

APPLYING TO COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY IN CANADA

Where Can Students Find Information @ BDHS?

- There is a scholarship board across from the Guidance office that Guidance updates as regularly as we are provided information about different scholarships.
 - This package was sent to Grade 12 students' school emails.
 - Universities and colleges provide us with information booklets about their schools that can be found in Guidance.
 - We have pamphlets and little info sheets as handouts resting on a ledge below the college booklets in Guidance.
 - They can book an appointment with a Guidance counselor (before school, at lunch, and after school) to discuss any and all things post-secondary.
 - There is usually information posted to the Guidance window or walls about university/college.
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UNIVERSITY BOUND STUDENTS

BDHS will host the Ontario Universities Regional Fair on Tuesday, October 8 from 6:00-8:00 pm in our cafeteria. All are welcome.

High School Courses Required for Entry

In order to attend university in Ontario, students must complete some combination of six 12U or 12M classes, one of which must be ENG4U1, as well as achieving an OSSD (graduate high school). Each program has different program admission requirements, which can be found at the university information website listed on the next page, or on each school's individual website.

High School Marks

- Universities can see final marks for any Grade 12 class. They see all Grade 12 final course marks, including courses completed in previous years, and the current

year's semester one and semester two final marks. They also see semester two midterm marks.

- Universities can see Grade 11 marks, though a university's FINAL OFFER is always based on Grade 12 U/M final marks.
- Students may receive conditional offers before high school courses have finished.

Early Acceptance to University

All offers are conditional upon students completing high school and maintaining any averages as made clear in the offer – for example a school might make a conditional offer that will become firm so long as the student maintains an overall average of 70% in all classes or might be more course specific like the student must maintain at least a 70% average in English.

Early offers do go out to certain people. It is not a myth. Universities do make offers to students based on Grade 11 final marks in the prerequisites of courses required for program entry – ENG3U for example, or SBI3U for a student applying to a Biology program.

While it does feel good to receive an early offer of admission, it is still conditional, like any offer, and is often just used to make students stop looking at other schools. You do not have to respond to an offer of admission until the end of May/early June, regardless of when it was offered to you. Additionally, accepting one offer does not prevent you from receiving other offers, but you can only have one acceptance on file at a time. In order to accept a different offer, you must first cancel your original acceptance.

Anyone who gets an offer February/March/April goes to the same school and completes the same program as someone who was offered early admission for that same school/program.

Applying to Universities in Ontario

Students apply to Ontario universities through a site called OUAC. It is a common application that students use to apply to multiple schools in Ontario:
<https://www.ouac.on.ca/>.

In order to apply for university in Ontario, you need a personalized PIN #. These numbers, generated by OUAC, are released to schools in late October/early November. You then use that PIN to create an account with OUAC and go through the application process.

Ontario university applications are due January 15, 2020.

Generally, you pay \$150 to apply to three different programs. Those programs can be at different schools, the same school, or a combination. It costs an extra \$50 for each additional program for which you want to apply.

Many universities, particularly for competitive programs, will ask students to complete supplemental applications on top of their application through OUAC. If a university sends you information on completing a supplemental application, consider it mandatory.

Information on university programs, their admission requirements, and more can be found at <http://www.ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca/>.

Applying to Universities outside of Ontario

If you are applying to a school outside of Ontario, but in Canada, you apply as an out of province applicant directly to each school – see each school’s website for application instructions.

You are responsible for having an official copy of your transcript (marks) sent to each school. You can obtain an official copy through the Guidance @ BDHS.

COLLEGE BOUND STUDENTS

BDHS will be taking 80 students to the Ontario College Information Fair at the Enercare Centre in Toronto on Thursday, October 24. The cost is \$5 and permission forms are in Guidance.

High School Courses/Marks Required for College Entry

The majority of college programs outside of medical professions only look at the Grade 12 English mark as the average for admission. Also, students need to be graduating high school. For medical programs – dentistry, nursing, paramedics, etc., colleges will look at Grade 11 College Biology, Grade 12 College Chemistry, Grade 12 College Math, and Grade 12 College English.

Applying to College in Ontario

Ontario colleges have their own consortium called OCAS. If you are applying to an Ontario college, you apply through OCAS (www.ontariocolleges.ca).

- Generally, you pay \$95 to apply to up to five different programs, but they cannot all be at one school.

- You must apply to at least two different schools.
- You can apply to a maximum of three different programs at one school.

Ontario college applications are NOW OPEN and the deadline for applying is February 1, 2020.

Information on Ontario college programs, their admission requirements, and more can be found at <https://www.ontariocolleges.ca/en>.

Applying to College Outside of Ontario

If you are applying to a school outside of Ontario, but in Canada, you apply as an out of province applicant directly to each school – see each school’s website for application instructions.

You are responsible for having an official copy of your transcript (marks) sent to each school. You can obtain an official copy through the Guidance @ BDHS.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT APPLICANTS

University

Information on applying to an Ontario university as an international student can be found at <https://www.ouac.on.ca/>. International applicants may need to complete and submit tests such as the TOEFL with their applications.

College

International students apply to colleges directly through each college’s website. More information can be found at <https://www.ontariocolleges.ca/en/apply/international-applicants>

International students applying to college may need to complete and submit tests, such as the TOEFL, with their applications.

APPLYING TO COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY IN THE UNITED STATES

Here is a little info from the Embassy on a Canadian attending school in the US:

<https://ca.usembassy.gov/visas/canadian-students/>

If you want to apply to a school in the US, there is something called the Common Application, sort of like our OUAC and OCAS, which allows you to apply to many schools through one application (with some tweaks). However, there is also the direct route, applying only to the few schools you are interested in directly.

Go to a school's website and search for international undergraduate admission requirements.

Here is a link to the Common App website: <https://www.commonapp.org/>

Many US schools require you to take and submit the scores of either the SAT or the ACT (you do not need to take both). I have information on the ACT with me in Guidance. These are standardized tests meant to rank applicants' competencies in different areas.

No matter what school or schools you are applying to in the US, it is important to get started now, as it is a more complicated process than applying to school in Ontario as it is your responsibility to get the school official copies of report cards/transcripts (usually through a high school official such as a Guidance Counselor).

FINANCIAL AID (OSAP, Scholarships, Bursaries, Grants)

College or University Bound Students Applying to Schools in Ontario

- OSAP is the Ontario Student Assistance Program that provides financial assistance to students based on need.
- It is part loan, part grant – this means that some of the money received must be paid back (you can start paying it back any time but do not have to start paying it back until after you have completed your schooling). The other part of the money received, the grant, is money that does not have to be paid back.
- OSAP is something you apply for and you have to prove your financial situation.
- Your parent(s)/guardian(s) need to submit information about their income from their taxes.

- You are encouraged to apply for OSAP no later than two months before you will start school as it can take many weeks to process the applications. This information and more can be found at <https://www.ontario.ca/page/osap-ontario-student-assistance-program>. There is also an estimator that provides an idea of how much money you may receive based on your program choice and your parent(s)/guardian(s) income.

Scholarships Not Tied to One Specific School

Major scholarships not tied to one specific college/university usually send us marketing material throughout the semester. When they do, we post that information on the scholarship board across from Guidance. In years past (as will be the same this year), scholarships that require the student to be nominated by the school are promoted on our announcements and there is a one page BDHS application form to be filled out for each scholarship. These internal application pages can in Guidance. There are internal BDHS deadlines so that our three-member committee can decide on who would best represent our school for that scholarship opportunity.

Please check scholarship opportunities carefully, as some are available only for students attending certain universities, only for students attending certain colleges, or for students attending any post-secondary institution. Scholarships might also have certain minimum grade average requirements or other special requirements.

The following annual scholarships are major scholarships that require nomination from the school:

The Loran Scholarship - <https://loranscholar.ca/>

- The Loran Scholarship has two paths of application submission - being nominated by your school and direct pool applications. The benefit of being one of the school nominees is you are usually given a regional interview opportunity, whereas that is not as guaranteed for direct pool applicants. If you are not chosen by your school, you are still encouraged to apply directly.
- The **sponsored application deadline for the Loran Scholarship is October 17** and the **direct pool application deadline is October 24**.
- To be considered for the BDHS nomination, students need to complete and submit the **BDHS application back to Guidance by Wednesday, October 9, 2019 at 2:30 pm**.

The UofT National Book Award - <https://future.utoronto.ca/scholarships/national-book-award/>

- The U of T National Book Award prize is an actual book. Being the National Book Award recipient from your high school also provides sponsorship for the U of T National Scholarship.
- There is also a direct pool application for that scholarship.
- The important note is to receive the scholarship you have to be attending U of T. To receive the book, you can be going anywhere.
- To be considered for the BDHS nomination, students need to complete and submit the **BDHS application back to Guidance by Friday, October 11, 2019 at 2:30 pm.**

Queen's Chancellor's Scholarship and QuARMS

- <https://www.queensu.ca/studentawards/admission-awards/major-admission-awards>

- The Queen's Chancellor's Scholarship and QuARMS are two different scholarships (QuARMS is an advanced Medicine program)
- Schools are allowed to nominate one student for each scholarship.
- The Queen's deadline for submission is **December 1, 2019** and in order to submit an application for the scholarship, students need to have a Queen's SOLUS #, which they get upon applying to Queen's. Because it takes time to process applications, students are encouraged to **apply to Queen's no later than November 20.**
- To be considered for the BDHS nomination, students need to complete and submit the **BDHS application back to Guidance by Wednesday, November 13, 2019 at 2:30 pm.**

Schulich Leader Scholarships - <https://www.schulichleaders.com/>

- The school can nominate one student for this scholarship.
- It is for someone wishing to study a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) program without the intent of pursuing medicine.
- The deadline for us to submit our nominee is **January 29, 2020** and the nominee application deadline is **February 19, 2020.**
- To be considered for the BDHS nomination, students need to complete and submit the **BDHS application back to Guidance by Monday, January 20, 2020 at 2:30 pm.**

There may be others along the way, but generally, there will be many announcements about these scholarship opportunities and their deadlines once the BDHS internal application is ready to go, listen to announcements and check in with Guidance.

College and University Specific Financial Aid

Every college/university has a multitude of their own scholarships. For these, go to the specific college/university you are interested in and check their financial aid/fees section. Many of these scholarships cannot be applied for until you have actually accepted an offer to the school and have a valid student number.

Bursaries are awards given to (usually first year students) based on merit or need. They may be referred to as entrance scholarships/awards. Need based bursaries generally require applications. Usually, there are merit based bursaries (for example, enter with a 90+ average and get \$4000) and need based bursaries if you can prove financial hardship. Information on a school's bursary procedures can also be found on their individual websites.

Alternatively, the few websites we know and have somewhat vetted that promote scholarships that are not usually tied to one university are:

www.scholarshipscanada.com

www.studentawards.com

<http://www.ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca/scholarships>

<https://www.ontariocolleges.ca/en/colleges/paying-for-college>

Want to discuss/explore your options? Book an appointment with a Guidance Counselor today!