

# Planning for your Secondary School Education

*Choose a destination and remember it may change*

*Gather information before you take your first step*

*Complete your Individual Pathway Planner (IPP) each year.*

*In Grade 10 you will do so in your Career Studies class.*

## Mapping Your Course Choices

You'll need to decide what is right for you based on your success in Grade 9:

Locally Developed Compulsory Credits (LD)

Applied

Academic

Open

### **Applied (Grades 9 and 10)**

Students develop knowledge and skills through theory and practical applications

Students study core concepts and study familiar and *real-life situations* to demonstrate ideas

Students study practical and concrete applications of concepts

### **Academic (Grades 9 and 10)**

Students develop knowledge and skills through theory and practical applications

Students study core concepts and focus on *theory and abstract thinking* as the basis for future learning and problem solving

### **Open**

Prepares students for further study in a subject and will enrich their education

Provides students with a broad educational base to prepare them for studies in grades 11 and 12

Comprises a set of expectations that are appropriate for all students

## PATHWAYS

1. Apprenticeship
2. College
3. University
4. World of Work
5. Community Living

### **Apprenticeship and Skilled Trades Destinations**

Students who choose an apprenticeship destination in a skilled trade will require an OSSD. Apprenticeship is a hands-on training program for people who want to work in skilled trades or occupations. About 90 per cent of an apprenticeship involves on-the-job training by skilled trade's persons and about 10 per cent of an apprenticeship involves theoretical training at a community college.

The Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities (MTCU) oversees certification of 140 skilled trades in Ontario in cooperation with skilled trades associations.

Most apprenticeships take between two to five years to complete, depending on the trade.

**OYAP offers** students who have completed grade 10 an opportunity to become registered apprentices while finishing high school. Eligible students should contact their school's coop dept.

### **Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP)**

OYAP promotes the skilled trades as a path to fulfilling employment.

Ideal for practical, hands-on learners

One-on-one learning with a skilled tradesperson

Diverse, challenging, and rewarding opportunities for both males and females

A risk-free chance to explore a career

Community college theory courses are subsidized by the Ministry of Training (MTCU)

It's possible for the student to gain summer employment in a skilled trade which reflects the student's career opportunities, obtain a job with excellent wages, or become an entrepreneur.

## **COLLEGE**

You generally study for 2-3 years and concentrate on learning a skill set for a career. You will likely graduate with a diploma, certificate, or applied degree. You must be aware of all admission requirements both academic and non-academic before applying. Many colleges and universities have partnership programs that allow you to transfer.

For more information visit: [www.ontariocolleges.ca](http://www.ontariocolleges.ca)

## **UNIVERSITY**

You generally study for four years and concentrate on a subject area. After your studies you will have a Bachelor's degree. You can continue to study at university and earn a Master's Degree or PhD (Doctorate) or attend college for a more hands on education. You must know your required and recommended requirements before applying. For more information visit:

[www.electronicinfo.ca](http://www.electronicinfo.ca)

## **WORLD OF WORK**

You choose to go directly into the workplace upon graduation. You learn essential skills. Some programs available to you are: Take Your Kids to Work day, co-operative education classes, gr 10 Career Studies course and other guidance courses. For more information visit:

[www.jobgym.com](http://www.jobgym.com) and [www.youth.gc.ca](http://www.youth.gc.ca)

## **COMMUNITY LIVING**

The specialized school to community program will assist students, families, employers and community agencies in developing a plan for each individual to move forward. They work towards goals set out in their IEP (Individual Education Plan.)

## **TIPS ON CHOOSING THE RIGHT COLLEGE AND/OR UNIVERSITY**

Once you decide which program to take, the next step is to determine which school to apply to. Some factors to consider in your choices are:

Size

Location  
Program Availability  
Academic Requirements & Preparation  
Residence/Meal Plans  
Cost  
Visit potential schools

Try to identify 3-5 schools and visit each campus. Attend OPEN HOUSES throughout the school year. Attend College and University Fairs and attend liaison visits at LCHS

## **Useful Terminology You Should Know**

### **Individual Pathway Planner (IPP):**

An IPP is a plan that all students in grades 7 to 12 must develop every year to identify their academic and career goals.

### **Cooperative Education:**

Cooperative Education or co-op is a work education program where students receive credits while promoting skill and career development.

### **Course Code:**

All secondary school courses are indicated by a course code found in the course calendar. For example, grade 9 English is ENG1L (Locally Developed Compulsory Credit), ENG1P (Applied), or ENG1D (Academic).

### **Credit:**

A credit is what you earn after successfully completing a course. A one-credit course is scheduled for a minimum of 110 hours; some courses may be scheduled for 220 hours.

### **Community Involvement:**

Students must complete 40 hours for graduation purposes as part of their OSSD. Grade 8 students can complete hours in the summer prior to entering Grade 9. Christian Community hours are also required as a part of each religion class.

### **Ontario Student Record (OSR):**

Your OSR is the official record of your school career. It contains registration forms, report cards, test results, and your secondary school transcripts.

### **Ontario Student Transcript:**

This is an official record of all the courses you successfully completed. It serves as an official record of the successful completion of the literacy requirement and community involvement hours for graduation.

### **OSSLT (Ontario Secondary School literacy Test)**

The literacy test is written in Grade 10 and is a graduation requirement for the OSSD. Students who are unsuccessful can complete the OLC40 course.

### **Prerequisite:**

A prerequisite course is a course that you must pass before moving on to the next level.

### **School Handbook/Agenda:**

Each year you will receive a copy of the school agenda or have a copy available electronically. The agenda outlines school policies and the calendar of school events. Your agenda should be used as a planning tool.

### **Timetable:**

Every student will receive a timetable, which will indicate the courses you take, what time each class takes place, and the room number.

## **HOW TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS?**

1. Attendance – consistent and regular, arrive to class on time
2. Homework- daily completion and receiving help when needed; 30-90 minutes per night is not uncommon for gr 9 and 10 students
3. Time Management & Organization- take accurate notes, keep notes organized by subject area, use the calendar or agenda for reminders of due dates
4. Attend P3 if necessary- this is an after school Homework Club located in the INFO Center on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays

## **SUPPORTS IN PLACE**

1. Guidance
2. Student SUCCESS Teacher
3. Educational Resource Teacher
4. Credit Recovery Assistant
5. Child & Youth Counsellor
6. Information Center- Library Technician
7. Public Health Nurse (on Wednesdays)

## **Useful Web Sites**

Apprentice Search: [www.apprenticesearch.com](http://www.apprenticesearch.com)

Ministry of Education: [www.edu.gov.on.ca/](http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/)

Ontario Skills Passport: <http://skills.edu.gov.on.ca>

Ontario Tourism Education Corporation: <http://otec.org>

Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program:

[www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/training/apprenticeship/skills/oyap.html](http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/training/apprenticeship/skills/oyap.html)

Passport to Safety: [www.passporttosafety.com](http://www.passporttosafety.com)

SkillPlan: [www.skillplan.ca](http://www.skillplan.ca)

Skills Connect: [www.edu.gov.on.ca/skills.html](http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/skills.html)

Student Counsellor: [www.studentcounsellor.com](http://www.studentcounsellor.com)