

# **Post Secondary Information Booklet**

**Important Information for Students**

**Thorold Secondary School 2020-2021**

## **POST SECONDARY INFORMATION: 2020-2021**

**Before you become committed to attending a college or university next September, have you considered the following:**

1. A Gap Year: When a student takes a year off after completing high school and entering post-secondary, the time spent is usually referred to as a gap year. A gap year filled with work, travel, volunteer opportunities, and personal reflection may serve you well in the future. Check out 'gap year' websites.
2. Registered Private Schools: There are a variety of private colleges and schools that offer condensed instruction in specific skills and careers. These programs cost more money but take less time. The schools emphasize their ability to find employment for graduates. Be sure that the private college you are interested in is registered with the Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities.
3. Canadian Armed Forces: Career training is possible for Grade 12 graduates. The Canadian Armed Forces offers graduates the opportunity to receive a post-secondary education in combination with a commitment to service. Start with an interview with a recruiter.
4. Apprenticeships: An apprenticeship is an opportunity to learn a skilled trade on the job while being paid. CO-OP and OYAP teachers can give you more information. An apprenticeship also requires mandatory classroom instruction, with this cost being largely covered by the provincial government. You must register with the Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities. Visit [www.ontario.ca/page/skilled-trades](http://www.ontario.ca/page/skilled-trades) and [www.collegeoftrades.ca](http://www.collegeoftrades.ca) for more information
5. Workforce: Students interested in joining the workforce directly after high school can visit a counsellor at Job Gym. Their website is [www.jobgym.com](http://www.jobgym.com)

**Before you narrow down your school and program choices for post-secondary education to your final choices on your application, have you considered:**

1. Applied Degrees: You can work toward a Bachelor Degree at a college as well as at a university. The advantages to earning your degree at a college are smaller class sizes and a more hands-on and career-focused approach to your learning. Faculty in these programs come with previous industry experience. Experiential learning within your program (such as paid co-op) provide real-life experiences.
2. College to University Transfer Agreements: You can combine theoretical learning (university) with practical skills (college) through a combined diploma/degree program, or by transferring to a university after completing your college diploma. In this manner, students who graduate high school with ENG4C, can still earn a degree. More information is available at [www.ontransfer.ca](http://www.ontransfer.ca)
3. Full Disclosure of Transcripts: Full disclosure on high school transcripts provides post-secondary institutions an accurate reflection of the prospective students' work habits and scholastic achievements. Repeated attempts and original marks of all Grade 11 and 12 courses will be reflected on a student's transcript. To avoid registering a poor mark on the transcript, students have 5 days after their midterm report to withdraw from a course. Different post-secondary institutions have varying policies toward repeated attempts which may affect your opportunity for admission.
4. Reviewing Courses in First Year: To help you choose between two similar programs at two different institutions, take a look at the actual courses you will be taking in first year. You may find a significant difference in what you are required to take, which may assist you in your decision making.

**Now that you have begun to narrow down your post-secondary choices, you should visit the schools that you are interested in, and their websites. You can book virtual tours and attend virtual Open Houses at various colleges and universities. Below are some sample questions you may want to consider asking at the virtual tour or presentation:**

- What programs are this school best known for?
- Do they offer co-op and experiential learning programs? If so, in which areas?  
What costs are associated with this?
- I'm interested in your scholarship program – please tell me about it.
- What supports do you offer for students with identifications and learning needs?
- How much is tuition for the program that I am interested in?
- How much can I expect to pay for textbooks and materials?
- Is residence guaranteed? What is the cost? What are the meal plan options?
- What social networks are in place to help me get to know people?
- How do I find out what extra-curriculars are available and how to sign up?
- How do I get an on-campus job?
- Can I transfer to (from) your school after first year? Will I lose credits?
- What is your graduate job placement rate?
- What are the sizes of first year classes?

**Are you ready to decide on your program/school selection? Make sure that you know the answers to the following questions:**

- Do your schools make alternative offers of admission?
- Are you considering more than one program choice at your university?
- How do your schools utilize Grade 11 marks?
- Are there supplemental applications?
- Is there a deferral policy?
- What is the policy on repeated courses?
- What is the policy on night school, summer school, eLearning, and virtual school courses?
- Will the order in which you rank a program/school on the OUAC application affect admission?
- What supports are available for your transition to university?
- How do the scholarship opportunities compare between your schools?

**IMPORTANT DATES – It is strongly recommended that potential grads complete their post-secondary applications BEFORE December Break in order to avoid undue stress and potential disappointment.**

**COLLEGE** -Research and apply at [www.ontariocolleges.ca](http://www.ontariocolleges.ca) – no PIN is required  
-Date of 'equal consideration' is **February 1, 2021**  
-Continue to apply for scholarships beyond entrance scholarships

**UNIVERSITY** -Research at [www.ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca](http://www.ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca)  
-Apply at [www.ouac.on.ca](http://www.ouac.on.ca) – you will need a PIN number, which you will receive from Guidance  
-Your will be prompted to change your temporary password, so write it down or take a picture  
-Date of 'equal consideration' is **January 15, 2021**  
-Continue to apply for scholarships beyond entrance scholarships

## COLLEGE APPLICANTS

### FIRST: RESEARCHING COLLEGES & PROGRAMS: WHERE DO YOU WANT TO GO?

1. [www.ontariocolleges.ca](http://www.ontariocolleges.ca) – all Ontario colleges are in this website
2. Individual college websites (eg. [www.niagaracollege.ca](http://www.niagaracollege.ca))
3. Student Services – we have information books for Ontario colleges
4. College presentations – we have arranged virtual presentations with several colleges, which will be held in October and November 2020. The link to the specific virtual meeting will be posted in Google Class of 2021, so you can easily access it on the day of the presentation. Students are to join all meetings with the camera off and the microphone muted; during Q&A time, students may turn on their microphones if the presenter grants permission, but cameras must remain off. See the list at the end of this package. More colleges may be scheduled after this package has been printed; information on those additional colleges will be posted in Google Class of 2021.
5. College Open Houses and Virtual Tours - several colleges are hosting virtual Open Houses this Fall; see the list at the end of this package for current information. It will be updated on the TSS website and Google Class of 2021 as colleges post new information. Most of these events require you to register in advance for the Open Houses.
6. College Fair – The 2020 Ontario Colleges Fair is virtual this year. The dates of the Fair are Wednesday, November 4th (4:00pm-8:00pm) and Thursday, November 5th (9:00am-1:00pm). <https://ontariocollegefair.ca/>

**\*\*Flip the page to learn how to apply to college once you have decided what college you want to go to\*\***

## **SECOND: APPLYING TO COLLEGES AND PROGRAMS: HOW DO YOU GET IN?**

### **What You Need to Apply to College**

1. Ontario Secondary School Diploma
2. Grade 12 English (ENG4C)
3. You may need certain specific courses, depending on the program you want to apply to (for example, for most schools, Dental Hygiene students need Grade 12 English, Grade 11 Biology, and Grade 12 Chemistry)
4. Admission average is usually based on your Grade 12 courses, except if certain other courses are required (for example, Grade 11 Biology)

### **How to Apply to College**

1. [www.ontariocolleges.ca](http://www.ontariocolleges.ca) – you apply online – this does not usually start until the middle of October
2. OEN # - you can find this on your timetable or report card – if you can't find it, come to Student Services
3. Fees - \$95.00 (non-refundable) – this allows you to apply to 5 college programs, with no more than 3 programs at any one specific college. You may pay through a credit card or online banking
4. Deadline – February 1, 2021 – this is the final date to submit your completed application online in order to be considered for all possible programs to which you apply  
\*More information will follow regarding the application process

## UNIVERSITY APPLICANTS

### FIRST: RESEARCHING UNIVERSITIES & PROGRAMS: WHERE DO YOU WANT TO GO?

1. ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca – all Ontario universities are on this website
2. Individual university websites (eg. [www.brocku.ca](http://www.brocku.ca))
3. Student Services – we have information books for Ontario, as well as some out-of-province universities
4. University presentations – we have arranged virtual presentations with several universities, which will be held in October and November 2020. The link to the specific virtual meeting will be posted in Google Class of 2021, so you can easily access it on the day of the presentation. Students are to join all meetings with the camera off and the microphone muted; during Q&A time, students may turn on their microphones if the presenter grants permission, but cameras must remain off. See the list at the end of this package. More universities may be scheduled after this package has been printed; information on those additional universities will be posted in Google Class of 2021
5. University Open Houses and Virtual Tours - several universities are hosting virtual Open Houses this Fall; see the list at the end of this package for current information. It will be updated on the TSS website and Google Class of 2021 as universities post new information. Most of these events require you to register in advance for the Open Houses.
6. University Fair – The 2020 Ontario Universities Fair has been cancelled.

**\*\*Flip the page to learn how to apply to university once you have decided what university you want to go to\*\***

## **SECOND: APPLYING TO UNIVERSITIES AND PROGRAMS: HOW DO YOU GET IN?**

### **What You Need to Apply to University**

1. Ontario Secondary School Diploma
2. 6 courses at the Grade 12 U/M level, one of which must be ENG4U
3. You may need certain specific courses, depending on the program you want to apply to (for example, for most schools, Nursing students need Grade 12 English, Biology, Chemistry, one Math, and two other courses at the Grade 12 U/M level)
4. Admission average is usually based on your top 6 U/M courses, including English and any other required courses for the program

### **How To Apply to University**

1. [www.ouac.on.ca](http://www.ouac.on.ca) – you apply online – this does not usually start until the middle of November
2. PIN # - Student Services will distribute your PIN # to you in the Fall
3. Fees - \$150.00 (non-refundable) – this allows you to apply to 3 university programs. You may pay an additional \$50.00 for EACH additional university program selected after the first three choices (eg. 5 university program choices = \$250.00). You may pay through a credit card or online banking
4. Deadline – January 15, 2021 – this is the final date for you to submit your completed application online to OUAC  
\*More information will follow regarding the application process

### **THIRD: PAYING FOR YOUR PROGRAM AT SCHOOL: WHERE DO YOU GET THE MONEY?**

#### **Loans (Money you have to pay back)**

Loan - a certain amount of money that you are borrowing. It must be paid back to the company who is lending it to you (OSAP, bank, etc). You must pay back all of the money you borrow PLUS interest on the money. Interest is basically a fee that you are charged for borrowing the money. For example, if you borrow \$5000 from OSAP, you will have to pay back the \$5000 PLUS a certain amount of interest (the amount of interest changes every year, but a realistic amount of interest on \$5000 right now would be \$600).

How do I get loans as a student?:

#### **1. OSAP (Ontario Student Assistance Program)**

If you borrow money from OSAP, you do not have to pay it back until you are finished with your college or university program.

[www.ontario.ca/osap](http://www.ontario.ca/osap) – this is the site you use to apply – you cannot apply until the Spring (usually April or May) – we will announce when the site has opened for applications

Do not apply for OSAP until you have decided on and accepted an offer of admission

Further information, through webinars and/or virtual presentations, on how to apply to OSAP will become available in the Spring.

#### **2. Bank Loans**

If you borrow money from a bank as a student, it is called a Student Line of Credit. As soon as you begin borrowing the money, you have to begin paying the interest on it every month (it automatically comes out of your bank account).

Go to your specific bank (CIBC, Scotiabank, etc) if you are interested in applying for a Student Line of Credit; you will need a parent/guardian with you to apply.



## **Scholarships and Bursaries (Free Money)**

**Scholarship** – money given to the student based on academic achievement (marks) and/or exceptional ability in a certain area (extracurricular activities like sports or music, community involvement, volunteer involvement). The money does not have to be paid back.

**Bursary** – money given to the student based on financial need. The money does not have to be paid back.

How do I get scholarships and bursaries?:

1. Ask people – does the place where your parent(s) work offer scholarships or bursaries? Does the place where you work offer them? Do you belong to a particular club or association (sports, music, dance, cultural clubs, community clubs, etc) that may offer scholarships to its members?
2. Get letters of reference – usually scholarship or bursary applications ask for a Reference Letter from a teacher, coach, boss, or someone else who can vouch for the type of person you are. You do not want to leave this until the last minute. Give the person enough time to write the letter. When you ask the person to do you this favour, you should give them a list of things you have done so that the person can mention them in the reference letter.
3. Start researching – see the attached list of websites for some ideas of where to find bursary and scholarship applications

**\*\*YOU need to start doing all of this research NOW. DO NOT PUT THIS OFF.\*\***

- A) Start researching different colleges and universities to find out which ones have the programs that YOU are interested in. Researching schools and programs takes a large amount of time.**
- B) Start researching different financial assistance opportunities (bursaries and scholarships). There is a lot of free money out there, but the applications take time, and the deadlines for some are fast approaching.**

## **Scholarship, Bursary and Other Financial Information – Websites**

### **Scholarship and Bursary Websites:**

www.dsbns.org/awards - through the DSBN website, you can access a local listing of available scholarships and awards; as well, there are other useful links on this site.

www.scholartree.ca

[www.yconic.com](http://www.yconic.com)

www.scholarshipscanada.com

www.studentawards.com

### **Scholarships for Strong Leaders:**

TD Scholarships for Community Leadership – [www.tdcanadatrust.com](http://www.tdcanadatrust.com)

Schulich Leader Scholarships – for students enrolling in Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics (STEM); you must be nominated by your school and the application deadline is January 27, 2021 – [www.schulichleaders.com](http://www.schulichleaders.com)

Loran Scholarships – for students who are strong in academics and school/community involvement; the application deadline is October 15, 2020 (school nominated) and October 22, 2020 (self nominated) – [www.loranscholar.ca](http://www.loranscholar.ca)

Brock Leaders Citizenship Society – for students applying to Brock University who have demonstrated exceptional leadership throughout their high school career – [www.brocku.ca/discover/awards/blcs](http://www.brocku.ca/discover/awards/blcs)

### **Other Helpful Financial Sites:**

[www.canlearn.ca](http://www.canlearn.ca) – a one-stop resource from the Federal government including information about RESPs (Registered Education Savings Plan) and the National Student Loans Services Centre (NSLSC).

[www.ontario.ca/osap](http://www.ontario.ca/osap) – information about the Ontario Student Assistance Program; please note that the online application does not open until May; however, before May, you can enter some basic information into the OSAP Estimator to see if you will qualify for OSAP.

Individual Post Secondary Institutions

Go to the website of the specific college or university to which you are applying for information about scholarships and bursaries offered at that specific school.

eg. Niagara College      [www.niagaracollege.ca/finaid](http://www.niagaracollege.ca/finaid)

eg. Brock University      [www.brocku.ca/futureundergraduates/awards](http://www.brocku.ca/futureundergraduates/awards)

## Fall 2020 University and College Information for Virtual/Online Events

### University Information

UNIVERSITY NAME	VIRTUAL EVENTS	TSS PRESENTATIONS
Algoma University	Nothing posted/planned	
Brock University	<b>November 9 - Virtual Fall Preview</b> Watch a virtual tour <a href="https://discover.brocku.ca/#virtualltour">https://discover.brocku.ca/#virtualltour</a> Book 1-on-1 appointment with a recruitment officer <a href="https://discover.brocku.ca/appointments/">https://discover.brocku.ca/appointments/</a>	<b>October 21, 3:00pm</b> Microsoft Teams - Link will be posted in Class 2021
Carleton University	Virtual High School Presentations <a href="https://admissions.carleton.ca/high-school-presentations/">https://admissions.carleton.ca/high-school-presentations/</a>	
Guelph University	<b>November 8 - Virtual Fall Open House</b> Register/book virtual tours, one-on-one info sessions, general info sessions <a href="https://www.guelphhumber.ca/visitus">https://www.guelphhumber.ca/visitus</a>	
Lakehead University	Getting to Know Lakehead Presentations and Webinars <a href="https://www.lakeheadu.ca/admissions/events">https://www.lakeheadu.ca/admissions/events</a>	<b>November 18, 12:30pm</b> Google Meet - Link will be posted in Class 2021
Laurentian University	Virtual tours, monthly webinars <a href="https://laurentian.ca/explore">https://laurentian.ca/explore</a>	
McMaster University		<b>November 4, 11:30am</b> Link will be posted in Class 2021
Nipissing University	Nothing posted/planned	
Niagara University	<b>October 17 - Virtual Fall Open House</b> <a href="http://www.niagara.edu/openhouse">http://www.niagara.edu/openhouse</a>	<b>October 7, 10:30am</b> Google Meet - Link will be posted in Class 2021
OCAD	Online information sessions and webinars - dates and registration to be posted <a href="https://www.ocadu.ca/admissions/visit#UG+Admissions+Events">https://www.ocadu.ca/admissions/visit#UG+Admissions+Events</a>	
Ontario Tech University	Virtual Open Houses <a href="https://ontariotechu.ca/">https://ontariotechu.ca/</a>	<b>November 12, 3:00pm</b> Link will be posted in Class 2021
Queen's University	Nothing planned/posted	
RMC	Nothing planned/posted	

Ryerson University	Live Webinars <a href="http://www.ryerson.ca/admissions/visits-to-urs/online/">http://www.ryerson.ca/admissions/visits-to-urs/online/</a>	
Trent University	<b>October 3 &amp; November 7 - Virtual Open House</b> <a href="https://www.trentu.ca/openhouse">https://www.trentu.ca/openhouse</a>	
University of Ottawa	Virtual Information Sessions <a href="https://www.uottawa.ca/undergraduate-admissions/virtual-information-sessions">https://www.uottawa.ca/undergraduate-admissions/virtual-information-sessions</a> Virtual Open Houses <a href="https://www.uottawa.ca/undergraduate-admissions/admission-events">https://www.uottawa.ca/undergraduate-admissions/admission-events</a>	
University of Toronto	Virtual Campus Tour <a href="https://apply.adm.utoronto.ca/portal/StGeorgeCampusTours">https://apply.adm.utoronto.ca/portal/StGeorgeCampusTours</a>	
University of Toronto - Mississauga	Virtual Tour <a href="https://www.utm.utoronto.ca/tours">https://www.utm.utoronto.ca/tours</a> Webinars <a href="http://uoft.me/utmonlineevents">http://uoft.me/utmonlineevents</a>	
University of Toronto - Scarborough	Virtual Tour <a href="https://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/admissions/online-events">https://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/admissions/online-events</a> Webinars <a href="https://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/admissions/online-events">https://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/admissions/online-events</a>	
University of Waterloo	Wednesday Webinars <a href="https://uwaterloo.ca/future-students/tours-events/waterloo-wednesdays">https://uwaterloo.ca/future-students/tours-events/waterloo-wednesdays</a>	
University of Windsor	<b>October 3 - Virtual Open Day</b> <a href="https://future.uwindsor.ca/virtual-open-day">https://future.uwindsor.ca/virtual-open-day</a>	
Western University	<b>November 15 - Virtual Fall Preview</b> Virtual Presentations <a href="https://welcome.uwo.ca/choose_western/index.html">https://welcome.uwo.ca/choose_western/index.html</a>	
Wilfrid Laurier	Virtual Laurier Experience, including live one-on-one sessions <a href="https://www.wlu.ca/future-students/undergraduate/tours-and-events/assets/resources/virtual-laurier-experience.html">https://www.wlu.ca/future-students/undergraduate/tours-and-events/assets/resources/virtual-laurier-experience.html</a>	
York University	Virtual Tour <a href="https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLILufo_BNE9_ekjNuZjzN2l1LsuYA0W-s">https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLILufo_BNE9_ekjNuZjzN2l1LsuYA0W-s</a>	<b>October 21, 10:30am</b> Microsoft Teams - Link will be in Class 2021

## College Information

COLLEGE NAME	VIRTUAL EVENTS	TSS PRESENTATIONS
Algonquin College	Virtual Recruitment Events <a href="https://www.algonquincollege.com/future-students/virtual-events/">https://www.algonquincollege.com/future-students/virtual-events/</a>	
Cambrian College	Virtual Tours <a href="https://cambriancollege.ca/book-a-tour/">https://cambriancollege.ca/book-a-tour/</a>	
Canadore College	Virtual Tours or book a personalized meeting with recruitment <a href="https://www.canadorecollege.ca/experience/virtual-tour">https://www.canadorecollege.ca/experience/virtual-tour</a>	
Centennial College	Virtual Open Houses and Pre-recorded Webinars <a href="https://www.centennialcollege.ca/virtual-open-house/">https://www.centennialcollege.ca/virtual-open-house/</a>	
Conestoga College	Online Guided tours, Virtual live Q&A Sessions <a href="https://www.conestogac.on.ca/visit-us/">https://www.conestogac.on.ca/visit-us/</a>	<b>November 25, 10:30am</b> - Microsoft Teams Link will be posted on Class 2021
Confederation College	Nothing planned/posted	
Durham College	<b>November 14 - Virtual Open House</b> <a href="https://durhamcollege.ca/open-house">https://durhamcollege.ca/open-house</a>	
Fanshawe College	Virtual Tour <a href="https://walkinto.in/tour/WkmoaHgaogZ1ems6Sgpo!">https://walkinto.in/tour/WkmoaHgaogZ1ems6Sgpo!</a>	
Fleming College	<b>November 7 - Virtual Open House</b> <a href="https://flemingcollege.ca/openhouse">https://flemingcollege.ca/openhouse</a>	
George Brown	Online Tours and Info Sessions <a href="https://www.georgebrown.ca/why-george-brown/learn-more/online-tours-information-sessions">https://www.georgebrown.ca/why-george-brown/learn-more/online-tours-information-sessions</a>	
Georgian College	Book a phone call with a recruiter <a href="https://www.georgiancollege.ca/news-events/all-events/phone-appointments/">https://www.georgiancollege.ca/news-events/all-events/phone-appointments/</a>	
Humber College	<b>November 14 - Virtual Open House</b>  Watch past recordings of online campus tours and Q&A sessions <a href="https://humber.ca/future-students/tours-events/ask-humber.html">https://humber.ca/future-students/tours-events/ask-humber.html</a>	

Lambton College	Virtual Tours and Online Advising <a href="https://www.lambtoncollege.ca/Contact/Tours_and_Program_Advising/Virtual_Tour/Virtual_Tour/">https://www.lambtoncollege.ca/Contact/Tours_and_Program_Advising/Virtual_Tour/Virtual_Tour/</a>	<b>October 28, 11:30am</b> - Microsoft Teams Link will be posted in Class 2021
Loyalist College	Watch recordings of past open houses <a href="https://www.loyalistcollege.com/virtual-loyalist/">https://www.loyalistcollege.com/virtual-loyalist/</a>	
Mohawk College	Watch past virtual program information sessions <a href="https://www.mohawkcollege.ca/open-house-at-mohawk/upcoming-virtual-events">https://www.mohawkcollege.ca/open-house-at-mohawk/upcoming-virtual-events</a>	<b>October 22, 3:00pm</b> - Link will be posted in Class 2021
Niagara College	Virtual College Exploration Sessions <a href="https://www.niagaracollege.ca/visit/oncampus/informationssessions/">https://www.niagaracollege.ca/visit/oncampus/informationssessions/</a>	<b>October 27, 3:30pm</b> - Microsoft Teams Link will be posted in Class 2021
Northern College	Virtual Tours <a href="http://www.northernc.on.ca/book-appointment/">http://www.northernc.on.ca/book-appointment/</a>	
Ridgetown Campus	Virtual Tours <a href="https://www.ridgetownc.com/future/openhouse.cfm">https://www.ridgetownc.com/future/openhouse.cfm</a>	
Sault College	Virtual Tours <a href="https://www.saultcollege.ca/#">https://www.saultcollege.ca/#</a>	
Seneca College	Virtual Campus Tours <a href="https://www.senecacollege.ca/campuses/360tours.html">https://www.senecacollege.ca/campuses/360tours.html</a>	
St. Clair College	Virtual Tours <a href="https://discoverstclaircollege.com/take-a-virtual-tour/">https://discoverstclaircollege.com/take-a-virtual-tour/</a>	
St. Lawrence College	Book a digital appointment with the recruitment team <a href="https://calendly.com/tours-4slc">https://calendly.com/tours-4slc</a>	