

Students enrolled in schools within the District School Board of Niagara may apply.

Students are admitted by audition and interview, a process that places them in the right academy program and confirms their intention to study the arts. Experience is helpful but not necessary; commitment and potential are essential.

More information is available from each Guidance Department or by calling Niagara District Secondary School (905) 468-3293.

### COOPERATIVE EDUCATION

Cooperative Education is a planned learning experience, for which credits are earned, that integrates classroom theory and learning experiences at a workplace. The experience enables students to apply and refine the knowledge and skills acquired in a related curriculum course.

Cooperative education courses must be based on a related course from an Ontario curriculum policy document in which the student is enrolled or which he or she has successfully completed. The cooperative education course and the related course together constitute a student's cooperative education program. The program is designed to suit the student's strengths, interests, and needs and to enhance the student's preparation for the future.

Students apply to take a cooperative education course during the intention sheet process by indicating their selection on the option sheet. A counselling and interviewing process conducted by the cooperative education teacher in collaboration with guidance counsellors and administrators determines the applicants' suitability for the program. Prior to their placements, students attend a structured orientation session. This classroom component of the program is where students learn about résumés, coverletters, interview skills, health and safety in the workplace, unions, etc.

In a typical program, the student works every day on-the-job for half day blocks either in the morning or afternoon for a full semester. The student will receive two credits (220 hours) for the out-of-school component of the program. When the credits are related to a university, university/college or college preparation course, they can count as two marks towards the Ontario Scholar's designation.

The student will be monitored regularly while at the workplace by the cooperative education teacher and will receive formal appraisals by the employer.

Please note: students are responsible for providing their own transportation to and from the workplace.

Specific employees (such as Niagara Health System and Niagara Regional Police) require a central placement application form. A student interested in a placement with one of these employers MUST submit their application electronically at [coopcentralplacement@dsbn.edu.on.ca](mailto:coopcentralplacement@dsbn.edu.on.ca) and can get more information by going to the DSBN website (<http://www.dsbn.edu.on.ca/CoopEdu/default.htm>)

### OTHER EXPERIENTIAL PROGRAMS

#### ◆ Militia Co-op

This is a full day program, offered in partnership with The Canadian Armed Forces which operates from February to June at the Lake Street Armoury in St. Catharines. Two academic credits are earned in a combination of senior Canadian and World Studies, and Physical Education. Two Cooperative Education credits are earned based on instruction/training/employment at a Canadian Armed Forces Base in one or more military trades. Applicants must be 16 years of age as of February 1, a Canadian citizen and physically fit.

#### ◆ Job Shadowing

Job shadowing is a one day experience where a student can observe a work environment or occupation that they are interested in. This can be arranged by request of the student to the Guidance/Cooperative Education department in the secondary school.

#### ◆ Work Experience

Work experience is part of a secondary school course and provides students with a learning opportunity in a workplace for a prescribed period of time, usually one to four weeks.

## General Information

### ONTARIO YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM (OYAP)

OYAP is the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program. Students who participate in this program can obtain both apprenticeship hours and high school credits at the same time. This program allows secondary school students to get a head start on earning hours toward their apprenticeship.

Students who are interested in participating in OYAP take Cooperative Education during their senior years. If the employer and student agree, the Training Consultant may sign the student to an apprenticeship at any time during the co-op placement. The cooperative education hours count towards the apprenticeship hours required. Employers who employ the student after graduation may be eligible for a wage subsidy.

Students who are at least 16 years of age and have completed the credit requirements for Grade 10 (or equivalent) will qualify for the program.

What is the purpose of starting Apprenticeship Training in Secondary School?

- Students have an opportunity to gain valuable hours which can be applied toward their apprenticeship training.
- Students become involved in an occupation that is of interest to them.

Many of the trades offer excellent employment opportunities and are particularly appealing to those whose talents are in the practical and productive or creative areas.

A variety of Certificates may be available to students through OYAP such as: Ontario Superhost, Service Excellence, Smart Serve, Fundamentals of Lift Truck Training, Workplace Hazardous Materials, Information Systems (WHMIS).

The following is an example of the more than 140 apprenticeships available:

- Automotive Service Technician
- Carpenter
- Child and Youth Worker
- Cook
- Early Childhood Educator
- Electrician
- General Machinist

- Hairstylist
- Partsperson (Automotive)
- Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Mechanic

Further information may be obtained from:

- Guidance Counsellors;
- Directors and Teachers of Technological Education;
- Cooperative Education Co-ordinators/Teachers;
- OYAP Coordinator

### THE SPECIALIZED SCHOOL-TO-WORK PROGRAM

This program has been designed for students who would benefit from:

- smaller class sizes;
- personalized instruction to assist with academic difficulties;
- working on Language and Mathematics expectations that are more suited to the world of work;
- accommodations to the curriculum;
- a more hands-on learning experience.

For more information, please feel free to contact the Secondary Schools offering the Specialized-School-To-Work program:

- Beamsville District Secondary School
- Eastdale Secondary School
- Fort Erie Secondary School
- Kernahan Park Secondary School
- Port Colborne High School
- Stamford Collegiate

### COMMUNITY EDUCATION SERVICES

191 Carlton Street

St. Catharines, Ontario L2R 7P4

Tel: (905) 687-7000 • Fax: (905) 688-7753

#### Community Education Services

- Adult Daytime Credit Programs
- Adult Basic Literacy Programs
- EDUPLUS Training Program

#### Alternative Programs

- Success Program
- College Link
- Parent Outreach