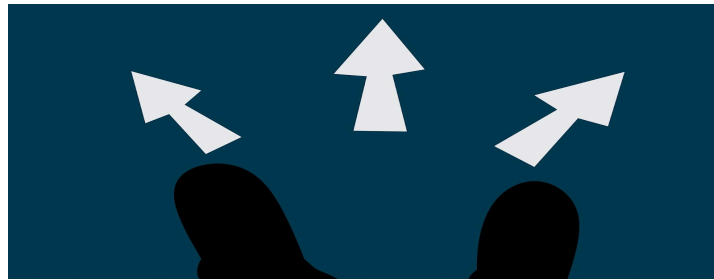


Grad Handbook 2024 – 2025



IT'S TIME TO MAKE SOME DECISIONS

What program(s) am I interested in?

- Do I have the required prerequisite courses and marks?

How much can I afford?

- For how long?

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?

Guidance is here to help.

We will be meeting individually with students to discuss possible post-secondary pathway options.

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT APPLYING TO UNIVERSITY

1. Be **eligible** = 6 grade 12 U/M courses
2. Ensure you have the correct **prerequisites** for the programs you are considering. Check online at www.ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca
3. Select **3 universities** and/or **programs** to which you will apply.
4. Complete the central application process online at www.ouac.on.ca by no later than **January 15, 2025 to be given equal consideration**. You are completing the **Group A** application.
5. **Cost = \$156**. There may be supplemental program fees. Each additional university/program choice is \$50.
6. You will need your OEN (Ontario Education Number) to complete the application (can be found on your report card)

Note: 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.

UNIVERSITY TERMS YOU SHOULD BE FAMILIAR WITH

Honours Degree: Typically completed over four years of full-time study.

General Degree: 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.

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.

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

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

UNIVERSITY INFORMATION SESSIONS

Ontario Universities' Fair (OUF) 2024: Saturday, October 5, 2024 and Sunday, October 6, 2024 (9:30 am to 5:00 pm daily) Metro Toronto Convention Centre, South Building, 222 Bremner Blvd. Register for your pass. <https://www.ouevents.ca/>

Ontario Universities Virtual Information Session: Wednesday, September 25, 2024 and Thursday, November 21, 2024 <https://www.ouevents.ca/virtual/>

Ontario Universities' Regional Fairs (OURF): Wednesday, October 16, 2024 10:00 am – 1:00 pm or 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. at Trent University Athletic Centre, Peterborough. www.ouevents.ca/regional/

Study and Go Abroad Virtual Fair 2024: October 20, 2024 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 <https://www.studyandgoabroad.com/toronto/>

FALL 2024 UNIVERSITY SEMINARS at CSS		
Sign up in Guidance		
Tuesday, October 1	Brock University	8:45 am
Wednesday, October 2	Ontario Tech University	1:15 pm
Monday, October 7	Laurentian University	8:45 am
Wednesday, October 9	University of Guelph	1:15 pm
Monday, October 28	Carleton University	1:15 pm
Wednesday, October 30	Trent University	10:00 am
Thursday, October 31	McMaster University	10:00 am
Monday, November 4	University of Ottawa	8:45 am
Tuesday, November 12	University of Guelph-Humber	8:45 am
Wednesday, November 13	Tyndale University	1:15 pm
Thursday, November 14	Lakehead University	10:00 am
Tuesday, November 19	Queen's University	10:00 am
Wednesday, November 20	Toronto Metropolitan University	8:45 am
Thursday, November 28	University of Windsor	1:15 pm

IMPORTANT DATES

*****Guidance will upload your marks to the OUAC*****

OCTOBER 1, 2024: The OUAC Undergraduate application will open. 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.

NOVEMBER 7, 2024: midterm marks for first semester to the OUAC

FEBRUARY 13, 2025: final first semester marks to the OUAC

MARCH-JUNE 2025: Ongoing conditional offers of admission may be received. How to Accept offer

Video: <https://www.ouac.on.ca/videos/how-to-videos/#respond>

APRIL 24, 2025: second semester mid-term marks to the OUAC.

MAY 29, 2025: 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 2, 2025: 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, 2025, but Ontario universities shall not compel a student in any way to make an earlier decision.

JULY 7, 2025: all final marks for 4U/M courses to the OUAC

Helpful hint: All "How-to" videos for the undergraduate application can be found at

<https://www.ouac.on.ca/videos/how-to-videos/>

PROSPECTIVE APPRENTICES

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 - learner in a workplace with a signed registered training agreement (RTA)**.

What is Apprenticeship

- An apprenticeship is an agreement between a person who wants to learn a skill and an employer/sponsor who requires a skilled worker.
- Time = approximately 2- 5 years.
- Cost = Minimal. You will earn money as you are learning. There are various grants to help cover the cost of your in-school training and tools.
- RedSeal = can work across Canada in your designated trade.
- Certificate of Qualification: confirms its holder has the skills, knowledge and experience that meet industry standards.
- An on the job training standard log book is provided by Skilled Trades Ontario. The apprentice is responsible for maintaining this log. Samples can be found at www.skilledtradesontario.ca/about-trades/trades-information/

HOURS + SKILLS + IN-SCHOOL TRAINING = Achieve Certificate of Apprenticeship & Write Certification of Qualification Exam

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT BECOMING AN APPRENTICE

1. You can apply to college to do a Pre-Apprenticeship Program. Go to www.ontariocolleges.ca to review potential programs. A pre-apprenticeship program is an introduction to the trade. You are still required to complete an apprenticeship after graduation from the college program.
2. Find an employer/sponsor: who will take you on as a first year apprentice. You need to ensure you are registered <https://www.skilledtradesontario.ca/skilled-trades-ontario-portal/>
3. Apply to various unions or organizations e.g., Plumbing & Pipe Fitting <https://www.ualocal401.ca/apprenticeship.aspx>, SOY Support Ontario Youth <https://www.supportontarioyouth.ca/>

Resources:

www.ontario.ca/page/skilled-trades

www.ontario.ca/page/prepare-apprenticeship

www.canada.ca/en/services/jobs/training/support-skilled-trades-apprentices.html

www.apprenticesearch.com

www.caf-fca.org

www.durhamworkforceauthority.ca

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT APPLYING TO COLLEGE

1. Be **eligible** = OSSD +
2. Ensure you have the correct **prerequisites** for the programs you are considering. Check online at www.ontariocolleges.ca
3. Select **5 colleges** and a maximum of **3 programs** at one college.
4. Complete the central application process online at www.ontariocolleges.ca by no later than **February 1, 2025 to be given equal consideration.**
5. **Cost = \$150.** There may be supplemental program fees.
6. You will need your OEN (Ontario Education Number) and Student Number to complete the application (found on your report card)

College Terms You Should Be Familiar With

Certificate: Certificate programs require the completion of two semesters (or one year) of study.

Diploma: Regular diploma programs require the completion of at least four semesters (or two years) of study.

Advanced Diploma: An advanced diploma is granted after six semesters (or three years) of study.

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 (require 6 4U/M courses)

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. Placements are typically paid positions and a requirement for graduation. Also offered are non-paid field placements, work terms and internships.

Highly Competitive Programs: programs for which there are more qualified Ontario applicants than there are available seats. Qualified applicants who have submitted applications no later than **February 1** will undergo a specific selection process. Visit www.ontariocolleges.ca →Applying→Highly Competitive Programs.

FALL 2024 COLLEGE SEMINARS AT CSS		
Sign up in Guidance		
Friday, October 4	Algonquin College	8:45 am
Tuesday, October 8	Georgian College	1:15 pm
Tuesday, October 15	Durham College Community Mental Health Program	1:15 pm
Thursday, October 17	St Lawrence College	10:00 am
Monday, October 21	Durham College	9:50 am
Tuesday, October 22	Northern College	10:00 am
Wednesday, October 23	Loyalist College	9:45 am
Thursday, November 7	Fleming College	10:00 am
Monday, November 18	Centennial College	10:00 am

COLLEGE INFORMATION SESSIONS

Fall 2024 Ontario College Fair: Wednesday, October 16, 2024 5:00 pm – 9:00 pm and Thursday, October 17, 2024 9:00 am – 2:00 pm Enercare Centre – Hall B, Exhibition Place, Toronto
<https://ontariocollegefair.ca/>

Ontario College Information Program at Durham College: Thursday, October 24, 2024 Oshawa Campus 10:00 am – 12:00 pm, Whitby Campus 6:00 – 8:00 pm,
<https://durhamcollege.ca/event/college-information-program-cip> Representatives from over 20 Ontario colleges: programs, admission requirements and campus life. Visitors will be able to tour both Durham College (DC) campuses.

IMPORTANT DATES

*****Guidance will upload your marks to OCAS*****

SEPTEMBER 28 2024: OCAS application will open www.ontariocolleges.ca

NOVEMBER 15, 2024: First semester midterm marks transmitted by high schools.

FEBRUARY 1, 2025: DEADLINE FOR STUDENTS TO SUBMIT COMPLETED ONLINE

APPLICATIONS. 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 14, 2025: First semester final marks and currently enrolled second semester courses are transmitted by high schools to OCAS.

FEBRUARY/APRIL 2025: 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 25, 2025: Second semester midterm marks transmitted by high schools.

MARCH – MAY 2025: 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, 2025: Students must confirm acceptance of an offer of admission to their chosen program through www.ontariocolleges.ca by this date.

JUNE 1, 2025: Earliest date that colleges may expect payment of tuition. This will be communicated to you by the college.

JULY 4, 2025: Second semester final marks and proof of graduation transmitted by high schools.

SPECIAL EDUCATION SUPPORT FOR POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

The **Transition Resource Guide** (www.transitionresourceguide.ca) is your best source of information for navigating post-secondary education supports. On this site you will find information on:

- Support services available
- Campus accessibility
- Contact lists for every publicly funded post-secondary institution in Ontario
- Required documentation
- The differences between high school and college/university

Once you accept an offer, contact the accessibility services office at the school right away to set up an intake appointment.

It's important to note that you won't automatically receive the same accommodations that you did in high school. The accessibility advisors will review your documentation and determine which accommodations you need.

Types of accommodations may include:

- Extra time on exams, no more than one exam per day, access to a computer, note-taker in class, sign language interpreter and alternative format materials (e.g., Braille)

Summer Transition/Orientation Programs

- Some schools offer workshops or transition camps to support your transition to the new school. If your school has these programs, take advantage of them!

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.

Technology

- Use of a personal laptop is encouraged. Access adaptive technology such as Google Read and Write wherever possible.
- Funding for equipment necessary to participate in post-secondary education is available with appropriate documentation. Please visit the **OSAP** website for more information about the *Bursary for Students with Disabilities* and the *Canada Student Grant for Services and Equipment for Students with Permanent Disabilities*.

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

Special Education Lead Teacher - Caitlyn Marion
caitlyn_marion@kprdsb.ca or 905-436-2074 ext. 236

RESIDENCE AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Residence

- Many colleges/universities send a residence application with an offer of admission.
- Some require a separate application with varying application dates and fee deposits (\$300-\$500).
- Selection methods vary with each institution. Be sure to research this area. Don't miss deadlines.

Scholarships

Students must be aware that it is their responsibility to research this area. Several different types of scholarships exist:

1. Students are encouraged to explore the possibility of being eligible for a scholarship offered through a parent's employer or a community agency (banks, unions, places of worships, sports clubs, girl guides, etc...)
2. All universities and colleges offer a number of admission scholarships based on marks. Check the institution websites and calendars for details.
3. Most scholarships require a special application procedure. For these, extra-curricular activities and community service are often weighted more heavily than marks.

Where to find Scholarship and Bursary Information

Awards Websites

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

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

OSAP is a financial aid program that provides money to students for post-secondary education expenses.

- 2 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 receive depends on your education expenses (tuition, books, etc.) and personal financial situation (your income, parental income and income tax information).
- Applications: www.ontario.ca/page/osap-ontario-student-assistance-program (will open in the Spring of 2025 once you have accepted an offer of admission)
- Once you begin school, your confirmation of enrollment will be processed by the financial aid office and this will prompt the release of your funding.
- Go to the website and try the aid estimator.
- There will be an OSAP information presentation in Spring of Semester 2.

SECONDARY EDUCATION COSTS

ESTIMATED 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

Estimated Education Expenses (1st year - living away from home)

	College	University
Tuition (program and ancillary fees)	\$ 4500.00	\$11500.00
Books and Supplies	\$1500.00	\$1500.00
Transportation	\$500.00	\$500.00
Accommodation (residence)	\$8500.00	\$8500.00
Food	\$7500.00	\$7500.00
Personal Expenses	<u>\$3000.00</u>	<u>\$3000.00</u>
	\$25 500.00	\$32 500.00

HOW CAN COSTS BE MET?

1. PARENTS/RELATIVES
2. STUDENT INCOME (part-time, summer, co-op programs)
3. SCHOLARSHIPS & BURSARIES
4. OSAP - ONTARIO STUDENT ASSISTANT PROGRAM
5. STUDENT LOANS/LINE OF CREDIT

Guidance Counsellors will be meeting with each grade 12 student to review post-secondary planning

Mrs. Stone – kariann_stone@kprdsb.ca
Mrs. McKinnon – michelle_mckinnon@kprdsb.ca

