

### **What is Cooperative Education?**

Co-op is an opportunity to earn secondary school credits while completing a work placement in the community.

- Make connections between school and work
- Develop Essential Skills and Work Habits required in a work setting
- Gain valuable work experience to help build a resume for postsecondary programs and future employment

***Co-op credits may be used to meet up to two of the 18 compulsory credit requirements for the Ontario Secondary School Diploma***

### **How Do I Apply?**

1. Complete a Co-op Application form with all required signatures and submit it to the Co-op office.
2. All students will be interviewed by a Co-op teacher.
3. The Co-op teacher completes a placement assessment before the student begins their placement.
4. Students are interviewed by their employer/supervisor before they begin their placement.

### **What are the three components of Co-op?**

Co-op includes:

1. Pre-placement – the first 3 weeks of the semester
2. Integration – In-school Co-op class, when students return to school
3. Placement - Students can earn 1 credit, 2 credits (a.m. or p.m.), 3 credits or 4 Co-op credits by integrating classroom theory with planning learning experiences in the community to achieve learning based on the curriculum expectations of related courses. Attendance is critical to the success at your placement and the in-school components.

### **Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP)**

Students who would like to explore a trade (Hairstyling, Cook, Baker, Special Events, HVAC, Electrical, Plumbing, Auto and Carpentry etc.) you are strongly encouraged to apply for the 3 or 4 credit co-op programs to ensure your hours, competencies and hours are met.

### **What is required?**

1. Students must have a Social Insurance Number (SIN)
2. Students must be 16 years of age
3. Students must have earned 16 credits.

### **Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM)**

SHSM students must complete a minimum of 2 credits of Co-op, as per the mandated requirements from the Ministry of Education. Please review the requirements with your guidance counsellor. If you are interested in learning more about the program or have any questions about Co-op, OYAP, and/or SHSM please visit the Co-op Department or your Guidance Counsellor.