

GRADE 12 POST-SECONDARY PRESENTATION



GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

- **Total credits:**
 - You must have 30 credits to graduate
- Literacy Test
- Community Service Hours (40 hrs.)
 - By: **May 1st 2026** For this year's current potential graduates
- **Two online credits or opt-out**

REVIEW:

- ✓ Plans for September 2026
- ✓ Post Secondary Application Process
- ✓ OYAP/Specialty programs
- ✓ Scholarship/Awards



UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE FAIRS

- The Ontario University Fair <https://www.ontariouniversitiesfair.ca/> will take place this Fall. The dates are as follows:
- Saturday September 27th 9:30am-5pm
- Sunday September 28th 9:30am-5pm
- Information regarding the Fair can be found by visiting <https://www.ontariouniversitiesfair.ca/>
- The **Ontario College Fair will not take place in 2025**. Students are invited to attend one of the [College Information Program](https://ontariocollegefair.ca/) opportunities offered at Colleges and Polytechnics throughout Ontario <https://ontariocollegefair.ca/>
- STA's University/College Fair is scheduled to take place on **Thursday October 2nd from 8:30am-11:00 am** in the STA gymnasium

THE APPLICATION PROCESS FOR UNIVERSITY



In previous years, the OUAC (Ontario Universities' Application Centre) provided each student applying to university with a PIN code to create an account.

Students **no longer** require a PIN code to create an account

Instead, students will provide their Name, DOB, address, home school and OEN number to create their own Username and Password

The base application fee, covering the initial 3 program choices, for the Undergraduate Application will be \$156 for all applicants

Additional program choices beyond your initial 3 choices are \$50 each

Deadline for applying January 15th, 2026

- Your top 6 grade 12 U/M marks will be used, including prerequisites and any supplemental information to determine your admission average.
- ALL marks are sent electronically – you do NOT have to provide a paper transcript to any Ontario university.
- Universities will review:

Grade 11 marks and Grade 12 marks

Grades will be shared with the universities using the timeline below:

Grades are transmitted in Oct/Nov 2025, February, April, June, July and August 2026

MARKS

- Submitted: October/November, February, April, July and August
- Full disclosure-ALL Gr.11 and Gr.12 marks are uploaded to OUAC
- **University** : 6 grade 12 U or M level courses including ENG4U and required prerequisites. Some programs may require a certain number of “U” level courses
- **College** : consider grade 11 and 12 O, C, M or U level marks and required prerequisites. If you are applying to a University Degree Program through a College, 6 U/M grade 12 marks are required

OUAC Important Dates 2025/26

January 15th, 2026

Deadline for Ontario high school students to submit their completed application to OUAC.

Note: The OUAC still processes applications received after this date and distributes them to the universities; however, specific university deadlines will apply.

The initial application includes all final grades from completed Grade 11 and 12 courses and a list of all current-year courses in progress.

May 1st, 2026

Target date for Ontario universities to receive all midterm/final grades available for 4U/M courses and interim grades for full-year courses from the OUAC. OUAC will send the grades they receive before the deadline to Ontario universities when they are received.

May 28th, 2026

The latest date all high school applicants who submitted their application by the January application deadline can expect a response from an Ontario university. This includes: An offer of admission; a refusal; or a deferral, once additional information is received.

June 1st, 2026

The earliest date an Ontario high school student may be required to respond to an Ontario university offer of admission and give a financial commitment (e.g., registration deposit, residence deposit, etc.).

All other admission-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 before June 1, 2026** but Ontario universities will not compel a student in any way to make a decision earlier than this date.

<https://www.ouac.on.ca/deadlines/>



UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

1. Check <https://www.ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca>
2. Minimum # of courses needed to apply (6 Grade 12 U/M courses)
3. What is the admission average based on?
4. Pre-requisite courses. i.e., ENG4U
5. Do prerequisites courses have a minimum average?
6. Additional admission criteria: audition, portfolio, interview, essay, supplementary application



Welcome to Ontario Universities' Info

A guide to Ontario's universities for high school students.



Find a Program

Search for your ideal program and find out the information you need to apply, like prerequisites, grade requirements and more. Plus, compare your choices.



Choose a University

Get to know Ontario's universities and where they are located. Find out information about campus visits, residence costs and more!



How to Apply

Which application is right for me? Answer a few statements to guide you to the proper undergraduate application.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- Why carry more than 6 grade 12 U/M courses?
- Night school/online courses/repeated courses
- All offers are conditional!!



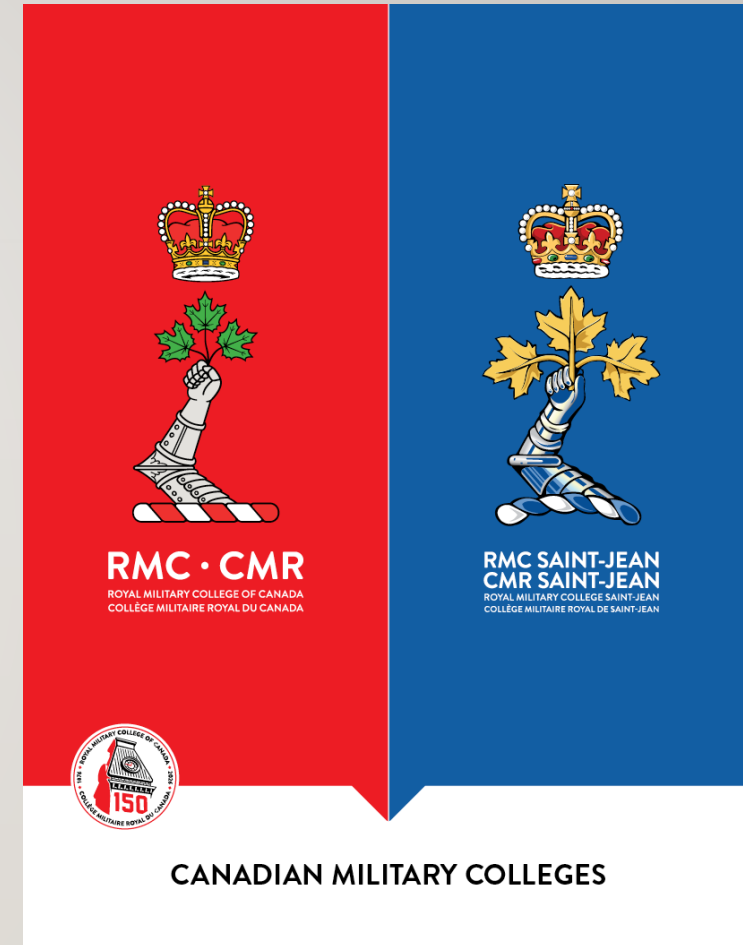
IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW.....

- If you are taking a course outside of Aquinas it is ***your responsibility*** to provide Student Services with an official report card.
- ***Marks from private institutions may not automatically be uploaded to OUAC***
- It is the responsibility of the student to inform the private institution where you are taking the course or your guidance counsellor that the mark needs to be updated on OUAC or OCAS
- ***It is the students' responsibility to have all required courses.*** If you plan on retaking a course, please note that you will not receive two credits. It will show as a repeat.

ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE

Applying to the Royal Military College of Canada

- The Royal Military College of Canada (RMC), located in Kingston, Ontario, is not part of the OUAC's processing service. A separate form, along with additional application materials, must be obtained from a Canadian Forces Recruiting Centre.
- Visit the RMCC website at: www.rmcc-cmrc.ca.



OUT OF PROVINCE AFFILIATES

The OUAC assists the following out-of-province institutions in collecting academic data for Ontario secondary school students who have applied through the OUAC:

- Acadia University
- Bishop's University
- The University of British Columbia
- Concordia University
- Dalhousie University
- Saint Mary's University
- Simon Fraser University
- The University of Victoria

Students who complete an application form for these out-of-province universities can provide authorization for a university to request their academic information from the OUAC.

To provide authorization, the applicant must include their 11-digit OUAC Reference Number on the institution's application form.

Note: In all cases, the eleventh digit should be "0".

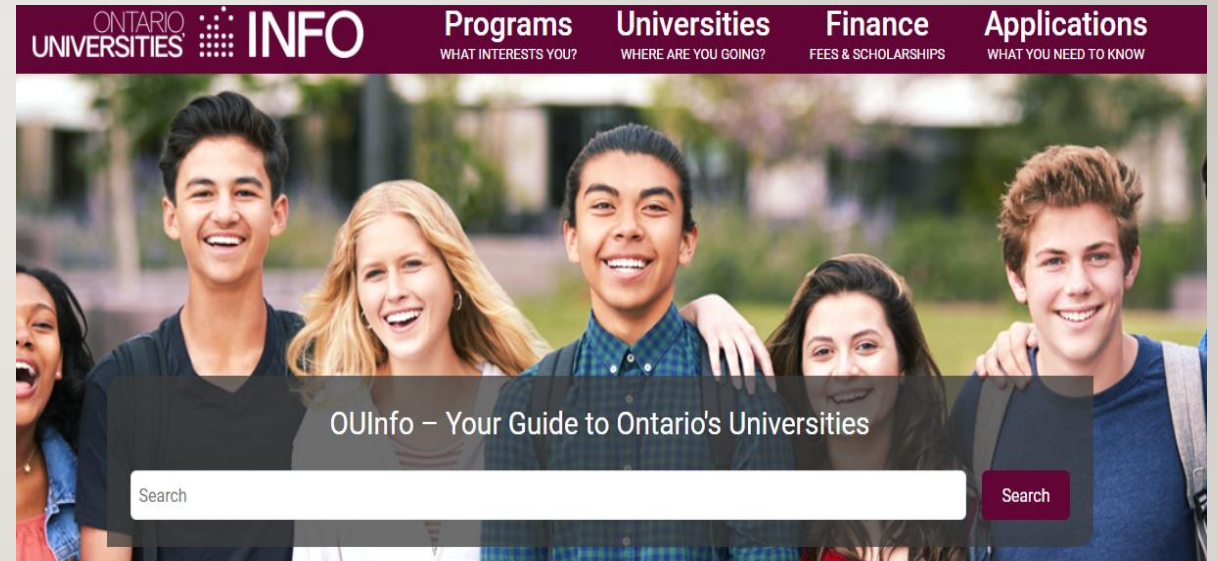


UNIVERSITY APPLICATION – NEXT STEPS

- The base application fee, covering the initial 3 program choices, for the Undergraduate Application will be **\$156 for all applicants**
- Each additional choice beyond the first three (3) is \$50.
- International service fee for applicants who are not Canadian citizens or permanent residents (landed immigrants) is an additional \$10.
- Apply Online by January 15th , 2026

UNIVERSITY APPLICATION – NEXT STEPS

- Before you start the application, please take the time to watch the “How to Videos”
- <https://www.ouac.on.ca/videos/how-to-videos/>



UNIVERSITY APPLICATION – NEXT STEPS

The QMAC
processes
applications for
undergraduate
programs and
professional
programs,
like law,
medicine,
nursing, education,
and teacher
education.



UNIVERSITY APPLICATION – NEXT STEPS





WHY CHOOSE COLLEGE?

- Diversity of programs - over 5000+ programs across 200+ areas of study
- Smaller class sizes/Hands on work experience
- 85% of recent College grads found employment within 6 months of graduation
- 40% of all new jobs created within the next decade will be in skilled trades and technology
- The number of university grads enrolled in colleges has increased by more than 40% over 5 years
- Offer joint university degree programs with easier entry than university

• Source: Skills Canada and ontariocolleges.ca

THINKING ABOUT COLLEGE PROGRAMS?

- **One-year certificate programs** that help you build skills and get working fast (ie) Culinary
- **Two and three-year diploma programs** that prepare you for the career you would like
- **Graduate certificate programs** that build on the education you already have such as a diploma or degree
- **Apprenticeship programs -** allows you to learn a skilled trade on the job
- **Degree programs -** offer the best of both worlds – theoretical knowledge and practical skills
- **Collaborative and Joint Degree programs** such as Nursing – offered jointly by a College and partnering University
- Source: <https://www.ontariocolleges.ca/en/apply/program-types>



ONTARIO COLLEGES AND SKILLED TRADES

- If you're interested in the trades, a college program is a great place to start working toward your career.
- plumbing, auto mechanic, carpentry, hairstylist and esthetician to baker, computer hardware technician, educational assistant, network cabling technician, special events coordinator, vet tech **are some examples**
- Not only will you learn from skilled and experienced tradespeople, you will also benefit from a network of industry connections that can lead to apprenticeships and jobs.
- Source: Ontariocolleges.ca



DIPLOMA PROGRAMS

- Two or three years in a special career related area
- Will usually require:
 - Grade 12 English
 - Graduation from high school
 - Senior level courses
- Some programs may require specific courses such as:
Biology, Tech Math, Grade 11 or 12 Math



ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR DIPLOMA PROGRAMS

- Based on all Grade 11 and 12-marks including Co-op
- Vary between Colleges and programs
- Averages are usually 65% or above
- Highly competitive programs are much higher**
- Prerequisite courses marks are included
- May prefer a good grade in College English and Math courses instead of a mediocre grade in the University level



COLLABORATIVE AND JOINT DEGREE PROGRAMS

- Offered jointly by a College and a partnering University
- Examples: Computer Engineering Technology, Nursing, Paramedicine, Computer Science, Journalism, Game Design, Business Administration, Nuclear Medicine, Information Technology
- Will require 6 U/M level courses

Find a Program

[Home](#) | [Programs](#)

PROGRAM SEARCH 🔍

Explore by category:

[Agriculture, Animal & Related Practices](#)

[Arts & Culture](#)

[Business, Finance & Administration](#)

[Career & Preparation](#)

[Computers & Telecommunications](#)

[Culinary, Hospitality, Recreation & Tourism](#)

[Education, Community & Social Services](#)

[Energy, Environmental & Natural Resources](#)

[Engineering & Technology](#)

COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCESS

- You will apply to College on the following website: www.ontariocolleges.ca
- **Create an account** - no PIN is required
- You can apply to 5 program choices (no more than 3 programs for one college). There is a \$150.00 application processing fee.
- Colleges will use **both grade 11 and 12** courses to determine admission.
- All marks are sent electronically. You do NOT have to provide a paper transcript to any Ontario colleges.
- **You can apply to Ontario College programs beginning early October 2025**
- **Applications are due by February 1st, 2026 for highly competitive programs**
- **It is strongly recommended that you apply as soon as possible for programs that are highly competitive**
- Colleges also have university degree programs. They will require 6 grade 12 u/m courses. The program will tell you if you are applying using OUAC or OCAS



Home | Apply Now



Canadian Applicants

You are a Canadian citizen or a permanent resident of Canada (born or outside of Canada)

APPLY NOW

Already applied? Log in

More info



International Applicants

You are a citizen of another country and do not have permanent residency status in Canada

APPLY / LOG IN

More info

SUMMARY

- College Applications open **Early October 2025**
- Research your programs and Colleges at **ontariocolleges.ca**
- Create an Account
- Pay \$150 Application Processing Fee
- Apply by **February 1st, 2026** for *Equal Consideration* (highly competitive programs)
- Attend College recruitment events

OYAP AND SPECIALTY PROGRAMS

- For those students who aren't sure if college or university is their destination right after high school, the HCDSB offers many different types of specialty programs and OYAP programs
- **What is OYAP?**

In Halton, students have two options to participate in the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP):

A - OYAP Co-op

Participating in a cooperative education placement in any of the 144 Ontario apprenticeable trades

B - Concentrated OYAP

Students can take any of our Concentrated OYAP programs in the HCDSB. These pre-trade programs give students the knowledge and experience necessary to start their career in one of the many skilled trades.



OYAP AND SPECIALTY PROGRAMS

- OYAP allows you to explore and find the right career for you. And if you discover you want to change direction you can because many skills are transferable.
- For more information about OYAP programs throughout the Halton Region visit:

<https://www.haltonpathways.ca>

SHSM

Specialist High Skills Major programs at St. Thomas Aquinas

Information & Communications Technology (ICT)

Health & Medical Technology (Health & Wellness)

Sports

Construction

To graduate with your SHSM red seal the following graduation requirements must be met:

- 4 major SHSM credits
- 1 minor SHSM credit
- 2 credit Co-op
- 1 English and 1 math
- Certifications for your program (arranged by SHSM teacher)



SCHOLARSHIPS



- Visit our website <https://secondary.hcdsb.org/sta/students/scholarship-information/>
- REGISTER ON....
 - www.studentawards.com
 - www.scholarshipscanada.com
- More information on scholarships can be found on the STA Graduate Website (coming soon..)
- Many are time sensitive with concrete deadlines so you must be organized
- Many limit the number of applicants per school. These will require a nomination process.

PRELIMINARY PREPARATION

Keep track of all the activities you have been involved with, led or have been a member of such as:

- Awards (Honour Roll)
- Extra-curricular activities
- Co-op experiences
- International or educational exchanges
- Part-time jobs
- High academic achievement
- School clubs, sports teams, and associations
- Student council, Mentors, etc.
- Volunteer work at school or in the community



TYPES OF SCHOLARSHIPS

Entrance scholarships

- Automatic...based on admission average (80% or higher but varies by school) and may be renewable (Lakehead U. example)

University/College scholarships needing application

- Check the college/university Financial Aid Office websites or look in EINFO
- **Foundation scholarships** (i.e. Terry Fox, Loran)
 - Usually need high marks and outstanding community service or demonstrated leadership
 - You may need to be nominated by the school

1) APPLYING FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

▶ Do you qualify?

- Check the criteria carefully
- Principal's nomination?
- Limit on number from each school?

▶ Due Dates

- Postmark date or arrival? (a fax may not be allowed)
- Count on doing everything a week early

▶ Academic Information

- Official transcript (ask Mrs. Hayward in Guidance at least a week in advance)
- Credit counselling summary (ask your counsellor)

2) APPLYING FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

- **References, Principal's Statement, etc.**
 - Who to ask? (ask someone in a position of responsibility who will say great things about you)
 - **Give them ample time (at least a week)** with polite reminders
 - Give them the information they need: scholarship criteria, your resume
 - Review the letter
- **Personal Statement, Essay, etc.**
 - This takes the place of a face-to-face interview
 - Address the criteria of the school. Write in a formal, direct tone and check for accuracy and clarity
 - Proofread, revise and make it your best effort (Ask others to edit and improve it)

3) APPLYING FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

- **The Application**
 - Is the original required?
 - Blank spaces may be viewed as errors – if the answer is zero, say 0
 - **Type** where possible or print neatly in ink
 - Answer all questions to the best of your ability
- **Assemble the Package** (one week early)
 - Are all pages and documents enclosed?
 - Make a copy of everything
 - Check the order and put in an envelope

SUMMARY: DO YOUR RESEARCH!

Visit:

- <https://www.ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca/>
- www.ontariocolleges.ca
- [Halton Pathways](#)
- www.myblueprint.ca
- <https://www.ontario.ca/page/osap-ontario-student-assistance-program>
- Visit fairs and college and university open houses
- Book an appointment with your Guidance Counsellor.

GRADUATION INFORMATION

- [Website](#) coming soon...
- STA Grad Instagram – [stagrad_2026](#)
- **Dates:**
 - **Prom:**
Friday, May 29, 2026
 - **Graduation Brunch & Rehearsal:**
Thursday, June 18, 2026
 - **Graduation Ceremony:**
Monday, June 22, 2026

