

# Leaving the Nest

For I know the **plans** I have for you," declares the LORD, "**plans** to prosper you and not to harm you, **plans** to give you hope and a future."  
[Jeremiah 29:10-12](#)



## A GUIDE FOR PARENTS & STUDENTS GRADUATING FROM ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

Students are responsible to visit the following websites for information on:

- Student and parent responsibilities [www.sjconline.ca](http://www.sjconline.ca)
- Guidance services and resources [www.sjconline.ca](http://www.sjconline.ca)
- Apprenticeship [www.apprenticesearch.com](http://www.apprenticesearch.com)
- Private College [www.ontario.ca/page/search-private-career-college-ontario](http://www.ontario.ca/page/search-private-career-college-ontario)
- Workplace [www.youth.gc.ca](http://www.youth.gc.ca)
- Career College [www.oacc.on.ca](http://www.oacc.on.ca)
- Community College [www.ontariocolleges.ca](http://www.ontariocolleges.ca)
- University [www.electronicinfo.ca](http://www.electronicinfo.ca)
- Awards,/Scholarships/Bursaries [www.sjconline.ca](http://www.sjconline.ca)
- Financial Aid <http://osap.gov.on.ca>
- Financial planning <http://osap.gov.on.ca>

***Effective post-secondary planning is a joint venture between students, parents, and guidance counsellors. Together, this team can ensure that students fulfill their dreams and achieve their goals. This package outlines services that are available to help make the future of your son or daughter brighter.***

*Good plans shape good decisions. That's why good planning helps to make elusive dreams come true.*

**Lester R. Bittel**

## **Student Services and Resources**

1. The Student Services Department is responsible for distributing information about upcoming apprenticeship, college, university, and workplace initiatives such as workshops, visits, application deadlines and information nights. Important dates and initiatives are most often explained on the morning announcements, though some may also be explained on school websites, in assemblies, and on school bulletin boards.

2. The Student Services Department is pleased to offer the following upcoming workshops:

- Applying to University – November date TBD
- Applying to Community College – November date TBD

3. Special Community Events:

ONTARIO UNIVERSITY FAIR – The fair is ***cancelled*** this year due to COVID-19. Please visit [ontariouniversitiesfair.ca](http://ontariouniversitiesfair.ca) for more info and ways to connect with your chosen Ontario universities.

ONTARIO COLLEGES FAIR – This year's fair is ***VIRTUAL***. Visit [ontariocollegefair.ca](http://ontariocollegefair.ca) for more information.

5. It is the goal of the Student Services Department to honour the request of every College and/or University applicant's request for individual appointments to discuss post-secondary questions and plans. Given the projected number of post-secondary applications, however, counsellors may not be able to interview everyone.

***Students are advised to begin their career planning early.***

6. Students can also access many useful and important documents related to post-secondary planning. Some of these publications are in Student Services.

- **Ontario College Guide** – provides information on community college programs, contacts, prerequisites for oversubscribed programs, and application procedures
- **Apprenticeship Subject Pathways** – a resource for students, parents and educators to make informed educational choices in preparation for apprentice able occupations
- **Various university, college, and private college viewbooks**
- **SAT materials** for those considering application to American colleges
- **Access to the Internet** for the purposes of academic, career, and scholarship research; it is recommended that students visit the following sites during this school year:

- [www.myblueprint.ca](http://www.myblueprint.ca) – an interactive website to explore options after high-school including occupations, apprenticeships and exploring the various institutions

- [www.osca.ca](http://www.osca.ca) -- the homepage of the Ontario Guidance Counsellors' Association contains numerous links to post-secondary institutions, Scholarship websites, career exploration tools, and much more

- [www.studentawards.com](http://www.studentawards.com) – provides information on numerous scholarships

- [www.myfuture.ca](http://www.myfuture.ca) -- Ontario Universities planning site

- [www.canlearn.ca](http://www.canlearn.ca) – Can Learn Interactive everything you need to help plan and finance education and learning

- [www.youthjobs.gov.on.ca](http://www.youthjobs.gov.on.ca) – provides information on part-time jobs, apprenticeships, and starting a small business

- [www.apprenticesearch.com](http://www.apprenticesearch.com) -- focuses on apprenticeships and various skilled trades

- [www.careersintrades.ca](http://www.careersintrades.ca) – exploring over 300 trades

## **It is the responsibility of the Student and Parent to....**

1. **Ensure that you have the credits necessary for graduation.** Graduation requirements are listed in the Course Calendar. On your report cards, you may periodically be given a tally of how many credits you have earned; it is your responsibility to ensure that your marks and credits are recorded correctly. If there is an error in the reporting of your grades or credits, please contact your Guidance Counsellor immediately.

2. **Ensure that you have the correct prerequisites for your post-secondary destination.** In general, most universities require six 4U and/or 4M credits for admission, although students should understand that different programs and different universities require specific subjects and grades. College programs have varying requirements; students should become familiar with these requirements before applying. Private colleges and apprenticeships also have specific expectations of their applicants. It is the responsibility of the student to know and to fulfill the expectations of the post-secondary destination of choice. Students who recognize early in the school year that there are gaps in their preparation for a specific program or destination should contact their counsellor well before second semester begins.

3. **Ensure that you stay familiar with the requirements of your post-secondary destination.** Many institutions change their requirements from year to year. It is the responsibility of the student and his/her parent to stay current on these changes.

4. **Attend all appropriate group workshops, presentations, assemblies, and Guidance appointments.** The majority of information about post-secondary destinations is delivered in a group format. It is the student's responsibility to become aware of these group sessions, to sign up for them, and to attend them. Parents should continue to show interest in their son or daughter's post-secondary planning by attending evening presentations, facilitating on-campus tours, dialoguing with their son/daughter, and keeping involved in the process.

5. **Apply for post-secondary programs and financial assistance (including OSAP, scholarships and bursaries) by the deadlines indicated on forms and web sites.** It is the student's responsibility to become aware of these deadlines and to meet them.

6. **Research all facets of post-secondary life**, including:

- a. Type of programs available
- b. Size of institution and/or program
- c. Location of institution, program, and community
- d. Tuition and other fees
- e. Financing options, including scholarships, bursaries, co-op and OSAP
- f. Living conditions, such as residences, off-campus housing, and relatives' homes
- g. Athletics, clubs, activities, and social life
- h. Current admission standards and previous cut-off averages
- i. Class sizes, qualifications of faculty, academic reputation

# Post-Secondary Destinations

## Apprenticeship

An apprentice is someone who learns a skilled trade on the job, under the direction of more experienced workers. Apprentices also complete classroom instruction as a part of their training.

Apprentices are workers, so you will need to find an employer who will train you. Employment Ontario can help you with your job search and there are online tools including the Ontario Job Bank. Apprentices must be members of the Ontario College of Trades.

Becoming an apprentice can be an important first step to learning new skills and building a rewarding career. Jobs in the skilled trades pay well and are interesting and challenging. Plus, you earn while you learn.

There are hundreds of trades to choose from. Some require you to take an exam once your training is complete. Training in what are known as Red Seal Trades allows you to work in other provinces and territories.

Apprentices become skilled workers once they have acquired the knowledge and skills in a trade or occupation and are certified by a provincial or territorial authority.

Contact your Guidance Counsellor/ Co-op/OYAP Department about apprenticeship opportunities.

BHNCDSB's OYAP Coordinator: Carmine Romano

Email: [cromano@bhncdsb.ca](mailto:cromano@bhncdsb.ca)

Telephone: (519)756-6505 Ext 246

Fax: (519) 753 6555

Employment Ontario Employment Services are located throughout the City of Brantford and are an excellent starting point. Centres are located at:

Brant Employment Centre – St. Leonard's Community Services

225 Fairview Drive, Brantford, 519-756-7665

Careerlink Community Employment Centre

Market Square, Brantford, 519-759-1412

Community Resource and Employment Service

Suite 202, 1100 Clarence Street South, Brantford, 519-751-4357

Apprenticeships provide training in numerous skilled occupations in four sectors. Some sample occupations for each sector are listed below:

### **Motive Power**

Auto Body Repairer

Automotive Service Technician

Farm Equipment Mechanic

Heavy Duty Equipment Mechanic

Motorcycle Mechanic

### **Construction**

Brick and Stone Mason

Electrician

Refrigeration/Air Conditioning Mechanic

General Carpenter

Plumber

### **Industrial**

Automatic Machinist

Millwright

Printer

Tool and Die Maker

Fitter

### **Service**

Arborist

Cook

Hairstylist

Horticulturist

Radio/Television Service

More information about apprenticeships may be found at:

- <http://www.tcu.gov.on.ca/eng/apprentices/faq.html>
- <http://www.collegeoftrades.ca/about/trades-in-ontario>
- <http://www.earnwhileyoulearn.ca/>
- <http://oyap.com/en/links/>
- <http://www.careersintrades.ca/>
- <http://www.apprenticesearch.com/>
- <https://caf-fca.org/> Canadian Apprenticeship Forum
- <http://www.tcu.gov.on.ca/eng/labourmarket/ojf/> Ontario Job Futures

## Ontario College of Trades (OCOT) Information:

The Ontario College of Trades (the College) is an industry-driven, professional regulatory body that protects the public by regulating and promoting the skilled trades.

One of the main responsibilities of the College is to ensure that individuals performing the skills of compulsory trades have the training and certification required to legally practice this trade in Ontario.

The College puts the decision-making in the hands of those that are directly impacted by those decisions.

The College is also responsible for:

- Issuing certificates of qualification and statements of membership
- Establishing apprenticeship programs and other training programs
- Maintaining a public registry of its members
- The process for determining appropriate apprentice to journeyperson ratios
- The process for trade classification reviews
- Establishing the scope of practice for trades

The Ontario College of Trades and Apprenticeship Act, 2009 was introduced to the Legislature in May of 2009 and received Royal Assent on October 27, 2009.

Under the legislation, the College has the mandate and powers to regulate all approved trades in Ontario, and will perform standard regulatory functions such as:

- Issuing licenses and certificates of membership;
- Protecting the public interest through investigation and discipline mechanisms;
- Setting standards for training and certification;
- Conducting research and collecting relevant data to support future apprenticeship and certification policies;
- Removing barriers and increasing access for internationally trained workers.

The Ontario College of Trades is governed by a Board of Governors that is comprised of 21 members representing both employers and employees in the sector and the general public.

**“LIVE THE SKILLED LIFE”**

## **Community College**

Students apply to college using the Ontario College Application Service. This service is available on-line and costs the student \$95.00 (non-refundable fee). This fee is payable by MasterCard, Visa, Visa Debit, American Express, Interac Online, certified cheque or money order. Students may apply to five college programs in Ontario, with no more than three program choices from any one college.

Students applying to colleges outside Ontario are responsible for obtaining applications directly from those institutions and returning them on their own. Counsellors are available for consultation.

All applications to Ontario community colleges are processed online through the Ontario College Application Service (OCAS) in Guelph at [www.ontariocolleges.ca](http://www.ontariocolleges.ca). From there, relevant information is distributed to the colleges to which students apply. It is important to note however, that OCAS will only forward your choices to the appropriate colleges after they have received your payment. The following timeline applies only to those students who are requesting admission to Ontario community colleges:

### ***September, October, November***

Conduct research on post-secondary programs by:

- ✓ reading college calendars
- ✓ attending college presentations
- ✓ visiting relevant web sites
- ✓ determining your eligibility for scholarships
- ✓ surveying friends who are at college this year
- ✓ seeing your guidance counsellor
- ✓ visiting college campuses

### ***December to January***

Students are invited to schedule a personal interview to further discuss their own individual choices. Students should also attend a workshop on Applying to Community College. At this workshop:

- ❖ learn how to apply on-line
- ❖ complete a working copy of your application
- ❖ receive technical help only with the application; guidance about program choices and codes will not be provided here
- ❖ apply online at the OCAS website at [www.ontariocolleges.ca](http://www.ontariocolleges.ca)

**All applications to Ontario community colleges must be received by the Ontario College Application Service on or before FEBRUARY 1, 2021 in order to be given equal consideration.**

### ***February to April***

- In February, the school electronically submits first semester grades to the Application Centre.
- It is important to note that February 1<sup>st</sup> is not a deadline for submitting applications; it is simply the date that equal consideration will be given in over-subscribed programs. If a program is not full on February 1<sup>st</sup> applications will be considered on a first come-first served basis. Some combined degree/diploma programs will not consider late applications.
- In March / April, students receive an Amendment / Acknowledgement from the Application Service. It is important that students verify the accuracy of the information on their account and make any necessary changes as soon as possible. Students will also begin to receive information from the colleges to which they applied. They should read all information carefully and ensure that all deadlines for interviews, portfolios, entrance tests, and supplementary forms are met. If students are unsure of anything they receive from colleges, they should ask their counsellors.
- Early February is the earliest time that students may expect an offer of admission to a community college. Offers of admission will continue to be issued until programs are filled.
- In April, students' second semester mid-term marks are sent electronically to the Application Centre.

### ***May to July***

- Successful applicants must confirm through the Application Service their acceptance of an offer of admission by May 1<sup>st</sup>. Those who have been denied admission should contact their counsellor to determine which programs still have available seats.
- In July, students' semester two final marks will be sent electronically to the Application Centre. After colleges receive students' final grades, they can either confirm or withdraw conditional offers of admission.



## Private College

Private colleges and community colleges are not the same things. Private vocational schools are often referred to as career colleges. They offer specialized training in a specific area, are privately owned, and are often approved and regulated by the provincial government. Typically, the tuition at private colleges is higher, but students often graduate in a shorter amount of time than they do from community college programs. Some of Brantford's most popular private colleges are listed below for your convenience. A more comprehensive list of Ontario private colleges can be found at <http://www.oacc.on.ca/>. Students interested in applying to private colleges are responsible for obtaining applications directly from those institutions and returning them on their own. Counsellors are available for consultation.

## Selected Private Colleges in Brantford Area

**Allanti School of Hairstyling and Aesthetics** -134 West Street, Brantford, ON N3T 3G3  
Telephone: (519) 751-1653

**Career Colleges Ontario** – 155 Lynden Road, Unit 2, Brantford, ON N3R 8A7  
Telephone: (519) 752-2124

**Ontario Truck Driving School** – 459 Paris Road, Brantford, ON N3T 5L8  
Telephone: (519) 751-4111

**Robar Training Specialists** – #114, 3228 South Service Road, Burlington, ON L7N 3H8  
Telephone: 1-888-664-9797

**Medix & Westervelt College** – #104, 39 King George Road, Brantford, Ontario N3R 5K2  
Telephone: 519-752-4859

## Workplace Information

Approximately 25% of our graduates in the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School system directly enter the work force after high school. Some may only seek employment for a short period of time, ranging from that gap semester to a full year, while others may be looking for full time, meaningful employment. Whatever the reason, this pathway serves as an excellent vehicle to increase personal savings and one's knowledge of his or her place in the world of work.

## University

Students applying to universities within Ontario are encouraged to seek information by attending individual university sessions held at St. John's College. Students are also encouraged to attend the University Fair in Toronto, as well as the University Information Program and visit universities of interest.

Students should note university application fees are \$150.00 for their initial three university/program choices and \$50.00 for each university/program choice beyond the initial three choices. The fee is payable by Visa, Mastercard, American Express, Online Banking, Western Union. Students applying to universities outside Ontario are responsible for obtaining applications directly from those institutions and returning them on their own. Counsellors are available for consultation.

All applications to Ontario universities are processed online through the Ontario Universities' Application Centre (OUAC) in Guelph at [www.ouac.on.ca](http://www.ouac.on.ca). From there, relevant information is distributed to the universities to which students apply. The following timeline applies only to those students who are requesting admission to Ontario universities:

### *September/October*

Conduct research on post-secondary programs by:

- ✓ reading university calendars
- ✓ attending university presentations
- ✓ visiting relevant web sites
- ✓ determining your eligibility for scholarships
- ✓ surveying friends who are at university this year
- ✓ seeing your guidance counsellor
- ✓ visiting university campuses

### *November/December/January*

Attend a workshop on Applying to University. At this workshop:

- ❖ learn how to apply on-line
- ❖ complete a working copy of your application
- ❖ receive only technical help with the application; guidance about program choices and codes will not be provided here

**All on-line applications to Ontario universities must be received by the Ontario Universities' Application Centre at [www.ouac.on.ca](http://www.ouac.on.ca) by JANUARY 15, 2021.**

**This is an absolute deadline for equal consideration!**

### ***February/March/April***

- Students will begin to receive information from the universities to which they applied. They should read all information carefully and ensure that all deadlines for interviews, portfolios, and supplementary forms are met. If students are unsure of anything they receive from universities, they should ask their counselors.
- **In February, students should go online and verify the accuracy of such information as their grades and course history.** The accuracy of such information is crucial, since universities base their admission decisions, at least in part, on students' grade eleven marks, first semester final marks, and second semester midterm marks. Students should be certain to report any night school courses they are taking that are not yet recorded on this verification form. The school electronically submits first semester grades to the Application Centre in February.
- Many universities offer special tours and programs throughout the school year, especially during the March Break. Students are encouraged to visit the universities to which they applied if they have not already done so. Posters and brochures do not tell the whole story about a university campus!
- In April, students' second semester mid-term marks will be sent electronically to the Application Centre.

### ***May/June/July***

- Students who have completed their university requirements by the end of semester one may receive an early acceptance from universities.
- Most students will receive an indication of whether they have been accepted or declined admission to university by the end of May. Applicants may be required to respond to conditional offers commencing June 1<sup>st</sup>.
- In July, students' semester two final marks will be sent electronically to the Application Centre. After universities receive students' final grades, they can either confirm or withdraw conditional offers of admission.

## Financial Planning

Use this chart to calculate the costs of attending the private college, community college and/or university of your choice. If you are unsure of any of the prices of the items, research them by visiting appropriate web sites, reading calendars, or speaking to post-secondary representatives.

Item	Description	Amount
Tuition	This covers the basic cost of taking courses at the institution; tuition is usually different for full-time and part-time students.	
Student Activity Fees	This fee usually covers student government and athletic fees. Some schools also include the cost of a bus pass in their student fees.	
Books	In most cases, books may be purchased new or used. Used books are often much less expensive than new ones.	
Additional Materials	Some programs, such as the paramedic, photography, architectural technology programs, require special supplies and equipment.	
Housing	Living at home is often the cheapest route to go, but your program may require you to live in residence, in an apartment, with a relative, or in a room in someone else's home.	
Telephone and Internet	Having your own phone line can be expensive, especially if you are making many long distance phone calls to home and to friends. Don't forget the cost of your cellular phone, if you have one. The Internet is becoming more and more important in some programs, but you may have free access at your institution of choice.	
Utilities (Gas and Hydro)	Some housing options include utilities in the price of rent; some do not.	
Food	Calculate the price of the meal plan if you live in residence, the price of groceries if you live off campus, and the cost of eating out periodically.	
Laundry and Dry Cleaning	Washers and dryers take a lot of loose change	
Transportation	Local and Home: Consider how you will transport yourself to school every day and to home on some weekends. If you intend to drive a car, don't forget to include parking costs in the total.	
Entertainment	How much will you need for movies, concerts, clubs, and dates? Going out is expensive!	
Personal Items	Include the cost of toiletries, gifts, and hobbies in this section. These little items can add up if you aren't careful.	
Clothing	Consider the cost of clothing yourself while you are a student. Don't forget that you may be in school in the fall, in the winter, in the spring, and in the summer, depending on your program of study.	
Total	Add carefully and start saving today.	

## Sources of Funds for Higher Education

The following are common sources of funds used by students and their families for higher education:

1. Personal savings (from summer jobs)
2. Help from family (RESPs & other support)
3. Government loans & grants
4. Private loans (lines of credit from banks, etc.)
5. Working during the school year

Even with funding from all the common sources above, the average student who graduates with debt has about \$27,000 of debt to pay back after their first degree or diploma.

Here are some tips on finding more sources of free money to decrease (or eliminate) potential postsecondary debt:

- 1) Visit college and university Financial Aid websites. All higher ed institutions have Financial Aid webpages which list ever-changing possible sources of funding for prospective and current students from government loans to entrance awards, bursaries and other scholarships offered uniquely to students attending that school.
- 2) Familiarize yourself with government student loan and grant programs. Start at: [www.canlearn.ca](http://www.canlearn.ca). Each province's loan program details are listed here. Application deadlines are important to note.
- 3) Register at [www.ScholarshipsCanada.com](http://www.ScholarshipsCanada.com) which has a matching system to help narrow down awards best suited to your unique profile. There's also a search tool located at the top right corner for registered members when they log in. Parents and educators are welcome to sign up. Over \$177 million dollars in awards are available every school year!
- 4) If you are considering college visit [www.ontariocolleges.ca/colleges/paying-for-college](http://www.ontariocolleges.ca/colleges/paying-for-college)
- 5) If you have a disability visit [www.disabilityawards.ca](http://www.disabilityawards.ca)
- 6) Ask employers—your parents' and/or your own. They may have a scholarship for employees and their children or a tuition reimbursement program.
- 7) Use [www.HigherEdPoints.com](http://www.HigherEdPoints.com). We allow you to convert anyone's loyalty points into funds for tuition and for loan repayments at over 85 Participating Institutions in Canada!
- 8) When on campus stop in each year at the Financial Aid office (when touring, but especially once enrolled). Visit regularly to ask about any new or open awards. Your school might have a "one app" program (e.g. UNB has ONE application students fill out each year which automatically puts students in the running over 850 awards—imagine getting a cash windfall just because you filled in a form!)
- 9) Ask about Work Study programs on your campus—usually run by the Financial Aid department.
- 10) Make the Campus Career Center another regular stop on your rounds. A job will earn you some cash, but it may also help you land a job once you graduate. Employers like students with 2-3 years' work experience (even for 'entry level' positions!).

***Searching for funds for higher education pays off...search now, search often!***