

Post-Secondary Presentation



For our Grade 12 students, 2024-25

Today we'll cover...

1. choosing/confirming your pathway
2. applying for college
3. applying for university
4. funding your education

Pathways

college: diploma, certificate, degree programs, co-op

university: general/Honours degree, concurrent degrees, co-op;
grad degrees (Master's, PhD, etc.)

apprenticeship: on-the-job training, many trades

workplace: full or part-time work

gap year: travel, volunteer, job shadow, upgrade, complete
Dual Credits, make \$, “Discover Year”

How do I know which pathway is best for me?

- September/October - Time to reflect, research and plan
- speak with trusted advisors (parents/guardians, teachers, etc.)
- consider the cost (tuition, housing, etc.)
- consider your resources (savings, scholarships, bursaries)

How do I know which pathway is best for me? (cont'd)

- consider your strengths and challenges; compare these to the various programs and opportunities available
- review program prereqs and admission avgs
- make sure you're on track to graduate
- review your *Graduation Summary* with your guidance counsellor

Graduation Requirements

- 30 credits (18 compulsory, 12 elective)
- 40 hours of community/volunteer hours

Check West's website for ideas:

https://westcarletonss.ocdsb.ca/student_services/community_service

- literacy requirement (OSSL test or course)
- *Online Learning Graduation Requirement* - complete two online credits during high school, OR, you can opt-out with parent permission and by completing this form ASAP:
<https://forms.ocdsb.ca/Forms/OCDSB-992-Online-Learning-Graduation-Requirement-Opt-out>

How do I research programs?

Ontario Colleges website:

www.ontariocolleges.ca

Ontario Universities website:

http://www.ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca/programs/search?advanced=1&a_category=education

*These sites are **excellent** tools for researching hundreds of programs, prereqs, admission averages, and so on. Spend time here (if you haven't already)!*

More research options...

- WCSS website: the *Student Services* drop-down menu has all kinds of helpful info and links
- college & uni websites and their social networking sites
- program booklets (red bins in Guidance)
- virtual tours, open houses and info sessions
- talk to parents/guardians, teachers, Co-op supervisors, family members
- reach out to people in the field
- for apprenticeships, work with your Co-op teacher, employer and *know the process*: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/apprenticeship-ontario>

University Fairs

Ontario Universities' Fair (OUF), October 5 - 6 2024

The [Ontario Universities' Fair](#) is an in-person, fair-style event at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. Visit booths from Ontario universities, gather information and chat with representatives one-on-one.

Ontario Universities' Virtual Information Sessions

Wed. September 25 & Thurs. November 21 (5-7pm)

See link: [Information Sessions](#). Learn about your universities of choice and have opportunities to ask questions.

University Fairs (cont'd)

Ontario Universities' Regional Fairs

The Regional Fairs travel across Ontario offering you the opportunity to gather information about Ontario Universities including programs and campus life. These are important events to help you make important decisions for your future.

Ottawa and Eastern Regions Fairs: Sept 23- 26

For more info and to register, see this link below:

<https://www.ontariouniversitiesevents.ca/regional/#ottawa-east>

Connect with the colleges

The Ontario College Fair (click here: [OCF](#)) is being held at the Enercare Centre in Toronto on October 16 (5 - 9 pm), and October 17 (9am - 2pm).

If you can't make it to the fair, do some self-directed research here:

<https://www.ontariocolleges.ca/en/colleges/college-recruitment>

Click on the college logos to learn more about upcoming virtual open houses, information and program sessions, tours, and more

Research... Why?

Look for programs and schools that will meet your learning needs.

- ****IEPs are NOT automatically shared. You must share your learning needs and supporting info!****
- become familiar with the learning centres/supports at your desired institution (e.g. Paul Menton Centre at Carleton, CAL at Algonquin, etc.)
- *Enriched Support Program* (ESP/AESP) at Carleton
- articulation agreements between colleges and universities
- college to university pathways

Course Withdrawal Dates

Also known as *full disclosure/drop dates*, these dates are:

- Semester 1 - November 22, 2024
- Semester 2 - May 5, 2025

If you withdraw from a Grade 11 or 12 course after these “drop dates” the course will still be recorded on your Ontario Student Transcript (OST).

The Application Process

Focus: College

College: Important Date!

Apply to Ontario colleges by **February 1, 2025** because this is the “**equal consideration date**”. You are strongly encouraged to apply well before this date.

<https://www.ontariocolleges.ca/en/apply-now>

You can apply to college from you phone (?!):

<https://www.ontariocolleges.ca/en/apply/mobile>

Note: For out-of-province colleges check with the school, and then follow-up with Guidance.

(Transcripts often need to be ordered by you, and sent by us, to the school.)

General Admissions Requirements for College

Diploma/Certificate programs require:

- OSSD + ENG4C

Other requirements may include:

- specific courses
- a supplemental application or test (e.g., portfolio, audition, entrance exam, police check, HPAT (Health Program Admissions Test))

General Admissions Requirements for College (cont'd)

Degree programs at college require:

- OSSD + six (6) courses at the 4U/4M level + any other required courses (used to calculate average)

A supplemental application/form may be required (e.g., portfolio, audition, interview, personal statement of experience).

What do I need to apply to college?

1. An account that you set up at www.ontariocolleges.ca
2. A valid email address (not your school one, and one that you check regularly)
3. \$150 fee - allows you to apply to five college programs, but no more than three programs at one college (several ways to pay)
4. Your OEN# (used to access your report card)
5. Here's a handy how-to video: <https://ontariocolleges.ca/en/apply>

College - Key Dates

- **November 1, 2024** - earliest date that colleges may begin to send offers of admission
- **February 1, 2025** - deadline for equal consideration
- **May 1, 2025** - deadline for confirming/accepting offers of admission (unless offer is made after May 1)
- **June 2025** - the college will require tuition fees, deposits

College Application - Tips

- Once you've set up your account, record your **application #** and **password** in a safe place!
- If you're applying to a "highly competitive program", apply well before February 1 and:
 - verify the additional requirements, and ensure you complete them (e.g., a test, minimum grade, interview)
 - apply to a backup program (e.g., Pre-Health Sciences if applying to Nursing, etc.) just in case

More info on Highly Competitive Programs here:

<https://www.ontariocolleges.ca/en/apply/highly-competitive-programs>

You can apply to college beginning Tuesday, October 1...

- Don't leave this important process to the last minute!
- See your counsellor if you have questions. We are here to assist you with this important responsibility that you have for your future.

The Application Process

Focus: University

University: Important Date!

Apply to Ontario universities by **January 15, 2025**. This is an OUAC deadline.

Note: For out-of-province universities check with the school directly. (Deadlines may be different, and transcripts often need to be ordered by you, and sent by, us to the school.)

General Admissions Requirements for University

- OSSD + **six (6)** courses at the **4U/4M** level + any other required courses (will be used to calculate average)
 - Check each university and program (e.g. some unis/programs require 3 or 4 courses at the 4U level)
- A supplemental application/form may be required (e.g. portfolio, audition, interview, personal statement of experience)

What do I need to apply to university?

1. An Ontario Universities' Application Centre (OUAC) account. Go to <https://www.ouac.on.ca/> to set up your account in four easy steps (quick [how-to video](#))
2. As a high school applicant, you'll choose the "undergraduate application";
3. Once your account is set-up, "My Undergraduate Hub" has everything you need to apply, pay fees, etc. Check out this [video](#).
4. There are five main steps to apply. Take your time and read through each step with care. You'll need **your OEN #** (not to be confused with your student number) and you'll need to pay application fees (\$156 base fee covers three program choices; each additional choices is \$50; other fees may apply: <https://www.ouac.on.ca/guide/undergrad-fees/>)

Note: For those with older siblings/family who have applied to uni, PIN numbers and application types (101 vs 105) are now obsolete.

A note about changes/charges...

- There is no fee for replacing a program choice with another program choice at the same university.
- If you amend your application to withdraw a program choice at 1 university and add a program choice at a different university, you will be charged \$50 for the new program choice.
- You may apply to as many Ontario universities as you wish; however, you are limited to a maximum of 3 program choices at any 1 university (including its affiliates). Some universities may further limit the number of programs you can apply to.

Uni applicants, remember...

... you'll receive an **OUAC Reference Number** once you've applied online. Record it and keep it in a safe place. You'll need this number + your password to:

- access your application
- respond to university offers of admission
- Tip: If you send correspondence to the uni, put this number on it so the document makes it to your file.

University - Key Dates

May 29, 2025 - the latest date by which you can expect a response (offer of admission, refusal) from an Ontario university. A few comments about offers:

- offers are **conditional** - be sure to read and understand these conditions
- first round of offers occur in December/January, but
- **most offers are made in the Spring**

June 2, 2025 - the earliest date you may be required to respond to an Ontario university offer of admission and give a financial commitment (e.g., registration deposit, residence deposit, etc.).

Summer School

Check with the uni/college Admissions first about taking a Summer School course.

Students who take a **Summer School course** and have been given a conditional offer of admission **MUST** submit directly to the university:

- (1) proof of registration in the Summer School course, and
- (2) the final mark in August, prior to the university's deadline.

After applying...

- Check that your **education history** (courses and marks) in OCAS/OUAC is accurate!
- Check your OCAS/OUAC account regularly
- See Guidance if you:
 - think there are discrepancies w/ your education history
 - need to add courses (e.g., languages, private online courses)
- Check your spam/junk folder for college/uni emails
- **Read emails, conditional offers, etc. with care**
- Accept offers and pay tuition by the deadlines indicated

Grades Collections

October/ November	November	February	April	July
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Prior-year final grades● All currently registered and projected courses for entire school year	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● All mid-term grades/ final grades available for 4U/4M courses	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● All final grades available for 4U/4M courses● Any current full-year grades (ie language)● Projected courses	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● All mid-term/ final grades available for 4U/4M courses	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● All final grades for 4U/4M courses and full-year courses

Post Secondary in the USA

- Check out [Education USA Canada](#)
 - Specifically reach out to [Jenika Heim](#)
- Visit the admissions site of the school that you want to apply to and find out how they want you to apply (apply directly or use a service like the [common app](#))
- Find out if you need to do any standardized tests ([SAT](#), [ACT](#))
- Are you looking to play sports in the NCAA?
 - make sure you are [eligible](#)
 - [NCAA Eligibility Center](#)



Funding Your Education

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How much will it all cost?

- Average annual cost of college:
 - tuition \$2400 (avg.) plus ancillary fees + books and supplies + living expenses + meals + incidentals
 - <https://www.ontariocolleges.ca/en/colleges/paying-for-college>
- Average annual cost of university:
 - tuition \$9000 (avg.) plus ancillary fees + books and supplies + living expenses + meals + incidentals
 - <https://www.ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca/tuition-and-fees>

*****These are estimates. Costs will vary depending on program, location, etc.***

Sources of Funding

- Personal savings (family, your own, RESPs)
- Bursaries - based on need, per institution
- Work-study programs, paid co-op
 - Some programs start in 1st year, most require application after 1st term
- Bank loans (eg student line of credit)
- Summer jobs
- This May, apply to West's commencement awards, some have award \$\$
- Scholarships... (next slide)

Scholarships

- entrance scholarships
 - based on marks (80%+ may be eligible) and come with offers of admission; see your desired schools' websites for details
- by application
 - uni/college-based: check your desired schools for the scholarships that they offer; check early!
 - external (eg businesses, banks, organizations, etc.) - we post many scholarships on our Student Services website
 - check out *The Scholarship Report* (our website, Xello, GClassroom)
- consider joining: www.scholartree.ca, www.scholarshipscanada.com, etc.

Sources of Funding - OSAP

OSAP = Ontario Student Assistance Program

- a combo of loans and grants
- you can take the grant portion only
- Go to www.ontario.ca/OSAP early for helpful planning tools
- Read about and apply for OSAP early so your application is processed prior to tuition deadlines

