



Planning for Success

My Guide to College Preparation

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PATRICK FOGARTY CATHOLIC
SECONDARY SCHOOL





Steps to Effective Decision Making

1. **Be Organized.** Start a file to keep all of my information.
2. The **Ontario College Guide** will be the best starting point for compiling information.
3. **Verify my Academic History** with my Guidance Counsellor.
4. Access www.ontariocolleges.ca for further program details.
5. My **Program Choices** should be my first consideration.
6. Generate a list of **Post-Secondary Institutions** where my program is offered using the Ontario College Guide.
7. Using www.ontariocolleges.ca, list the **Admission Requirements** for each program and school. They are different for each.
8. Note last year's **Cut-Off Marks** for each program and school. These cut-off marks can change from year to year.
9. **Prepare Questions** for College Representatives when they visit.
10. **Attend Presentations** from Colleges of potential choices.
11. **Visit Campuses** of potential choices.
12. Begin to **Eliminate Choices** by considering size of school, residence options, distance from home, etc.
13. Prepare my **Final List of Program Choices**.
14. Go to www.ontariocolleges.ca and **Create a User Account**.
15. **Complete the Online Application by Feb. 1st.** Ensure that Supplementary Applications are submitted and Deadlines are met.

College Admission Requirements



General Guidelines for College Admission:

- For Regular Programs, the admission requirement is **COMPLETION** of an Ontario Secondary School Diploma.
- For “Highly Competitive Programs”, check www.ontariocolleges.ca for admission requirements and/or cut-off marks.
- For “Applied Degree Programs”, ENG4U plus FIVE 4M or 4U courses minimum.

Estimating the Cost of My Education



Please note that these are estimated costs.



Tuition (Annual)

\$4000*

*Tuition varies with each program



Books

\$1200



Housing and Meals

\$7500



Transportation / Lifestyle

\$2000

ESTIMATED TOTAL

\$14700



INTERNET RESOURCES

COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES:

www.ouac.on.ca - Ontario University Application Centre

www.electronicinfo.ca—a searchable database of University programs in Ontario

www.ontransfer.ca - Ontario College University Transfer Guide

www.ouf.ca - Ontario University Fair

www.ontariocolleges.ca - Ontario College Application Service

www.aucc.ca - Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada

www.cudo.ca - statistics about enrolment and employment rates

FINANCIAL RESOURCES:

www.canlearn.ca - a one step resource for students

www.studentawards.com - lists government, institutional and private awards

www.scholarshipscanada.com - a searchable database of Canadian scholarships

SELF ASSESSMENT / TEST BANKS / INTEREST SURVEYS:

www.careercruising.com - Careercruising

www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/career/ - Career Gateway

www.mazemaster.ca - Human Resources Development Canada

www.keirsey.com - Keirsey Temperament Sorter

www.jobfutures.ca - Database showing Future trends in the Job Market

www.osca.ca - Ontario School Counsellors' Association



FINANCING YOUR EDUCATION

ONTARIO STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (OSAP)

The **Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP)** offers two kinds of money:

- grants: money you don't have to pay back
- a student loan you need to repay

Both the Ontario government and federal government provide this money.

Through **one** OSAP application, you have access to a mix of different financial aid programs, depending on your circumstances.

If you apply for OSAP, you are automatically considered for **30% off your tuition**, too. You don't need to apply separately.

You can get OSAP to attend a public or private postsecondary school located anywhere in the world, as long as it's approved for OSAP.

How much can I get?

The amount of money you can get depends on:

- **Your education expenses:** the amount of money you need to cover tuition, books, child care, personal living expenses, supplies and equipment.
- **Your personal financial situation:** how much you and your family are expected to contribute, based on income and other factors.
- **Your course load:** full or part-time.

The basic formula is:

Allowed education expenses – money you're expected to contribute = financial need

Maximum amount

The maximum amount you can get for one academic year (two terms) for a typical, **full-time** student who is single with no dependents is \$12,240.

30% OFF TUITION GRANT:

Money you don't have to repay if you are proceeding from high school to a public university or college. Students who apply for OSAP are automatically considered.

For 2013-14, the amount of the grant is as follows:

- \$1780 for university and college degree students
- \$ 790 for college diploma students



IMPORTANT DATES

College Events:

September 25th	College Info Assembly (Applicants)	Period 2
September 25th	Post-Secondary INFO Parents' Night	7:00 pm
October 3rd (Orillia Campus)	C.I.P. @ Georgian College	12:30-2:00 pm
October 7th	Georgian College	12:45 pm
October 10th	Canadore College	12:45 pm
October 22nd	Humber College	12:45 pm
November 18th	Algonquin College	12:45 pm

NOTES:

January 21st - Suggested deadline to complete OCAS Application

February 1st - All applications must be received by OCAS on or before this date for equal consideration

** Payment - OCAS - \$95.00 for a maximum of 5 choices - no more than 3 program choices at any one college



Possible Questions for School Reps

Admission and Selection:

- 1.) What are the pre-requisites or entrance requirements for the program?
- 2.) Besides required courses, what other courses are required?
- 3.) Is this program oversubscribed? How are the applicants selected?
- 4.) If I don't get into this program, will there be an alternate offer of admission?

Program Outline:

- 1.) What are the career options for graduates from this program?
- 2.) How does this program compare to similar programs at other schools?
- 3.) Are there any articulation agreements with other schools for graduates of this program to proceed to further education?

Class Size, Hours, Location:

- 1.) How many hours of class time can I expect per day / week?
- 2.) When do classes start and end?
- 3.) What is the average class size for students in this program?
- 4.) Are there mandatory seminar classes or labs in addition to regular classes?

Co-op / Field Placements:

- 1.) Is there co-op available for this program? What are the entrance requirements?
- 2.) What are the benefits of doing a co-op option for my program?
- 3.) Are the co-op placements directly related to my field?

Accommodations:

- 1.) Does your school have a residence? What is the cost of residence?
- 2.) Is residence guaranteed for first year students?
- 3.) What meal plans are offered? What is the cost of the meal plans?
- 4.) What type of off campus housing is available?

Expenses:

- 1.) What is the cost of tuition? Are there additional fees?
- 2.) Is there financial aid available?
- 3.) Are there entrance scholarships or bursaries for my program?

Extra-Curricular Activities:

- 1.) What experiences do you offer students (e.g.-recreational, cultural, athletic, etc)