

Grade 11

Post Secondary Planning
Toolkit

**The great aim of education is not
knowledge but action.**

Herbert Spencer



Tools for Career Investigation:

- Use the following links to help you with your career investigation:
 - www.myblueprint.ca DPCDSB students have been using myblueprint as their online educational planner for several years. You require an email and password to access this site.
 - www.osca.ca Ontario School Counsellors Association – this site provides a multitude of resources under the “Student Tab” in the categories of – “Who Am I?”, “What Are My Opportunities?”, “Who Do I Want to Become?”, and “What Are My Plans for Getting There?”.
 - www.careercruising.com - Career Cruising is an excellent site to assist you in your searches for career opportunities. User name is joseph; password is jaguars.
 - If you are unsure of what field of study (or career) you are interested in, it is worthwhile to visit www.schoolfinder.com where you will find an 80 question survey of interest that will lead you to groupings of fields of study, careers, etc. and then to schools, programs, and scholarships.

Keep in Mind the Following:

- There are many pathways to a destination.
- Select a pathway that is **REALISTIC** for YOU !
- Review and revise your plans regularly.
- Relax! It's okay not know what you want to be. You will figure it out and you have time.
- Focus on the process. It will be your foundation for continued learning and discovery.
- Be **FLEXIBLE** – There are no wrong choices!
- Find and explore your resources.
- Anticipate and look for future trends.
- Plan for life-long learning.

Why Plan NOW?

- Plan so you will be:
 - Aware of pre-requisites in post secondary institutions
 - Sure you have the right courses selected for next year
 - Able to adjust your course selections if needed
 - Able to sign up for summer school or night school if needed
 - Aware of what colleges and/or universities you want to visit
 - Prepared for what is coming in grade 12 and be less stressed!

A dream written
down with a
DATE
becomes a goal. A goal
broken down into
STEPS
becomes a plan.
A plan backed by
ACTION
makes your dreams
come true.

GREG S. REID

www.TheSilverPen.com

Could you be College Bound?

- Make sure you review individual colleges for specific pre-requisites needed for programs. Colleges provide DEGREE, DIPLOMA and CERTIFICATE programs.
- All college courses require ENG 4C or 4U as well as other C, U or M level courses in both grade 11 and 12.
- Investigate all Ontario colleges, programs, pre-requisites, scholarship information, and more at: <http://www.ontariocolleges.ca>.

Could you be University Bound?

- Review individual universities for specific requirements
- All university programs require ENG 4U – and 5 other additional 4U or 4M courses – including specific prerequisites.
- Investigate all Ontario University programs at:
 - Einfo - <http://www.electronicinfo.ca>
 - OUAC – <http://www.ouac.on.ca>
 - University of Toronto – careers by major – <https://www.utm.utoronto.ca/careers/careers-by-major>
 - International Education: <https://www.osca.ca/students/2013-11-07-06-58-16/international-education.html>

Do you need to write the Test of English Fluency?

- If your first language is one other than English, or if you were educated in a country where English is not normally the language of instruction, most universities require you to take one of the language tests listed below. If you have less than 5 years of education in Canada you may have to complete one of these tests. Each institution has its own requirements, which are subject to change. Contact the universities directly for more information.
 - www.toefl.org
 - www.ielts.org
- Our school Settlement Worker runs sessions each year for our ELL students to assist them with this process.

Apprenticeships

- There are great opportunities for you in regards to taking on an apprenticeship and trade. Explore the following websites to investigate:
 - Apprenticeship search – <http://apprenticeshipsearch.com>
 - Ministry of Training – <http://www.tcu.gov.on.ca/eng/employmentontario/training>
 - Careers in Trades – <http://careerintrades.ca>

What about Going off to the “World of Work”?

- If you are not planning on going to college, university, or into an apprenticeship or trade, the following sites may be of interest to help you find work:
 - MONSTER – <http://www.monster.ca>
 - YOUTH CONNECT – <http://www.youthconnect.ca>
 - SERVICE CANADA – <http://www.servicecanada.gc.ca>
 - WORK SMART – <http://www.worksmartontario.gov.on.ca>
 - CITY OF MISSISSAUGA – <http://www.mycitycareer.ca>
 - TOWES – <http://www.towes.ca>

Military Careers

- Are you thinking that a career in the military might be an option? Then explore the Canadian Forces website – www.forces.ca. Make an appointment to see a recruiting officer who will explain the process of enrolling with the military as well as all the benefits of doing so.
 - When you enroll through the paid university or college programs, the Forces will pay for your university or college tuition, books, and academic equipment in addition to providing a salary and benefits while you attend school. In return for paying for your education, the Forces require you to serve for a period of time following graduation.

Paying for your Education:

- You may qualify for student loans through OSAP (Ontario Student Assistance Program). www.osap.gov.on.ca Go on this website in order to view a financial calculator, which will be the first step in determining if you qualify.
- Look to see if you qualify for any scholarships or bursaries. There are several great sites to help you do this – Student Awards – www.studentawards.com; Scholarships Canada – www.scholarshipscanada.com; School Finder – www.schoolfinder.com; and Can Learn – www.canlearn.ca.

Paying for your education, con't.

- Explore the website of the post-secondary institutions you are interested in attending either under “Admissions and Awards” or “Undergraduate Awards” – There are 2 types of scholarships that the universities/colleges will reference. One type requires an application and the other are known as Entrance Scholarships and are based on marks.
- Be aware that there are scholarships once you are at your post-secondary institution. Always inquire once you are there; get to know the people in the financial aid office.
- Pay attention to the submission dates of scholarships – late submissions will not be accepted; submissions are often early in the school year.
- Tap into possibilities through family members and their workplaces and well as organizations and clubs they belong to. Many companies will sponsor employee’s children/grandchildren, etc. It doesn’t hurt to ask.
- Ask your own workplace (if you work).
- Look into community organizations in the city. Many service groups have scholarship and award possibilities.

Additional Items to Consider when Applying to Post-Secondary:

- Many programs require entrance tests, auditions, portfolio assessments, interviews, coop or volunteer hours, and/or supplementary applications.
- Make yourself as “marketable” as possible – especially for highly competitive programs. Look for ways to stand out – sustained volunteering with a community agency is just one way to do so; being involved in your school – whether it is through sports, teams, clubs, groups, etc. is another.
- The PATH (Peers as Teacher Helpers) Program is a one-credit cooperative education opportunity for grade 12 students to work with a teacher and be placed in a junior level classroom for an entire semester. This program is recognized by many post-secondary institutions when students highlight their school connection and may be especially valuable when applying to programs needing supplementary applications as well as job opportunities at post-secondary (tutoring, TA positions, etc.)

Don't Forget:

- Your Community Service Hour requirement for graduation – you must have your 40 hours complete to graduate.
- You will be required to pass the Literacy Test in grade 10; alternatively you can take the Literacy course in grade 11 or 12.
- You need to have 30 credits to graduate, including all mandatory Ministry requirements and electives.
- You are welcome to see your guidance counsellor to review your Credit Counselling Summary, IPP and Post-Secondary Programs.

To think about...

Research all post-secondary destinations – do not discount one destination over another before you see what is available!

