

# I.E. Weldon S.S. Post-Secondary Planning

## Post-Secondary Resources

### Publications:

- Program booklets for colleges and universities are available for sign-out in the Guidance Office. Students can also pick up their own copies on College and University Information Days or order through college and university websites. **Explore individual college and university websites!**

### Information Sessions:

- **College Information Day** is at Fleming College (Sutherland Campus, Peterborough) on the morning of **Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017**. A bus will be available. Students will need to have a permission form signed and returned in advance to take advantage of the opportunity. Students are reminded to take care of business.
- This year's **University Fair** is being held at **St. Thomas Aquinas** on the afternoon of **Nov. 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017**. Students will need to have a permission form signed and returned in advance to take advantage of the opportunity. Students are reminded to take care of business.
- Many **University representatives** will be visiting Weldon for lunch sessions. See the schedule posted in classrooms and in Guidance for further details. Eight **College representatives** are also scheduled for lunch sessions.

### Internet RESEARCH:

#### ➤ Trades

- [www.collegeoftrades.ca](http://www.collegeoftrades.ca) The regulatory body for Skilled Trades in Ontario.
- [www.ontario.ca/yourfuture](http://www.ontario.ca/yourfuture) Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities is a good resource for apprenticeship information.
- [www.apprenticesearch.com](http://www.apprenticesearch.com) Provides free information and resources on apprenticeships and offers a matching database to help apprentices and employers connect throughout Ontario
- [www.apprenticetrades.ca](http://www.apprenticetrades.ca) Information for youth, educators, parents, employers and media.
- [www.tradeability.ca](http://www.tradeability.ca) Skilled trades guide, labour market information.
- [www.skills.edu.gov.on.ca](http://www.skills.edu.gov.on.ca) Ontario Skills Passport – essential skills and work habits for work, learning and life.
- [www.labourmarketinformation.ca](http://www.labourmarketinformation.ca) has information about jobs and labour market trends.

#### ➤ College

- [www.ontariocolleges.ca](http://www.ontariocolleges.ca) Your starting point for all things college related including **applying**.
- [www.ONTransfer.ca](http://www.ONTransfer.ca) Provides information for potential credit transfer opportunities between colleges and universities.

#### ➤ University

- [www.electronicinfo.ca](http://www.electronicinfo.ca) Detailed information on programs, entry requirements, scholarships etc. at Ontario Universities.
- [www.ouac.on.ca](http://www.ouac.on.ca) The Ontario Universities Application Centre is where you apply.

#### ➤ General

- [www.cou.on.ca](http://www.cou.on.ca) The Council of Ontario Universities site includes a Common University Data resource.
- [www.campustour.ca](http://www.campustour.ca) Take virtual tours of all Canadian Universities and Colleges.

# Financial Planning, Scholarships & Bursaries

To help put a plan in place, you need to understand what the **costs** of post-secondary education are and where you will be accessing the funds from. Visit the following link to help you have informed conversations with your family network about paying for post-secondary training and education:

<https://www.desjardins.com/wcm/idc/documents/e35-budget-etudiant-e.pdf>

There is a significant amount of **financial aid** available to students pursuing studies at college or university - but it won't come looking for you! **It is your responsibility to research these opportunities and submit your applications.** If letters of recommendation are required from teachers, ask those who are most familiar with your attributes as a student and allow time for reference letters to be written. Familiarizing them with the specifics of the award for which you are applying allows them to compose a letter that highlights the most relevant points. **START EARLY!** The deadlines for applications vary greatly. Start researching early to ensure that you do not miss an opportunity. Read all scholarship application forms carefully – no two are the same!

## Resources:

- The Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) provides financial aid to students in need. Visit the website at [osap.gov.on.ca](http://osap.gov.on.ca) to learn more. You may also be eligible for the Ontario Tuition Grant. Register to apply. Also, go to [www.tcu.gov.on.ca/eng/](http://www.tcu.gov.on.ca/eng/) to learn more.
- Visit [www.canlearn.ca](http://www.canlearn.ca) for information about financial planning. This government site has information related to all stages of education and includes other valuable search options beyond finances.
- **The Scholarship Report publication** posted on the Scholarship bulletin board in Guidance. Your guide to scholarship applications, deadlines, and tips for applying.
- The majority of scholarship/bursaries/awards available to Ontario students beginning their post-secondary education are included in databases such as: [www.yconic.com](http://www.yconic.com) . **See the Scholarship bulletin board in Guidance for the list of databases.**
- Explore scholarships and bursaries particular to specific universities and colleges by visiting their individual websites and through [www.electronicinfo.ca](http://www.electronicinfo.ca) and [www.ontariocolleges.ca](http://www.ontariocolleges.ca).
- Any **other awards** of which we are aware that may not be listed on the sites mentioned above will be posted on the **Scholarship Bulletin Board** in the Guidance Office. This includes **local awards**.
- In the spring, you will receive a **Graduation Package** which will include a list of **I.E. Weldon Community Awards** with specific eligibility criteria. You should apply in your graduating year even if you plan to return to Weldon for additional courses. The spring Grad Package will also include an application form and instructions for the **Elizabeth Weldon Bursary**.
- Ask **parents and grandparents** about bursary and scholarship opportunities at their **places of employment, unions, professional groups or clubs** with which they are affiliated.
- Research possibilities at **your place of summer or part-time employment** as well as any **clubs or community groups** to which you belong.

SEE MR. KENNEDY IN GUIDANCE FOR ANY SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION.

# Important Information about Applying to Ontario Universities and Colleges

Deadline for **UNIVERSITY** Applications is **JANUARY 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

Deadline for **COLLEGE** Applications for Equal Consideration is **FEBRUARY 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018**

## Where to Apply:

- **UNIVERSITY** Applications are done through the Ontario Universities Application Center (OUAC) at [www.ouac.on.ca](http://www.ouac.on.ca) online. You will use an assigned PIN number to apply (PIN will be available likely early Nov.)
  - You may make 3 choices for the non-refundable cost of \$150. Each additional choice is \$50.
- **COLLEGE** Applications are done through the Ontario College Applications System (OCAS) at [www.ontariocolleges.ca](http://www.ontariocolleges.ca) online. You will use your OEN number to apply (see sticker).
  - You may make 5 choices for a cost of \$95. A maximum of 5 choices is allowed.

*Important Note: Applying to 2 different programs at one school counts as 2 choices; however, you may not apply to more than three programs at any one college.*

## How to Apply:

- Be sure you have completed or are in the process of earning all secondary school **prerequisite courses** for entry to the program(s) to which you are applying.
  - ✓ Check to see if the program has any **additional requirements** for admission that you must have. Remember, there's a difference between something that is 'required' and something that is 'recommended.'
  - ✓ Check to be certain that **your marks** will meet (or preferably exceed) the admission averages required for the program(s) you are considering.
- For university programs – access [www.electronicinfo.ca](http://www.electronicinfo.ca), school calendars, and **for the most up to date information check the individual university websites**. For questions regarding how universities treat failed or repeated courses, or credits earned through private schools, contact the Admissions Office of the particular university.
- For college programs – access [www.ontariocolleges.ca](http://www.ontariocolleges.ca), school calendars, and **for the most up to date information check the individual college websites**.
- Proceed to the appropriate application site where you will be expected to create a login using your personalized OEN (college) or PIN (university). Follow the steps outlined on the website to submit your application. Remember, early applicants can make changes until the application deadline. If you have questions about the process, don't hesitate to contact the application center.  
**Note: OUAC and OCAS will not process your application until the fee has been paid.**
- **May 26, 2018** is the latest date by which Ontario universities will respond to applicants and **June 1, 2018** is the earliest date by which an Ontario university may require a response to an offer of admission or a financial commitment of any kind.
- **February 1, 2018** is the date on which Ontario colleges begin sending offers of admission. **May 1, 2018** is the date by which acceptance must be confirmed and **June 15, 2018** is the earliest date colleges may require payment of tuition fees.

## Final Reminders about Applying...

- ❖ All applications received before the deadlines will be treated equally. Do **not** wait until the last day to apply. You risk not getting your application processed on time since the website may be too busy. If you apply early, you may still change your choices at any time prior to the deadline.
- ❖ All applications are completed online by the student. Marks will be transmitted electronically by Weldon.
  - If you are enrolled this year in any course(s) outside of Weldon, you **must** notify your Guidance Counsellor to provide records of mid-term and final marks so your electronic records can be updated. Failure to do so may result in being denied admission to a college or university program.
- ❖ **College** applicants will need their **Ontario Education Number (O.E.N.)** to apply. Guidance Counsellors will provide these at your graduation interview.
  - Be sure to indicate on the application that I.E. Weldon S.S. is your **home school**. OCAS cannot connect you to your marks unless you do so.
- ❖ **University** applicants will need a **Personal Identification Number (P.I.N.)**. Guidance Counsellors will provide these as soon as they become available (late Oct./early Nov.).
  - The school number is also included with your P.I.N. – you may have to add up to 6 zeroes at the start of it to have the 12 digits required.
  - Pay careful attention to the **‘Submit’** steps on the OUAC site. When you reach the stage of accepting an offer of admission, you must click ‘I Agree’ after reading the ‘Applicant’s Declaration’ to receive a confirmation number. On the next business day, log in to ensure your response was properly submitted. This is **your responsibility**.
- ❖ Program specific codes are required to complete your application. For university codes, check [www.electronicinfo.ca](http://www.electronicinfo.ca) and for college codes check details on [www.ontariocolleges.ca](http://www.ontariocolleges.ca).
- ❖ Be sure to select a backup/fallback choice. Make at least one of your choices a university or college program to which, based on your research, you are virtually certain you will be accepted.
- ❖ Colleges and Universities will see your second semester interim marks when making final decisions – not your semester 2 final marks. Make every effort to have your interim marks reflect your true abilities by submitting assignments on time.
- ❖ Any course dropped after the Full Disclosure Date for the semester (5 business days following interim reports) will appear on your transcript.
- ❖ Some schools send out form letters requesting information that has actually been sent electronically from the high school. If you receive a letter requesting further information (transcript, etc), check the status of your application online and contact the college or university to see if they already have the necessary information **before** requesting it from the Guidance Office.