

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

Post-Secondary Resources

Guidance Google Classroom: You have all been invited to the Guidance Google Classroom. Check your student email regularly as we will be posting important information regarding post secondary education.

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. 8th, 2019**. 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 Information Program** is being held at **Fenelon Falls SS** on the morning of **Oct. 24th, 2019**. 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 and College representatives** will be visiting Weldon for lunch sessions. Schedules have been distributed to all graduating students, and a copy has been posted on the Google classroom.

Internet RESEARCH:

➤ **Trades**

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

➤ **College**

- www.ontariocolleges.ca Your starting point for all things college related including **applying**.
- www.ONTransfer.ca Provides information for potential credit transfer opportunities between colleges and universities.

➤ **University**

- www.ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca Detailed information on programs, entry requirements, scholarships etc. at Ontario Universities.
- www.ouac.on.ca The Ontario Universities Application Centre is where you apply.

➤ **General**

- www.cou.on.ca The Council of Ontario Universities site includes a Common University Data resource.
- 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. Have informed conversations with your family network about paying for post-secondary training and education by using an online calculator to estimate the total costs. Most colleges and universities have webpages to help.

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 to learn more.
- Visit www.canlearn.ca for information about financial planning. This Government of Canada site has information related to all stages of education and includes other valuable search options beyond finances.
- **The Scholarship Report publication** posted on the **FYI** bulletin board in Guidance is accessible electronically through the Google Classroom for grade 12 students. In it is 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 and ScholarTree.ca.
- Explore scholarships and bursaries particular to specific universities and colleges by visiting their individual websites and through www.ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca and 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 **FYI 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 must 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** for all TLDSB students.
- Ask **parents and grandparents** about bursary and scholarship opportunities at their **places of employment, unions, professional groups or clubs** with which they are affiliated.

SEE MR. KENNEDY IN GUIDANCE FOR ANY SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

Important Information about applying to Ontario Universities

Deadline for UNIVERSITY Applications is **JANUARY 15th, 2020**

Where to Apply:

UNIVERSITY Applications are done through the Ontario Universities Application Center (OUAC) at www.ouac.on.ca online. You will use an assigned PIN number to apply (PINs will be available likely late Oct./early Nov.)

You may make 3 choices for the non-refundable cost of \$150. Each additional choice is \$50.

Important Note: Applying to 2 different programs at one school counts as 2 choices

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.

Proceed to www.ouac.on.ca where you will be expected to create a login using your PIN. You can pick up your personal letter from the Guidance Secretary as soon as they become available (late Oct./early Nov.). The school number is also included with your PIN – you may have to add up to 6 zeroes at the start of it to have the 12 digits required. Program specific codes are required to complete your application. Check www.ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca. Pay careful attention to the '**Submit**' steps on the OUAC site. 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.

OUAC will not process your application until the fee has been paid.

May 27, 2020 is the last day you can expect a response from an Ontario University.

June 1st, 2020 is the offer response deadline day for Ontario Universities.

Be sure to select a backup/fallback choice. Make at least one of your choices a program to which, based on your research, you are virtually certain you will be accepted.

Universities will see your second semester interim marks when making final decisions. Make every effort to have your interim marks reflect your true abilities by submitting assignments on time. Semester 2 final marks will also be considered and offers can be repealed in July based on these marks. Keep working until the end of the semester!

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.

Important Information about applying to Ontario Colleges

Deadline for College Applications is **FEBRUARY 1st, 2020**

Where to Apply:

COLLEGE Applications are done through the Ontario College Applications System (OCAS) at www.ontariocolleges.ca online.

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.

Proceed to www.ontariocolleges.ca where you will be expected to create an account using an email address and selecting a password. Once the account has been created, you will receive an email advising you to activate your account.

Once your account is activated, you can login and follow the steps outlined on the website to submit your application. 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. 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.

Ontario Colleges will not process your application until the fee has been paid.

Important Dates:

February 1, 2020 is the date on which Ontario colleges begin sending offers of admission.

May 1, 2020 is the date by which acceptance must be confirmed.

June 2020 is the date colleges may require payment of tuition fees. You will be contacted by the College.

Be sure to select a backup/fallback choice. Make at least one of your choices a program to which, based on your research, you are virtually certain you will be accepted.

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.