date, if you plan to pay online.	
	Take a look at the tutorial online at	
ontariocolleges.ca		

PROSPECTIVE APPRENTICES

If you are ambitious and interested in pursuing a career in a skilled trade, Ontario needs you.

Skilled workers - called journey persons - are in high demand in a wide variety of occupations, and the opportunities and rewards available are getting more exciting all the time. To become a journey person in a particular occupation, you require a combination of on-the-job experience and in-school training, called an apprenticeship.

A powerful means of obtaining practical experience and skills, apprentices spend about 75% to 90% of their learning time on-the-job and the remaining 10% to 25% in the classroom. Apprentices are paid for the work and become certified in their trade after completing the training requirements set by the province.

What is Apprenticeship

An apprenticeship is an agreement between a person who wants to learn a skill, and an employer who requires a skilled worker. An apprenticeship is a proven way to learn. It has a long tradition and in today's world, it's as important as it ever was. Canadian journey persons, trained through an apprenticeship, have been part of the teams that built:

- the robotic arm on the United States' space shuttle crafts;
- the Rogers Centre,
- the CN Tower

Journey persons also bake your bread, fix your cars and build your homes.

An apprenticeship takes time - anywhere from two to five years - but it is time well spent. It's an investment in your future. This investment is a partnership shared by you and the employer.

Many journey persons use their skills and experience as stepping stones toward a career in management, while others go into business for themselves.

Benefits of an Apprenticeship and a Career in a Skilled Occupation

- earn while you learn
- enjoy future job security
- learn new skills
- perform challenging and satisfying work
- start a career with the confidence that your skills will always be in demand and with the security that those skills are more in demand every year
- receive a good salary and benefits package
- advancement opportunities
- a possibility of starting your own business
- an opportunity to break out of an unfulfilling role and experience personal growth
- independence and the confidence to start a new life

www.ontario.ca/page/skilled-trades

www.ontario.ca/page/prepare-apprenticeship

www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/apprentices.html

www.apprenticesearch.com

www.caf-fca.org

www.durhamworkforceauthority.ca

Special Education Support for Post-Secondary Education

Support is available in post-secondary for students with disabilities through provincial grant funding.

The name of the office that assists students with special needs varies from school to school - usually they are called "Student Accessibility Services". To see what services are available and what documents are required, get in contact with the accessibility offices at the schools you're interested in to help you make your choice.

- <u>The Transition Resource Guide</u> is your best source of information for navigating post-secondary special education supports. On this site you will find:
 - Specific support services
 - Information on campus accessibility
 - Contact lists for every publicly funded post-secondary institution in Ontario
- Once you accept an offer, call your accessibility office right away to make an intake appointment



Scan to access Transition Resource Guide website

Sample Services:

It is important to note that you won't automatically receive the same accommodations that you did in high school. Your assessments and documentation will help guide the conversation, but each school offers different supports.

Classroom Accommodations → these will vary from school to school, but the big difference from high school is that YOU need to self-disclose and identify what accommodations help you learn in order to receive the accommodations.

Test/Exam Accommodations → these are available but often require that you submit your needs to the accessibility offices by a deadline to access them. This will mean that you need to be organized and know what is coming up.

Summer Transitions/Orientation Programs → some schools offer workshops or transition camps to support your transition to the new school. If your school does this, take advantage!

Peer mentors or learning coaches → many schools have peer tutoring or mentoring programs, or dedicated learning strategists who offer support for academics, learning skills and even the transition out of post-secondary

Use of New Technologies → Use of a personal laptop is encouraged! Access adaptive technology, such as Google Read and Write, math software and online learning platforms wherever possible. Funding for equipment necessary to participate in post-secondary education is available with appropriate documentation (see the <u>OSAP website</u> for more information about the Bursary for Students with Disabilities and the <u>Canada Student Grant</u> for Services and Equipment for Students with Permanent Disabilities)



Scan this QR Code to access OSAP website

Students with a current Individual Education Plan (IEP) will have a transition meeting in November to discuss what happens after high school. If you have any questions before that time, please contact:

Michelle McKinnon - Special Education Lead Teacher (michelle_mckinnon@kprdsb.ca) or (905) 436-2074 ext. 244

RESIDENCE AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Residence

Residence information can be requested on the online university or college application form. Many colleges/universities send a residence application with an offer of admission. Some require a separate application. Selection methods vary with each institution. Be sure to research this area. Many residences require a DEPOSIT to hold a room (\$100-\$500+). Do not miss the deadlines.

Scholarships

Students must be aware that it is their responsibility to research this area. Register with studentawards.com; scholarshipscanada.com and scholartree.ca to receive emails regarding upcoming scholarships. Also Google "scholarships in Canada" and "financial aid Ontario" throughout the year.

Several different types of scholarships exist:

- 1. Students are encouraged to explore the possibility of being eligible for a scholarship offered through a community agency or parent's employer.
- 2. All universities and colleges offer a number of scholarships based on marks. Check the institution websites and calendars for details.
- Most scholarships require a special application procedure. For these, extracurricular activities and community service are often weighted more heavily than marks.

Where to find Scholarships and Bursary Information

Awards Websites:

- www.scholarshipscanada.com
- www.studentawards.com
- www.scholartree.ca
- www.ontarioscholarships.ca
- www.canada.ca/en/services/finance/educationfunding.html
- www.fastweb.com

Hints & Tips:

- Check your employer or family member employers to see if they offer any scholarships, grants or bursaries.
- Research on the websites of your chosen schools for possible scholarships and

bursaries. These are specific to each institution.

• Check with organizations you are involved with (banks, unions, places of worship, sports clubs, girl guides, etc...)

Ontario Student Assistance Program (O.S.A.P.)

OSAP is a financial aid program that provides money, through loans and grants, to students for post-secondary education expenses. The program offers two types of funding: grants – money you don't have to pay back and loans – money that you must repay. Both the Ontario and federal government provide this money. The amount of money you can get depends on your education expenses (tuition, books, etc.) and personal financial situations (your income, family contributions, etc.). Specific information about eligibility and how to apply is on the government website. Applications are completed online at www.ontario.ca/page/osap-ontario-student-assistance-program Although you will receive confirmation during the summer stating your loan/grant, the money itself will not be made available until you register at the school. The process for picking up your loan documents will be communicated to you by your post-secondary institution.

Hint: Go to the website and try the aid estimator.

Basic Facts about applying:

- You must complete an interactive information module before you start your application. You will be quizzed. It takes approximately 15 minutes to complete.
- Each application is about a specific program at a specific school. That means if
 you are interested in two different programs (even if they are at the same school),
 you must fill out a separate application for each program. The same goes if you
 are taking the same program but at a different school. The reason? Programs and
 schools may have different study periods and costs associated with them.
- You can fill out an application before you receive notification of acceptance from the school you have applied to. However, it is advised to apply once you've received an acceptance to avoid the time required for multiple applications.

INTERNET RESOURCES FOR POST-SECONDARY & CAREER INFORMATION

APPLICATION INFORMATION: www.ouac.on.ca (university) www.ontariocolleges.ca (college)

http://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/ American Colleges & Universities

www.myblueprint.ca/Kawartha Career Research

www.jobbank.gc.ca (drop down "Career

Planning")

www.ontario.ca/page/employment-ontario **Employment Ontario**

Employment and Social Development Canada www.esdc.gc.ca

Future Further (Ontario Universities' Indigenous

www.ontariouniversitiesindigenous.ca Student Resource Portal)

Independent Learning Centre www.ilc.org (ILC) International College & University Information www.youth.gc.ca/

Job Finding Tool for Graduates www.eluta.ca

www.indeed.ca www.workopolis.com

www.edu.gov.on.ca Ministry of Education and Training sites

www.youthjobs.gov.on.ca

Online Career Centre www.monster.ca/ Ontario Student Assistance Plan (OSAP) http://osap.gov.on.ca

Ontario School Counsellor Association www.osca.ca/ (drop down "Students")

Ontario College/University Transfer Guide www.ontransfer.ca Resumes www.youth.gc.ca

www.studentawards.com Scholarship Research Sites

www.scholarshipscanada.com

www.scholartree.ca

School Finder for Canadian College & Universities www.schoolfinder.com

Information is available in the Guidance Office, including scholarships, and college/university calendars. These are updated continuously as new information is received. Students are encouraged to consult this information on a regular basis and make appointments to discuss your goals with a counsellor.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION VISIT YOUR GUIDANCE AND CAREER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT NOW!

Teacher - Counsellors

Mrs. Kirkland - tracey_kirkland@kprdsb.ca Ms. Stone - kariann stone@kprdsb.ca