



Post Secondary Students (College Bound)



Scholarships

YOU are responsible for researching all scholarship opportunities. We will help you and pass information along, but do not rely on us to be your only source of information. As information becomes available we will announce them. Don't rely on everything being announced. Deadlines vary depending on the scholarship so be sure to pay close attention to due dates.

Do not approach a teacher for a reference letter and then say you need it tomorrow. Give them at least one week to put something together. When asking anyone for a reference letter, it is always helpful if you provide them with a 'brag' sheet listing your various accomplishments and volunteer experience etc., that you would like them to highlight. Provide as much information as you can. What you may view as insignificant may actually be a big deal.

Use the following site as a starting point for your scholarship research: dsbn.org/Awards/. From this site you will find other useful sites. You must watch how much time you spend on applying to scholarships. They can consume a lot of your time. (Remember, your first goal is getting the marks to get into college). The due dates for National Scholarships (high profile) tend to be earlier.

Bursaries

Bursaries are similar to scholarships but are not based on marks. They are usually based on financial need. Bursaries tend to be lesser known than scholarships, and therefore you may receive money you wouldn't expect in some cases, as fewer students apply.

OSAP Ontario Student Assistance Program: <http://osap.gov.on.ca>

You can not apply to OSAP until you have decided and accepted an offer of admissions to a post secondary school.

Be sure to apply to OSAP, whether you think you will qualify or not. It will open a lot of financial options for you down the road. Applying on line is **FREE**.

We will have a guest speaker dealing with OSAP at the school later in the spring. By this point many of you will have determined which college you plan to attend. Your OSAP questions are best asked to the guest speaker.

R E S E A R C H !

Make sure you research the programs and schools that you are interested in. **DO NOT** wait until the month before the deadline to start researching what you want to do. **WE WILL ANSWER QUESTIONS**, but cannot make decisions for you. It is your future and as such, you need to do what makes **YOU** happy.

Admission Requirements:

You will graduate from Centennial with an OSSD (Ontario Secondary School Diploma). This is the 1st requirement for college admission. The other main requirement is a gr. 12 **ENGLISH**. C/U will count as the same. Each college program will have other specific requirements. Quite a few programs will require math and/or science as well. Do not assume that each program has the same requirements. Be sure to investigate the requirement for each school/program.

Application Process:

Part A: RESEARCH! www.ontariocolleges.ca

Select the **FIND** option to research the programs that interest you. Type in the name of the program you are interested in. When you find the programs that interest you, simply click on **VISIT** in order to view the website for that program.

Pay attention to the following:

- Campus Location:** Many Schools have multiple campuses and programs may be offered at more than one location. Each campus is considered one choice.
- Wait Listed:** If a program has too many applicants for the seats available, it will be shown as waitlisted after the deadline to apply has passed.
- Open/Closed:** If a program is no longer accepting applications it is considered closed. Open indicates that they are still accepting applications. This is the case for many programs, even after the final date to apply. As long as it remains open you can still apply.
- Competitive:** This type of program is extremely popular and cannot accommodate all the applicants. It is also known as **oversubscribed**.
- Whether a program is competitive can be determined by holding the mouse over the program name in the list.

Part B: Applying

When you are ready to apply, Select **APPLY**. The first time you log on you are considered a '**new customer**'. Click **SIGN UP** and create a user profile

In order to apply you will need your Ontario Education Number (OEN). This will be on the credit counseling summary you received today or a report card. It is even on your time table. If you can't find it, stop by guidance and ask Mrs. Thompson for the number.

You can begin the application process as soon as the OCAS site is up. They are saying it should be ready for early October.

Important Dates:

- December 21, 2012** Date that we recommend you complete your application by.
- February 1, 2013** Final date to submit your application to OCAS in order to be given equal consideration by the colleges. The system can and has crashed on the last day so do not wait until then. You will be out of luck.
- May 1, 2013** Applicants must confirm their acceptance by this date. Accept earlier if you have the option. Offers made after May 1, may have a slightly different acceptance date. Read your letters thoroughly.
- June 17, 2013** The earliest a college may require a tuition payment.

Fees & Restrictions:

You are allowed **5 program choices** on your application, but only up to **3 choices** at any one particular college. Rank them in order of preference.

Most of you will be applying for programs beginning **August 1, 2013 to July 31, 2014**.

Fee: \$95.00 **Payment Methods:** Online: (Visa, Mastercard, American Express) Best Method
Telephone or Online Banking: Select Canadian Banks

Your application will not be processed until payment is received..

Parents and students are encouraged to speak **directly** with representatives from each college. This can be done by visiting the **COLLEGE INFORMATION FAIR**.

COLLEGE INFORMATION FAIR:

Wednesday October 24, 2013 - 9:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m..

Niagara College ,Welland Campus – Athletic Centre