POST-SECONDARY PLANNING GUIDE FOR SJC STUDENTS & PARENTS

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

SJC Student Services (diploma requirements, awards, bursaries & scholarships, community hours, grad info, etc.)	sjconline.ca
Ontario University Information	www.ouinfo.ca
Ontario Colleges	www.ontariocolleges.ca
Financial Aid & Planning	http://osap.gov.on.ca
OYAP/Skilled Trades	oyapskilledtrades.ca
Edge Factor (Skilled Trades)	https://edgefactor.com
Employers & Apprentices Across Canada	www.apprenticesearch.com
Private Career College	www.ontario.ca/page/search-private-career-college-ontario
Career Colleges Ontario	careercollegesontario.ca
Scholar Tree	scholartree.ca
Student Awards	studentawards.com
Student Scholarships	studentscholarships.org
SAT Information	prepskills.com

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 2, 2026 (PERIOD 2 in the cafe)**
- ✓ Applying to **College** – **November 12, 2026 (PERIOD 2 in the library)**

3. Special Events:

ONTARIO UNIVERSITY FAIR

- September 26 & 27, 2026 9:30am-5pm, daily In-Person at Metro Toronto Convention Centre, South Building

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

- **Apprenticeship Subject Pathways**: a resource for students, parents and educators to make informed educational choices in preparation for apprenticeships
- **Various university, college, and private college viewbooks**

It is the responsibility of the Student and Parent to….

1. ***Ensure that you have the credits necessary for graduation***. Graduation requirements reviewed with students during both their grade 11 and 12 visit with their guidance counsellor. 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 or the Co-Op Department about apprenticeship opportunities.

BHNCDSB's Recruiter/Co-Operative Education Coordinator: Jennifer Boluk-Svec

Email: jsvec@bhncdsb.ca
Telephone: (519)756-6505 Ext 12471
Follow: @OYAPbhncdsb
Website: oyapskilledtrades.ca

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

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

SOAR Community Services **(519) 759-8830**
Career Link **(519) 759-1412**

Community College

Students apply to college using the Ontario College Application Service. This service is available on-line and costs the student $150.00 (non-refundable fee). This fee is payable by credit card or Interac online. 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 . 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

All applications to Ontario community colleges must be received by the Ontario College Application Service on or before FEBRUARY 1, 2027 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 1st 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 1st, 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 1st. 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

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 $159.00 for their initial three university/program choices and $51.00 for each university/program choice beyond the initial three choices. The fee is payable by credit or debit. 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. 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 **by**
JANUARY 15, 2027
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 1st.
- ✓ 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.