



# COURSE SELECTION GUIDE 2021-22



Thames Valley District School Board

[www.tvdsb.ca/guidance](http://www.tvdsb.ca/guidance)



Available for students **Grades 7-12**

Login: **myblueprint.ca/tvdsb**

**Know yourself. Know your options.**

For details visit: **tvdsb.ca/myblueprint**



## Pathway Guide *Making sense of course codes*

# ENG 1D1

Every subject is identified by a common course code designated by the Ministry of Education. The code consists of 5 mandated characters and a 6th character for school use.

e.g. **ENG1D1** is Grade 9 Academic English

The first three characters identify the subject. The first letter identifies the department:

- |                                    |                                   |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>A:</b> Arts                     | <b>H:</b> Humanities & Social     |
| <b>B:</b> Business                 | <b>L:</b> International Languages |
| <b>C:</b> Canadian & World Studies | <b>M:</b> Mathematics             |
| <b>E:</b> English                  | <b>P:</b> Physical Education      |
| <b>F:</b> French                   | <b>S:</b> Science                 |
| <b>G:</b> Guidance                 | <b>T:</b> Technology              |

The fourth character identifies:

- 1: Grade 9
- 2: Grade 10
- 3: Grade 11
- 4: Grade 12

The fifth character identifies types of courses:

- C:** College
- D:** Academic
- E:** Workplace
- L:** Locally Developed
- M:** University/College
- O:** Open
- P:** Applied
- U:** University

The sixth character is school-specific.

- Used to distinguish course characteristics and specialized programs. e.g.
- 1:** Regular Course/1 Credit
  - D:** Double Cooperative Education
  - M:** Male
  - F:** Female

## TYPES OF COURSES *You may choose a variety of course types, based on your interests, strengths and goals.*

### Grades 9 and 10

**ACADEMIC COURSES (D)**  
Focus on the essential concepts of the discipline and explore related concepts.

- Develop students' knowledge and skills by emphasizing theoretical, abstract applications of the essential concepts and incorporating practical applications

**APPLIED COURSES (P)**  
Focus on the essential concepts of the discipline

- Develop students' knowledge and skills by emphasizing practical, concrete applications of the concepts and incorporating theoretical applications

**LOCALLY DEVELOPED COMPULSORY CREDIT COURSES (L)**  
Focus on the essentials

- Use relevant and practical activities that provide opportunities for students to develop their literacy, numeracy, problem-solving, decision-making and communication skills
- Prepare students for future studies in Grade 11 and 12 workplace preparation courses

**OPEN (O) GRADES 9 to 12**  
Offered in all subjects other than those offered listed as academic, applied or locally developed compulsory.

- Are designed to equip students with the knowledge and skills needed to meet entrance requirements for university programs
- Emphasize theoretical aspects of the course content, but also include concrete applications

### Grades 11 and 12

*In Grades 11 and 12, courses offered to prepare students for post-secondary destinations include:*

**UNIVERSITY PREPARATION (U)**  
Developed with universities.

- Are designed to equip students with the knowledge and skills needed to meet entrance requirements for university programs
- Emphasize theoretical aspects of the course content, but also include concrete applications

**UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE PREPARATION (M)**  
Developed with both colleges and universities.

- Are designed to equip students with the knowledge and skills needed to meet the entrance requirements for specific university and college programs
- Emphasize both theoretical aspects and related concrete applications of the course content

**COLLEGE PREPARATION (C)**  
Developed with colleges to emphasize the development of critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

- Are designed to equip students with the knowledge and skills needed to meet entrance requirements for college and apprenticeship programs
- Emphasize concrete applications of the theoretical material covered in the course

**WORKPLACE PREPARATION (E)**  
Developed with representatives from a variety of workplaces.

- Are designed to equip students with the knowledge and skills needed for direct entry into the workplace or for admission to apprenticeship programs and other training programs offered in the community
- Allow students to prepare for a variety of jobs, and training programs

**OPEN (O) Grades 9 to 12**

*\*Ask your Guidance Counsellor about potential options.*



# What do you need to graduate?

## Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD)

**30 CREDITS** in TOTAL  
18 Compulsory + 12 Elective

### 12 Elective Credits

Elective credits may be earned in all subjects, including those named in the compulsory credit list, provided that such electives are additional to the compulsory credits. The elective credits allow for concentration in a curriculum area of special interest.

**40 HOURS** of COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

### 40 Hours Community Involvement

Forty hours of Community Involvement is a requirement for graduation. Community Involvement is a set of self-directed activities in the community for which a student is not paid and that do not replace a paid worker. A pamphlet entitled "*Information on Community Involvement for Students and Parents*" is available from the guidance office which will provide all the details concerning the Community Involvement requirement. Students may begin accumulating hours in the summer before Grade 9.

**COMPLETION** of the LITERACY REQUIREMENT

### Graduation Literacy Requirement

In Grade 10, all students must take the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) which will be administered through the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO). Unsuccessful candidates will be given the opportunity to rewrite the test the following school year. There are EQAO permitted accommodations for students with an IEP. Students not working towards an OSSD may be exempted from writing the test.

Students who have been eligible to write the OSSLT and have been unsuccessful at least once may take the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course (OLC40). Students who successfully complete this course will have met the graduation literacy requirement.

## 18 Compulsory Credits

To earn a **OSSD** students must earn the **15** credits listed below, plus an additional **3** credits

4	credits in English* (1 per grade)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	credits in mathematics (1 Senior)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2	credits in science	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
1	credit in Canadian history	<input type="checkbox"/>			
1	credit in Canadian geography	<input type="checkbox"/>			
1	credit in the arts	<input type="checkbox"/>			
1	credit in health and physical education	<input type="checkbox"/>			
1	credit in French as a second language	<input type="checkbox"/>			
0.5	credit in career studies	<input type="checkbox"/>			
0.5	credit in civics	<input type="checkbox"/>			

Plus an additional **3 credits** (1 from each of the following groups):

1	<b>Group 1</b> - an additional credit in English, or French as a second language, or a Native language, or a classical or an international language, or social sciences and the humanities, or Canadian and world studies, or First Nations, Métis and Inuit Studies, or guidance and career education, or cooperative education**	<input type="checkbox"/>
1	<b>Group 2</b> - an additional credit in health and physical education, or the arts, or business studies, or French as a second language, or cooperative education**	<input type="checkbox"/>
1	<b>Group 3</b> - an additional credit in science (Senior), or technological education, or French as a second language, or Native languages, computer studies, or cooperative education**	<input type="checkbox"/>

In addition to the 18 compulsory credits, students must complete:

12	elective credits***	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
40	hours of community involvement activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ontario Literacy Requirement (OSSLT or OSSLC)		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

\* A maximum of 3 credits in English as a second language (ESL) or English literacy development (ELD) may be counted towards the 4 compulsory credits in English, but the fourth must be a credit earned for a Grade 12 compulsory English course.

\*\* A maximum of 2 credits in cooperative education can count as compulsory credits.

\*\*\* May include up to four credits achieved through approved Dual Credit courses.

### Certificate of Accomplishment

Students who leave school before fulfilling the requirements for the Ontario Secondary School Diploma or the Ontario Secondary School Certificate may be granted a Certificate of Accomplishment. This certificate may be a useful means of recognizing achievement for students who plan to take certain vocational programs or other kinds of further training, or who plan to find employment after leaving secondary school.

### Ontario Secondary School Certificate (OSSC)

On request, students will be granted the OSSC when they leave school before earning the OSSD, provided that they have earned a minimum of 14 credits.

#### 7 Compulsory Credits:

2 English, 1 Canadian geography or Canadian history, 1 mathematics, 1 health and physical education, 1 science, 1 arts or technological education

#### 7 Elective Credits:

Selected by the student from available courses

*Don't forget*

You are responsible! Choose your courses with your aspirations in mind. Don't know yet?

Check it out at...

[tvdsb.ca/guidance](http://tvdsb.ca/guidance)

In the know... **PATHWAY**  
Steps for All

YOUR **EDUCATION** OFFERS MULTIPLE **PATHWAYS** TO MANY DIFFERENT DESTINATIONS.  
FIND THE ONE THAT IS RIGHT FOR YOU, AND **FOCUS** ON THE JOURNEY.

## HIGH SCHOOL AND BEYOND: APPRENTICESHIP, COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY AND THE WORLD OF WORK

GRADE **9 & 10**  
COURSES OF STUDY

GRADE **11 & 12**  
COURSES OF STUDY

**POST-  
SECONDARY**  
DESTINATIONS

**LOCALLY  
DEVELOPED**

WORKPLACE

APPRENTICESHIP  
COLLEGE\*  
WORLD OF WORK

**APPLIED**

COLLEGE

APPRENTICESHIP  
COLLEGE  
WORLD OF WORK

**ACADEMIC**

COLLEGE  
UNIVERSITY

APPRENTICESHIP  
COLLEGE  
UNIVERSITY  
WORLD OF WORK

The Ontario Ministry of Education's **Creating Pathways to Success** document grounds our belief that: all students can be successful, success comes in many forms and there are many pathways to success.

*\*Ask your Guidance Counsellor about potential options.*



## myBlueprint Education Planner

is an online tool available to all TVDSB students (Grades 7-12), teachers and parent/guardian to: investigate and research educational options for all pathways (apprenticeship, work, college and university), discover learning styles, explore career interest surveys, plan secondary school courses, set short-term and long-term goals, build resumes and much more. For more information visit [www.myblueprint.ca/tvdsb](http://www.myblueprint.ca/tvdsb).

## French Immersion

Students are taught French as a subject, and French serves as the language of instruction in two or more other subjects. At the secondary level, there are academic and applied courses in French Immersion in Grades 9 and 10, and university preparation and open courses in Grades 11 and 12. In the French Immersion program, students accumulate ten credits in French: four are for FSL courses; six are for other subjects in which French is the language of instruction. Schools may grant a certificate in French Immersion if the student fulfills these requirements.

Generally, the program a student selects at the secondary school level is determined by the total number of hours of French instruction accumulated by the end of Grade 8 (a minimum of 600 for Core French, a minimum of 1260 for Extended French, and a minimum of 3800 for French Immersion).

One FSL credit (110 hours) from any of the three programs is compulsory for secondary school graduation.

For subjects other than FSL that are taught in French in an Extended French or French Immersion program, the expectations in each course are those outlined in the English-language curriculum policy documents. It is recognized that expectations in these subjects may need to be adapted to meet the needs of students who are studying the subjects in French instead of in English. (Excerpt from: *The Ontario Curriculum, Grades 9 to 12: French as a Second Language -- Core, Extended, and Immersion, 2014.*)

## Special Education

Our primary goal is to meet students' needs in their own classrooms in their home school. Occasionally, some students need the support of specialized programs and services which are offered

at another location. Information for parents, such as the Parent's Guide to the Identification Placement and Review Process and the Individual Education Plan can be obtained at the school, or by calling the Special Education Department or at [www.tvdsb.ca](http://www.tvdsb.ca)

## Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)

By regulation, each school board has a Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC), whose mandate it is to provide advice and recommendations on all issues related to Special Education. The list of members and the agencies they represent can be found on [www.tvdsb.ca](http://www.tvdsb.ca)

## Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)

Students enrolled in Ontario secondary schools may have their skills and knowledge outside the classroom evaluated against provincial curriculum policy documents in order to earn credits towards the secondary school diploma. PLAR procedures are carried out by the system and the school under the direction of the school principal.

## eLearning

Students have the option to obtain a variety of credits online through the Virtual Academy. For more information, visit [www.tvdsb.ca/elearning](http://www.tvdsb.ca/elearning)

## Ontario Student Record (OSR)

Each student's record (OSR) is kept at the student's home school and follows the student when that student changes schools. The OSR contains the Ontario Student Transcript (OST) and other notes, assessment, evaluations and records made while the student attends elementary and secondary school. The OSR is available for adult students, parent/guardian of minor students, teaching staff and administration.

## Full Disclosure

If a student withdraws from a Grade 11 or 12 course after 5 instructional days following the issue of the first provincial report card (mid-term), the withdrawal and percentage grade must be recorded on the OST.

## Course Outline

Course outlines are provided to students during the first week of classes. Copies of course outlines are available through the main office at each school.

...stay informed

## Curriculum Policy Documents

All curriculum policy documents are available at the Ontario Ministry of Education website [www.edu.gov.on.ca](http://www.edu.gov.on.ca) or through the school principal.

## Prerequisite/Corequisite

A prerequisite is a course that students must complete prior to attempting a course of the next year level. A corequisite is a course that must be taken at the same time as another course.

## Substitution of Compulsory Credits

In unique circumstances, the principal of a school may replace up to three of the compulsory credit requirements in order to meet an individual student's need.

## English as a Second Language (ESL) and English Literacy Development (ELD)

These programs meet the needs of English language learners (ELLs) whose first language is not English, or is a form of English significantly different from the English taught in Ontario schools. For more information, follow the link under Program at [www.tvdsb.ca](http://www.tvdsb.ca)



# Experiential learning...



## SPECIALIST HIGH SKILLS MAJOR PROGRAM (SHSM)

The **SHSM** is a ministry-approved specialized program that allows students to focus their learning on a specific sector while meeting the requirements for the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD). The SHSM enables students to customize their secondary school experience to suit their interests and talents, and prepare for a successful post-secondary transition to apprenticeship, college, university or the workforce, while meeting the requirements of the Ontario Secondary School Diploma.

### Why Pursue A Specialist High Skills Major?

Through the **SHSM**, Ontario secondary school students are given more opportunities to earn industry recognized certifications, participate in reach ahead activities and cooperative education to match their individual goals and interests. Students are recognized as having achieved a SHSM in a specific area with a RED seal on their OSSD and a special transcript listing certifications and skills to which they have been exposed.

Go to [TVDSB.ca/SHSM](http://TVDSB.ca/SHSM) to see which schools offer SHSM.

To learn more about these exciting opportunities see your Guidance department.

## SCHOOL COLLEGE TO WORK PROGRAMS/DUAL CREDITS

### What is it?

Students can participate in post-secondary courses and/or apprenticeship training, earning dual credits that count towards both their high school diploma and their post-secondary diploma, degree or apprenticeship certification.

### Who's it for?

Students who need learning opportunities outside of high school and who would benefit from a college or apprenticeship experience.

### How it helps

Students have the opportunity to:

- **Earn** high school credits while studying at a local college or taking apprenticeship training
- **Gain** experience that will help them with their post-secondary education or apprenticeship
- **Get** a head start on learning and training for their future careers

## DAY AWAY DUAL CREDITS

**Day Away Dual Credits** allow students to attend college one day a week to earn college credits in addition to high school credits. Each successfully completed college credit also results in the awarding of a high school credit which can be used toward completion of the OSSD. Currently, TVDSB has day away programs at Fanshawe, Lambton and Conestoga colleges.

## SCHOOL WITHIN A COLLEGE (SWAC)

The **School Within A College** program allows students to complete high school by attending school on campus at college. These students also enroll in college dual credits. Each successfully completed college credit also results in the awarding of a high school credit which can be used toward completion of the OSSD. Currently, TVDSB has a SWAC program at Fanshawe College, London, St. Thomas, and Woodstock, as well as Lambton College.

\*First Nations, Métis, Inuit SWAC programs also available.

## MORE INFORMATION

Visit [www.ontario.ca/morestudentsuccess](http://www.ontario.ca/morestudentsuccess) and click on Dual Credit Program or talk to your school's Student Success Team.



## ONTARIO YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

### What is the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP)?

The **Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP)** is a School to Work program that opens the door for students to explore and work in apprenticeship occupations starting in Grade 11 or Grade 12 through the Cooperative Education program.

### The goals of OYAP are to:

- **Provide** students with the opportunity to start training in a skilled trade while completing the requirements for an Ontario Secondary School Diploma
- **Enable** students to make the school to work transition by direct entry into apprenticeship training
- **Provide** employers with the opportunity to train the skilled workers they require
- **Provide** a viable solution to address the problem of skilled tradespeople shortages in general, and specifically the lack of young people joining the trades

### Why Apply?

Applying for the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program could be the first step in beginning a rewarding career in the skilled trades.

- OYAP is both a demanding and smart choice if you wish to jump-start your career. Jobs in the skilled trades pay well and challenge your intellect and creativity.
- Apprenticeships are often the first step in a career path that can lead to supervisory, administrative or management positions, or to a self-employed business career.
- Students who participate in OYAP will be trained in a specific set of skills leading to a registered apprenticeship program and will be able to obtain apprenticeship hours and high school credits at the same time.

### More Information:

Visit [www.tvdsb.ca/oyap](http://www.tvdsb.ca/oyap) or contact the Technological Education, Cooperative Education or Guidance Department.



## COOPERATIVE EDUCATION (COOP)

- **Cooperative Education** is a planned learning experience through which students can earn credits.
- Classroom theory and workplace experiences allow students to apply and refine the knowledge and skills acquired in a related course.
- The classroom component is comprised of preplacement and integration activities.
- The personalized placement component takes place in the workplace where students get hands-on experience exploring an occupation.
- Cooperative Education is appropriate for all students who are heading to university, college, apprenticeship or the workplace. It is offered in all subject areas and course types.

## OTHER FORMS OF EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

- **Job Shadowing** — a one-on-one observation of a worker at a place of employment for up to three days
- **Job Twinning** — a one-on-one observation of a cooperative education student at a place of employment for up to three days
- **Work Experience** — a planned learning opportunity within a course which allows students a relatively short-term work experience, usually of one or two weeks at a time, for a total of up to four weeks
- **Work Internship** — combines workplace training with a school-based program to prepare students for direct entry into the workforce. Ask about the Thames Valley District School Board *Destinations* programs.

## SCHOOL WITHIN A UNIVERSITY (SWAU)

The **School Within A University** program allows students experiencing changes and challenges in life to complete secondary school by attending school on campus at Western University in London, Ontario. These students also enroll tuition free in one first year university course.



# ...Student Success

## Reaching Every Student

Each teenager has their own unique interests, goals and strengths. Every student should have the same opportunity to succeed and graduate from secondary school. TVDSB schools are working with you to improve the learning experience for all students.

We share a common goal to help all students build a promising future for themselves. We are responding by focusing on:

- Quality course options and programs inside and outside of the classroom, leading to all destinations (apprenticeship, college, community, employment, and university)
- Literacy and numeracy skills in all subject areas
- One-on-one support when students need extra help
- Building community, diversity, culture, safety, and caring in all schools

There is a **Student Success Team** in every secondary school. Members of this team include the Principal, the Head of Guidance, the Head of Special Education, the Student Success Teacher, and other staff members as appropriate to the school (e.g. Cooperative Education Teacher, Credit Recovery Teacher, etc.). The Student Success Teams ensure a smooth and successful transition from Grade 8 to Grade 9 for all students.

The Grade 8/9 Transition Program may include:

- Assigning a teacher or other educator to provide support during the transition years
- Creating a student profile that highlights the student's strengths, needs and interests
- Developing customized Grade 9 timetables
- Tailoring strategies and interventions based on each school's unique advantages

**Student Success Teams** continue to monitor the progress of students throughout their time at secondary school, setting and revisiting career life goals with students and providing support as needed to maximize student opportunities and achievement.

# Tips for planning Post-secondary **PATHWAYS**

- 1. Start Early.** It is never too soon to start talking to children about their goals for secondary school and beyond.
  - Use the TVDSB pathway planning resources together
  - Start planning for high school and post-secondary at [www.myblueprint.ca/tvdsb](http://www.myblueprint.ca/tvdsb)
- 2. Help Your Teens Know Their Goals and Interests.** Encourage them to understand who they are and connect their interests and abilities to careers.
  - Choose courses wisely and explore a variety of courses and experiences
  - Do the self-assessments at [www.myblueprint.ca/tvdsb](http://www.myblueprint.ca/tvdsb)
- 3. Understand the New Realities of Work.** Remember your child will likely have 6-10 occupations and some of those jobs do not exist yet.
  - Transferable skills are the key to success
- 4. Encourage Your Teen to Explore All Pathways.** Talk equally about all possibilities.
- 5. Investigate the Specifics of Career Choices.** Attend information sessions about all five destinations available in your school.
  - Encourage experiential learning such as Coop, Dual Credits, SHSM and Volunteer Opportunities
- 6. Community Involvement (40 hours).** It is important to start early, and you can begin in the summer before grade 9.
- 7. Research Financial Responsibilities.**
  - Plan ahead.
  - Investigate support options available such as loans, scholarships and bursaries
  - Check out the Financial Planner at [www.myblueprint.ca](http://www.myblueprint.ca)

Continue your effort to communicate with your child, the school and the community.

Visit: [www.tvdsb.ca/guidance](http://www.tvdsb.ca/guidance)

## ALL ABOUT ME

Adapted from Halton District School Board:  
Pathways > Education and Career/Life Planning

### Who am I?

- How would I describe myself right now (strengths, interests, values)?
- How can I connect who I am to the choices I make?

### What are my opportunities?

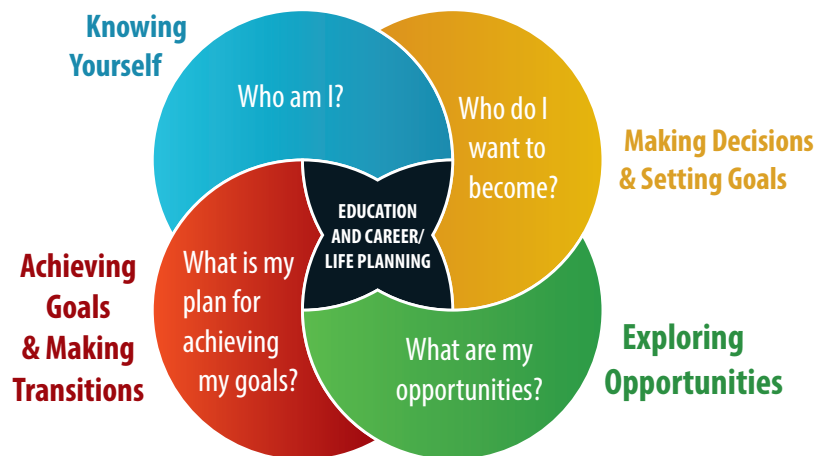
- What opportunities should I try while I'm in school?

### Who do I want to become?

- What are my goals now and for the near future?
- Where can I find information about my initial post-secondary destination?

### What is my plan for achieving my goals?

- How do I develop and review my plan?
- Who can support me in achieving my goals?



### Is apprenticeship for you?

Check out the websites below to learn more about the apprenticeship pathway.

[www.oyap.com](http://www.oyap.com)  
[www.careersintrades.ca](http://www.careersintrades.ca)  
[www.earnwhileyoulearn.ca](http://www.earnwhileyoulearn.ca)  
[www.edu.gov.on.ca](http://www.edu.gov.on.ca)



### Is college for you?

Check out the websites below to learn more about the college pathway.

[www.ontariocolleges.ca](http://www.ontariocolleges.ca)  
[www.gotocollege.ca](http://www.gotocollege.ca)  
[www.edu.gov.on.ca](http://www.edu.gov.on.ca)



### Is community training for you?

Check out the websites below to learn more about the community training pathway.

[www.tvdsb.ca](http://www.tvdsb.ca)  
 > Programs  
 > Special Education



### Is on-the-job training for you?

Check out the websites below to learn more about the on-the-job training and employment pathway.

[www.servicecanada.gc.ca](http://www.servicecanada.gc.ca)  
[www.jobfutures.ca](http://www.jobfutures.ca)  
[www.edu.gov.on.ca](http://www.edu.gov.on.ca)



### Is university for you?

Check out the websites below to learn more about the university pathway.

[www.ouac.ca](http://www.ouac.ca)  
[www.ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca](http://www.ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca)  
[www.edu.gov.on.ca](http://www.edu.gov.on.ca)