



# REFINING

*my*

# PATHWAY!

**Student  
Success**

GRADES 7-12

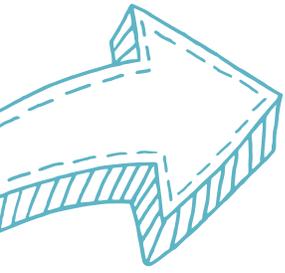
*Student  
Transition*

# GUIDE

Planning for  
Grade 11 and 12



 **DDS**  
Ignite Learning



# WELCOME TO Refining my Pathway!

*Refining My Pathway is the second in a series of publications designed to assist parents and students navigate through high school. Our first publication, Choosing My Success, assists students as they move from grade 8 to grade 9. Refining My Pathway focuses on the decisions that parents and students face as they move into grades 11, 12 and beyond.*

## FOR STUDENTS

Completing your high school education is exciting. You are now faced with a world of opportunities and choices. The information in this guide was designed to assist you as you make choices about your future. In it, you will find helpful hints, websites and things to consider as you leave secondary school for the world of work, apprenticeship, college or university. Remember that your teachers and your guidance staff are still there to assist you as you explore and make decisions about your future.

## FOR PARENT(S)/GUARDIAN(S)

As your teen completes high school, he or she will be faced with many decisions. Navigating the choices and making informed decisions can be challenging. This guide contains valuable information to help you as you discuss the future with your teen. Stay involved, ask questions and remember that school staff are there to help.

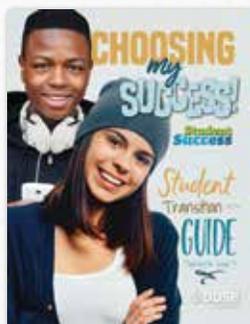
If you have questions regarding the different pathways available, please contact the secondary school your teen attends. Durham District School Board staff will continue to support as you and your teen explore a diversity of options and exciting possibilities for the future.

*I would like to wish all Durham District School Board students every success as they leave high school for the world beyond.*

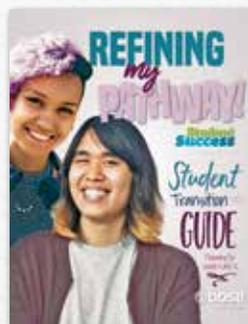


Lisa Millar

Director of Education  
Durham District School Board



[www.ddsb.ca/programs/secondary/documents/choosingmysuccess.pdf](http://www.ddsb.ca/programs/secondary/documents/choosingmysuccess.pdf)



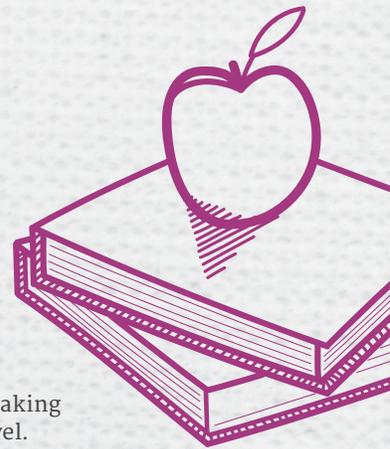
[www.ddsb.ca/programs/secondary/documents/refiningmypathway.pdf](http://www.ddsb.ca/programs/secondary/documents/refiningmypathway.pdf)



[www.ddsb.ca/programs/secondary/documents/designingmyfuture.pdf](http://www.ddsb.ca/programs/secondary/documents/designingmyfuture.pdf)

# SECONDARY SCHOOL

## Terms and Definitions



### COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT HOURS

Students must complete 40 hours of community involvement activities in order to earn their Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD). Students may begin completing this requirement in the summer going into their grade 9 year. For more information, please visit [www.ddsbc.ca](http://www.ddsbc.ca).

### COMPULSORY COURSE

Refers to a course that students must take that fulfills part of the OSSD or Ontario Secondary School Certificate (OSSC) requirements.

### COURSE CODE

This 6-character code describes the subject, grade level and pathway or destination of a high school course.

### CREDIT

A **credit value of 1.0** is granted upon successfully completing a 110-hour course with a minimum of 50%. A **credit value of 0.5** is granted upon successfully completing a 55-hour course with a minimum of 50%.

### EQAO ASSESSMENT OF MATHEMATICS

The Assessment of Mathematics is written in Grade 9 in both the applied and academic pathways. Depending on when you have Math, it is written in either January or June.

### EQAO LITERACY TEST

The literacy test is written in Grade 10. A student must pass the literacy requirement to earn their OSSD.

### EXAMS

Students may write an exam, which tests their knowledge on the entire course work, at or near the end of the semester.

### INDIVIDUAL PATHWAY PLAN (IPP)

Students use an IPP to track the growth of their career development competencies and plan for their future. Career Cruising is the digital platform that this is created on.

### LEARNING GOALS

Brief statements that describe for a student what they should know and be able to do by the end of a period of instruction.

### OPTIONAL COURSES

Students will select 12 optional courses that are of specific interest to them and which will count towards the 30 credit OSSD requirement or 7 optional courses required towards the 14 credit OSSC.

### PREREQUISITE COURSE

Refers to a specific course that you must complete successfully before taking another course at the next grade level.

### SEMESTER

The school year is divided into two semesters. A student will take four courses each semester.

### STUDENT SUCCESS

High schools have staff and programs in place to support and improve student learning.

### SUCCESS CRITERIA

Standards or specific descriptions of successful attainment of learning goals developed by teachers on the basis of criteria in the achievement chart that are used to determine to what degree a learning goal has been achieved.

### TIMETABLE

A timetable outlines the course, time, room number, lunch period, teacher and semester in which students will take all of their courses.

## ONTARIO SCHOOLS: K TO 12, 2016

*This document outlines the requirements to earn the following:*

### Certificate of Accomplishment

Students who are leaving secondary school upon reaching the age of eighteen without having met the requirements for the OSSD or the OSSC may be granted a Certificate of Accomplishment.

### Ontario Secondary School Certificate (OSSC)

The OSSC will be granted, on request, to students who are leaving secondary school upon reaching the age of 18 without having met the requirements of the OSSD, yet having fulfilled all necessary requirements for the OSSC.

### Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD)

The OSSD will be granted after a student fulfills all necessary credits, literacy and community involvement hour requirements.

*Information can be found on the Ministry of Education website [www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng](http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng).*



# OSSD

# ONTARIO SECONDARY SCHOOL DIPLOMA

**1** 30 CREDITS  
in total

**2** 40 hours of  
COMMUNITY  
INVOLVEMENT

**3** COMPLETION  
OF THE Literacy  
Requirement

## 18 COMPULSORY CREDITS

Students must earn the following compulsory credits to obtain the Ontario Secondary School Diploma:

CREDITS	SUBJECT
4	English (1 credit per grade)*
3	Mathematics (1 credit in Grade 11 or 12)
2	Science
1	Canadian History
1	Canadian Geography
1	Arts
1	Health and Physical Education
1	French as a Second Language
0.5	Career Studies
0.5	Civics

### IN ADDITION, STUDENTS MUST COMPLETE:

✓	12 optional credits†
✓	40 hours of community involvement activities
✓	the provincial literacy requirement

Plus one credit from each of the following groups:

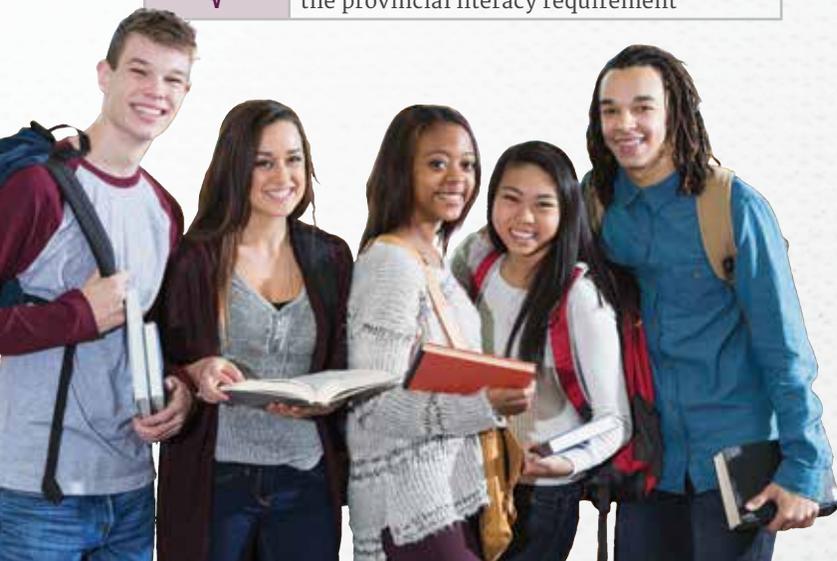
CREDITS	SUBJECT
1	<b>GROUP 1</b>
	English or French as a Second Language**
	A Native language
	A Classical or International Language
	Social Sciences and the Humanities
	Canadian and World Studies
	Guidance and Career Education
	Cooperative Education***
1	<b>GROUP 2</b>
	Health and Physical Education
	The Arts
	Business Studies
	French as a Second Language**
Cooperative Education***	
1	<b>GROUP 3</b>
	Science (Grade 11 or 12)
	Technological Education
	French as a Second Language**
	Computer Studies
Cooperative Education***	

\*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.

\*\*In groups 1, 2 and 3, a maximum of 2 credits in French as a Second Language can count as compulsory credits, one from group 1 and one from either group 2 or 3.

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

†The 12 optional credits may include up to 4 credits earned through approved dual credit courses.



# REPORT CARD

## Learning Skills

Each learning skill is connected to your ability to be a successful student. Take a moment and read through each of the 6 learning skills below. How will you demonstrate each as a high school student?

### Responsibility

#### THE STUDENT:

- fulfills responsibilities and commitments within the learning environment;
- completes and submits class work, homework, and assignments according to agreed-upon timelines;
- takes responsibility for and manages own behaviour.

### Organization

#### THE STUDENT:

- devises and follows a plan and process for completing work and tasks;
- establishes priorities and manages time to complete tasks and achieve goals;
- identifies, gathers, evaluates, and uses information, technology, and resources to complete tasks.

### Collaboration

#### THE STUDENT:

- accepts various roles and an equitable share of work in a group;
- responds positively to the ideas, opinions, values, and traditions of others;
- builds healthy peer-to-peer relationships through personal and media-assisted interactions;
- works with others to resolve conflicts and build consensus to achieve group goals;
- shares information, resources, and expertise and promotes critical thinking to solve problems and make decisions.

### Independent Work

#### THE STUDENT:

- independently monitors, assesses, and revises plans to complete tasks and meet goals;
- uses class time appropriately to complete tasks;
- follows instructions with minimal supervision.

### Initiative

#### THE STUDENT:

- looks for and acts on new ideas and opportunities for learning;
- demonstrates the capacity for innovation and a willingness to take risks;
- demonstrates curiosity and interest in learning;
- approaches new tasks with a positive attitude;
- recognizes and advocates appropriately for the rights of self and others.

### Self-Regulation

#### THE STUDENT:

- sets own individual goals and monitors progress towards achieving them;
- seeks clarification or assistance when needed;
- assesses and reflects critically on own strengths, needs, and interests;
- identifies learning opportunities, choices, and strategies to meet personal needs and achieve goals;
- perseveres and makes an effort when responding to challenges.



**DID YOU KNOW? THESE LEARNING SKILLS WILL BECOME YOUR EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS IN THE FUTURE!**

# Which one **DO I CHOOSE?**

COLLEGE (C), WORKPLACE (E), UNIVERSITY (U), COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY (M) OR OPEN (O)?

## COURSE TYPES

In grade 11 and 12, the type of courses offered changes from Academic (D) and Applied (P) to College (C), Workplace (E), University (U), and College/University (M). It is important to start thinking about what your future career/educational goals and interests are to ensure you have chosen the most appropriate pathway. You should always consult and update your Individual Pathway Plan (IPP) to reflect your goals and interests.

### COLLEGE (C)

These courses are designed to equip students with the knowledge and skills they need to meet the entrance requirements for most college programs, or for admission to specific apprenticeship or other training programs.

### WORKPLACE (E)

These courses are designed to equip students with the knowledge and skills they need to meet the expectations of employers, if they plan to enter the workforce directly after graduation, or the requirements for admission to certain apprenticeship or other training programs.

### OPEN (O)

Open Courses, which comprise a set of expectations that are appropriate for all students, are designed to broaden students' knowledge and skills in subjects that reflect their interests and prepare them for active and rewarding participation in society. They are not designed with the specific requirements of university, college or the workplace in mind.

### UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE (M)

These courses are designed to equip students with the knowledge and skills they need to meet the entrance requirements for specific programs offered at universities and colleges.

### UNIVERSITY (U)

These courses are designed equip students with the knowledge and skills they need to meet the entrance requirements for university programs.

## NOW WOULD BE A GREAT TIME TO DO THE FOLLOWING:

- Have a discussion with your family and your teachers about your goals and interests.
- Start thinking about things that interest you and things you like.
- Job shadow to gain more experience and knowledge about a particular occupation or labour market.
- BOOK an appointment with your Guidance Counsellor to discuss your options and to ensure you have everything you need to get you where you want to go.
- Do some research.
- Complete your Individual Pathways Plan using Career Cruising.
- Visit some of the university campuses.

Your Guidance department is an excellent source for information on post-secondary destinations.

# COOPERATIVE EDUCATION

## Fact Sheet

### THE IMPORTANCE OF COOPERATIVE EDUCATION

- Cooperative Education provides secondary school students with a wide range of rigorous learning opportunities connected to communities outside the school.
- Cooperative education contributes substantially to a comprehensive education and career/life planning culture by focusing on:
  - helping students acquire skills and knowledge related to the community experience;
  - providing opportunities for students to inquire and reflect on their experiences to gain a greater knowledge of themselves and their opportunities and a growing understanding of how they can shape their future and;
  - providing personalized experiences to meet students' learning and motivational needs.

### THE PROGRAM IN COOPERATIVE EDUCATION

- Cooperative education programs are generally offered to students in Grades 11 and 12. However, when it is deemed to be in the best interest of a student in Grade 9 or 10, they may also participate in cooperative education. To participate in cooperative education, students must be at least fourteen years of age.
- Two cooperative education courses are included in the Ontario curriculum:
  - **Cooperative Education Linked to a Related Course or Courses**  
In this course, students make explicit connections between what they learn from a related course or courses and how that learning is applied in an authentic learning environment outside the classroom.  
Students may earn up to two cooperative education credits for a full-credit or half-credit related course. Students may take Cooperative Education Linked to a Related Course, or Courses more than once. Each time this course is taken, it must be linked to a different related course, or courses. If the related course is non-credit bearing, the cooperative education course will also bear no credit.
  - **Creating Opportunities through Co-op, Grade 11 (DCO30—Open)**  
In this course, students can explore a range of interests or create a focused experience based on a particular interest.  
This course does not have to be linked to a related course. This course benefits students who wish to create their own innovative or entrepreneurial opportunities, explore a wide range of interests or explore an area of interest but do not have a related course or courses to support their learning. Students may earn a maximum of two cooperative education credits for this course.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON COOPERATIVE EDUCATION PLEASE VISIT THE  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION WEBSITE AT [WWW.ONTARIO.CA/EDU](http://WWW.ONTARIO.CA/EDU) AND VIEW  
THE DOCUMENT *COOPERATIVE EDUCATION, 2018—GRADES 11 AND 12.*

# What is OYAP?

## (ONTARIO YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM)

The **Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program** offers students the opportunity to begin an apprenticeship while still in secondary school. The program is funded by the Ministry of Training Colleges and Universities. Students must be at least 16 years old and have completed 16 credits towards their OSSD.

- Students in a Cooperative Education placement in an apprenticeable trade are considered **OYAP students**.
- Students may be signed as an **apprentice** while at their Co-op placement.

## Accelerated OYAP Programs

Students in their final semester of their grade 12 year may apply to our accelerated OYAP programs. This application is completed in their grade 11 year.

These programs allow the student to complete the level one portion of their training at a college or union training facility while completing their final semester of high school.

Typically, the student is in a full day co-op placement, which must be signed by the employer.

The student will attend the level one apprenticeship training at a college weekly for the entire semester. Most students will earn dual credits that count towards both the OSSD and a post-secondary certificate or diploma.

## OYAP BENEFITS FOR THE STUDENT

- Allows student to explore the skilled trades, which can lead to a meaningful career;
- Develops both specialized and transferable skills;
- Proves a seamless transition from school to work;
- Applies classroom theory to workplace experience.



## PREVIOUS PROGRAMS OFFERED

- ✓ **Automotive Service Technician**
- ✓ **Electrician**
- ✓ **Hairstylist**
- ✓ **Child Development Practitioner**
- ✓ **Welder**
- ✓ **Cook/Chef**
- ✓ **Plumbing**
- ✓ **Carpentry**
- ✓ **Millwright**

For information on OYAP visit  
[www.oyap.com](http://www.oyap.com)

# What is SHSM?

## (SPECIALIST HIGH SKILLS MAJOR)

### STUDENTS WILL:

- Complete a group of credits in their selected field;
- Complete a Cooperative Education experience in their related field;
- Earn certifications related to their specialization (for example: First Aid, WHMIS and Working at Heights);
- Complete a “reach ahead” activity that will allow them to explore post-secondary options (some programs offer Dual Credits at the college);
- Earn their Red Seal Diploma identifying them as an SHSM graduate.
- Have the opportunity to complete a Sector Partner Contextualized Experience with a community partner.

**Specialist High Skills Major** programs allow students to focus on a career path that matches their skills and interests. DDSB secondary schools offer a variety of the 11 available sectors based on community opportunities and student needs.

### ADVANTAGES:

- Gain experience and hours that relate to YOUR goals and interests.
- Customize YOUR secondary school education to suit YOUR interests and talents.
- Develop specialized knowledge and skills.
- Earn credits that post-secondary educational institutions AND the sector recognize.
- Gain sector-recognized certification and career-relevant training.
- Develop essential entrepreneurial skills and work habits documented through specialized training.
- Identify, explore and refine career goals and make informed decisions about YOUR future.
- Remain flexible, with the option to shift between pathways, should YOUR goals and plans change.



SHSM programs are in DDSB secondary schools

Please speak to your Guidance department to find out which ones are available in your school.



For information on SHSM visit [www.ontario.ca/SHSM](http://www.ontario.ca/SHSM)

### PARTICIPATING SECTORS

- ✓ Agriculture
- ✓ Arts and Culture
- ✓ Business
- ✓ Construction
- ✓ Environment
- ✓ Health and Wellness
- ✓ Hospitality and Tourism
- ✓ Information and Communication Technology
- ✓ Sports
- ✓ Transportation
- ✓ Energy

# Destination **APPRENTICE**

AN APPRENTICESHIP IS A POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY

To become an *apprentice*, first connect with your Guidance Counsellor and/or Co-operative Education Teacher. Once you have an employer who will hire and train you, both you and your employer will sign a Registered Training Agreement (RTA) prepared by an apprenticeship branch consultant. The agreement is filed with the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities (MTCU).

Gain **90%** of your training **ON THE JOB**

Spend **10%** of your time **IN THE CLASSROOM** learning theoretical applications

## YOUR PATHWAY TO QUALIFICATION AS A JOURNEYPERSON

Upon successful completion of the practical and in-school components, an *apprentice* has an opportunity to write the provincial/interprovincial exam to become a certified *journeyperson* in a skilled trade. A typical apprenticeship can take about the same time as other post-secondary options.



## Sources of Information



[www.oyap.com](http://www.oyap.com)

The Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP) allows a co-op student to begin to learn a skilled trade while completing the requirements for a high school diploma. A co-op student may be signed as an apprentice with the employer at the same time of their placement. Students graduate with a diploma, skills in a trade, experience in the workplace and a head start in a skilled profession. Interested students should meet with their Guidance Counsellor and/or their Co-op teacher for more information.



[www.ontario.ca/page/ministry-training-colleges-universities](http://www.ontario.ca/page/ministry-training-colleges-universities)

Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities. This website provides information on how you can qualify and apply to be an apprentice in a skilled trade.



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

This website provides information on apprenticeships and skilled trades.



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

The Ontario College of Trades is the regulatory body that governs skilled trades in Ontario. One of the main responsibilities of the Ontario College of Trades is to ensure that individuals performing the skills of a compulsory trade have the training and certification require to legally practise this trade in Ontario.



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

The ONTransfer Course Transfer Guide allows you to see how courses completed at other Ontario postsecondary institutions may be transferred to a program at another Ontario postsecondary institution. For example, you can complete a College diploma and have credits transferred to a Degree program at a University.

# Destination COLLEGE

There are **26 public colleges in Ontario**. With over 5000 programs in over 200 areas of study to choose from, you need to do an honest self-assessment to see which program would best suit your **strengths, interests and future goals**.

[ontariocolleges.ca](http://ontariocolleges.ca)

APPLY TODAY. CHANGE TOMORROW.

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

The Ontario Colleges website is an excellent place to begin your research into college as a post-secondary destination. This website allows you to plan, find a college and eventually apply to college for diploma and degree programs.

Every year, tens of thousands of students choose an Ontario college to get closer to the life and career of their dreams. **Here are reasons students choose College:**

**84% OF RECENT COLLEGE GRADUATES FOUND EMPLOYMENT WITHIN SIX MONTHS OF GRADUATION**

Colleges Ontario

**40% OF ALL NEW JOBS CREATED WITHIN THE NEXT DECADE WILL BE IN SKILLED TRADES AND TECHNOLOGY.**

Skills Canada

### **Innovative and Groundbreaking Programs**

Ten years ago, many of today's most exciting careers didn't even exist. Ontario's colleges are leaders in technology and workforce development, preparing students for success in not only the cutting-edge careers of today, but also those of tomorrow.

### **Explorer-Friendly**

Not sure what you want to do for the rest of your life? You're certainly not alone. That's why Ontario's colleges offer programs specifically for explorers, helping you earn valuable credits while you figure out what your future holds.

### **Real-World Experience Before You Graduate**

College programs are famous for their unique blend of academic learning and practical skills training. Led by instructors with professional experience, you'll benefit from hands-on training and real-world projects right in the classroom.

### **Graduate with Less Debt**

Ontario college programs have significantly lower tuition costs than other post-secondary options, without sacrificing on the quality of the education you receive. They also help get you into the workforce faster, so you can be earning money rather than spending it.

## Things to think about

- ❑ Every fall, ALL of the colleges in Ontario gather to offer information about their programs. The College Information Program ([www.ontariocolleges.ca](http://www.ontariocolleges.ca)) is an excellent opportunity to talk with representatives from colleges, gather more specific information and start guiding your areas of research.
- ❑ General Admission Requirements for Ontario Colleges is an OSSD.
- ❑ Some programs have specific requirements.
- ❑ Be sure to check online to make sure you meet the requirements!
- ❑ For information on transferring from college to university or to another college visit [www.ontransfer.ca](http://www.ontransfer.ca)

# Destination UNIVERSITY

If your goal is university, there are a number of different factors you need to consider. Ontario has **21** publicly funded universities. There are **50** many programs to choose from that you need to do an honest self-assessment to see which program would best suit your **strengths, interests, and future goals**. Before choosing a university or program, make sure that you have as **MUCH** information as possible.

## Sources of Information



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

This website offers a complete online guide to Ontario universities for secondary school students. On this website, you can find information about university programs and admission requirements, first-year scholarships, and residence. You can search by degree, program of study, or university.



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

This website helps students navigate their way through the university application process. It contains information about deadlines and provides access to your university application.



[ontariocolleges.ca](http://ontariocolleges.ca)

The Ontario Colleges website is an excellent place to begin your research into college as a post-secondary destination. This website allows you to plan, find a college and eventually apply to college for diploma and degree programs.



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

The ONTransfer Course Transfer Guide allows you to see how courses completed at other Ontario postsecondary institutions may be transferred to a program at another Ontario postsecondary institution. For example, you can complete a College diploma and have credits transferred to a Degree program at a University.

## CAREER CRUISING

[www.careercruising.com/login/ddsb](http://www.careercruising.com/login/ddsb)

Career Cruising is web-based career exploration and planning tool that can be used to explore career and education options and develop a career plan.

Accredited websites are an excellent starting point for your research. The **BEST** sources of information are the universities themselves. Visit the universities' websites and read their admission handbooks, guidebooks, viewbooks and calendars. These resources provide the greatest detail about courses and programs.

## THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

- Every fall, ALL of the universities in Ontario gather to offer information about their programs. The Ontario University Fair ([www.ouf.ca](http://www.ouf.ca)) is an excellent opportunity to talk with representatives from universities, gather more specific information and start guiding your areas of research.
- General Admission Requirements for Ontario Universities are 6 grade 12 U or M level courses including ENG 4U1.
- Some programs have **specific requirements**.
- Be sure to check online to make sure you meet the requirements!
- For information on transferring from university to college or to another university visit: [www.ontransfer.ca](http://www.ontransfer.ca)

## Q&A

Your Guidance Department is an excellent source of information on pathway choices.

Can a student change course types?

**YES!** Students must have the pre-requisite course. Please speak to your Guidance department for assistance when changing course types.

Is there somewhere I can go for help if I have questions about course selection?

**YES!** Your Guidance Department is available to help you with career planning. Your school's Student Success Teacher is also available to help.

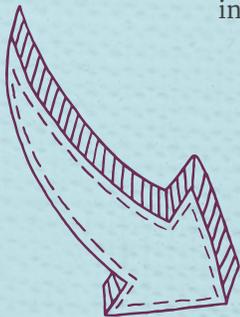
# Destination **THE WORLD OF WORK**

## **CAREER CRUISING**

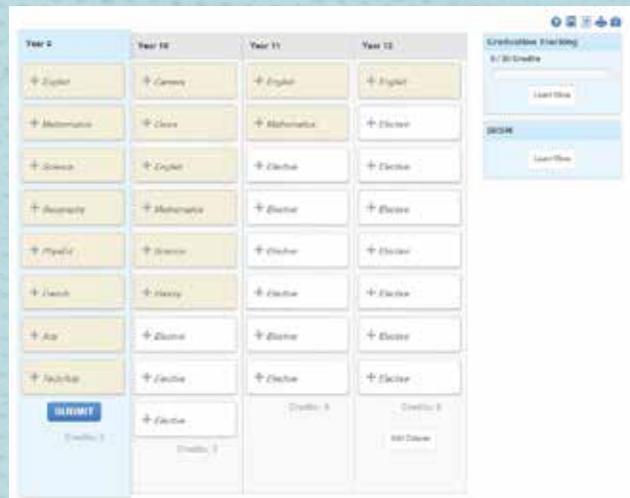
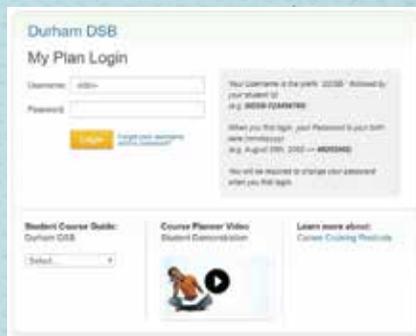
Career Cruising is web-based career exploration and planning tool that can be used to explore career and education options and develop a career plan.

BY LOGGING INTO THE UNIQUE DURHAM DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD PAGE AT  
**WWW.CAREERCRUISING.COM/LOGIN/DDSDB**

students can access exceptional assessment tools, occupational profiles and comprehensive post-secondary education information. You can view secondary school course calendars on the homepage.



Career Cruising homepage



**THE CAREER CRUISING INDIVIDUAL PATHWAYS PLAN** is a tool designed to help students translate their career and education exploration into concrete plans for success. It is to be reviewed at least twice a year. From grades 7 to 12, students document what they learn in the Education and Career/Life Planning Program in a web-based Individual Pathways Plan. DDSB students complete the requirements of their Individual Pathway Plan using Career Cruising. Students complete different Career Cruising activities in each grade to satisfy the Individual Pathway Plan requirements

**THE COURSE PLANNER MODULE** of Career Cruising is used at all DDSB high schools. This planner allows students and families to select high school courses together online, track graduation requirements and plan for the future

**CONNECT WITH YOUR GUIDANCE COUNSELLOR OR CO-OPERATIVE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT** regarding resume writing, job search skills, portfolio development and interview preparation.

**For information on employment opportunities visit:**

[www.jobconnectontario.org](http://www.jobconnectontario.org) | [www.vpi-inc.com](http://www.vpi-inc.com) | [www.ymcagta.org](http://www.ymcagta.org)

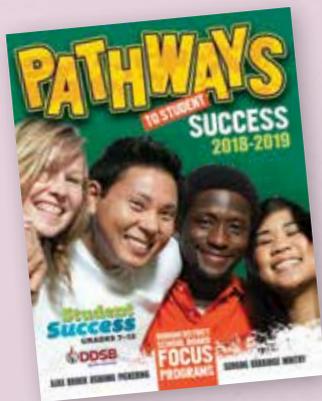


Don't Forget to

# THINK ABOUT

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT HOURS

- **Plan** your hours. The activity must fall within the guiding principles the Board has established and must be an “eligible” activity.
- **Confirm** the details of the activity with the organizer who is responsible for the activity.
- **Receive** approval from your Principal or Guidance Counsellor before starting the activity.
- **Complete** your community involvement hours.
- **Hand** in your form at your school to the Guidance Department.
- **www.volunteerdurham.net** is a searchable website of volunteer opportunities in Durham region that connects prospective volunteers directly with organizations searching for volunteer assistance.



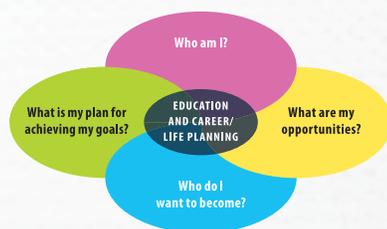
## PATHWAYS TO STUDENT SUCCESS

Pathways offers information on focus programs that concentrate on a particular field of interest or training. Focus programs provide students with comprehensive and relevant academic and practical experience to prepare them for their post-secondary destination.

YOU CAN FIND COPIES IN YOUR HIGH SCHOOL GUIDANCE OFFICE OR CHECK IT OUT ONLINE AT [DDSB.CA/PROGRAMS/SECONDARY/PATHWAYS](http://DDSB.CA/PROGRAMS/SECONDARY/PATHWAYS)

## Individual Pathway Planning (IPP)

**DON'T FORGET ABOUT THE IPP!** THIS IS A VALUABLE TOOL THAT ALLOWS YOU TO:



- Learn more about yourself;
- Outline your four-year educational plan and explore career and educational opportunities;
- Set education, career, and life goals and;
- Document and track your extracurricular involvement.

**REMEMBER:**  
Post-Secondary Scholarships are often based on extracurricular and community involvement!

COMPLETE YOUR INDIVIDUAL PATHWAY PLAN BY VISITING [www.careercruising.com/login/ddsb](http://www.careercruising.com/login/ddsb).

# Life in SECONDARY SCHOOL

## THINGS TO CONSIDER...



### FIRST NATION, MÉTIS AND INUIT EDUCATION

The Durham District School Board is committed to student success and providing a safe and welcoming learning environment for all students, including First Nation, Métis and Inuit students.



### EQUITY AND DIVERSITY

The Durham District School Board values and respects all members of our school community and has a commitment to embracing diverse social realities; while maintaining positive, safe and inclusive environments for all students and staff.



### MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Do you feel like you or someone you know needs help but you don't know where to turn? Adolescents are encouraged to take that first step and speak to an adult they trust (parent(s)/guardian(s), teacher, guidance counsellor... ). Remember—it is okay to talk. Help is available for when you are feeling anxious, stressed or overwhelmed.



### SAFE SCHOOLS

The Durham District School Board is committed to maintaining a positive school climate in schools in which students have the opportunity to develop in a safe and respectful learning environment.



### INNOVATIVE EDUCATION

The Durham District is reimagining learning and teaching spaces through digital technologies and have resources available to support student success. Access to technology and digital resources such as research databases, overdrive, and collaborative software, as well as Inclusive Technology applications, such as Read and Write support student learning and innovate teaching.

## OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL DAY OPTIONS

Durham Continuing Education offers many credit and non-credit opportunities for students outside of the school day.

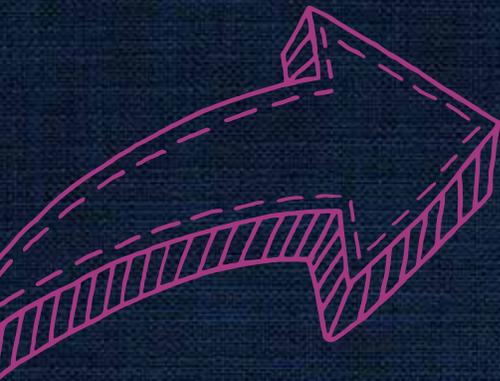
- Accelerated, Upgrading and Credit Recovery Summer School
- Summer School general and SHSM Co-operative Education Credits (must have completed grade 10)
- Youth in Policing (summer and December to March)

When approved by Administration:

- Boyd Archaeological Field School (BAFS)—reach-ahead credits (must have completed grade 10)
- International Languages Credits

Visit [www.dce.ca](http://www.dce.ca) for more information.

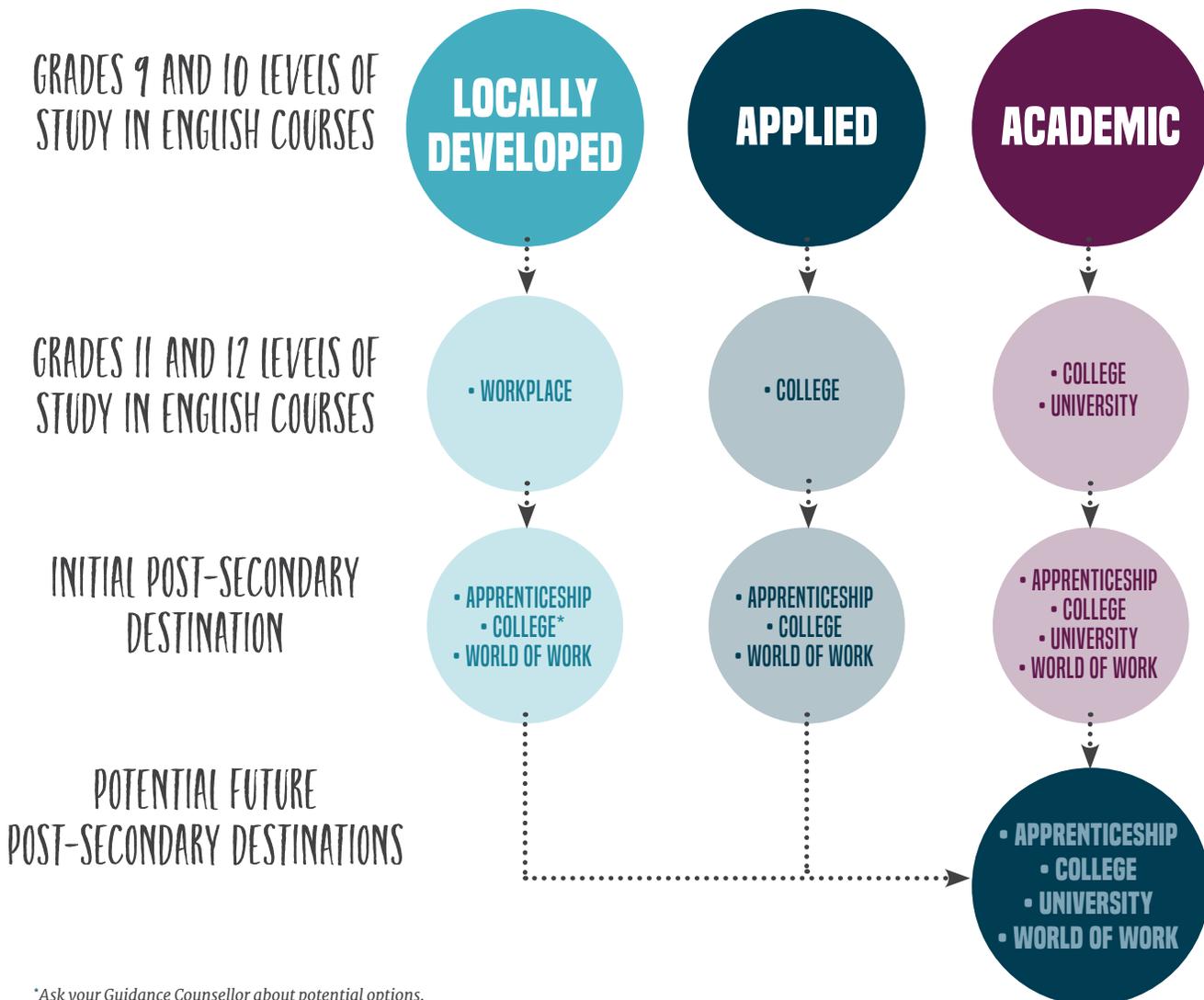
**MAKE AN APPOINTMENT WITH YOUR GUIDANCE COUNSELLOR TODAY!**



# PATHWAY Steps for All

**YOUR EDUCATION IS ONLY THE BEGINNING OF A JOURNEY AND DOES NOT DETERMINE YOUR DESTINATION.  
PATHWAYS CAN CHANGE. FOCUS ON THE JOURNEY.**

High School and Beyond: Apprenticeship, College, university and the World of Work



\*Ask your Guidance Counsellor about potential options.

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**.