

Post-Secondary Overview

2025 - 2026

1001 Secondary 8		
	College	University
1. What does a student earn?	certificate (1 year) diploma (2/3 years) applied degree (4 years)	degree (3/4/5 years)
2. Application Center	Ontario College Application Services (OCAS) ontariocolleges.ca	Ontario Universities' Application Centre (OUAC) ouac.on.ca
3. Application deadline	February 1, 2026 (Equal Consideration Deadline)	January 15, 2026
4. On-line Application	Yes	Yes
5. Choices	5/\$150 (no more than 3 program choices at 1 college)	3/\$156 \$50 for each additional choice (max. of 3 program choices at 1 university. Certain universities may further limit the # of programs to which applicants may apply)
6. Minimum Admission Requirements	OSSD	OSSD and required average in 6 4U/M courses for specific program
7. Additional Requirements	 specific courses/marks averages portfolio testing interview essay experience 	 specific courses/marks averages Personal Information Form (PIF) portfolio/audition
8. Admission Responses	October onward. Once an application is submitted, admission responses can be offered.	December - May 28th, 2026
9. Research opportunities	- College/campus visits/calendars/ websites/liaison presentations www.ontariocolleges.ca	- University/campus visits/calendars/ websites/liaison presentations Ontario Universities Application Centre www.ouac.on.ca - Sept 27-28, 2025: Ontario Universities Fair Metro Toronto Convention Center www.ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca www.ontariouniversitiesfair.ca



Examples based on 2020/2021 school year:

College		Unive	ersity
Durham College		Ontario Tech Universit	ty
(Standard Program) Tuition Ancillary Fees & Levies Books, Supplies & Equip.ave	\$2,936.41 1,140.55 900.00 \$4,976.96	(All Programs) Tuition Ancillary Fees Tech-enriched Learning U-Pass Student Organization Fee Books, supplies	\$6,647 to 10,433 982 127 to 854 270 169 1,050 to 2,150 \$\overline{9},245 \to 14,858
Loyalist College (Standard Program) Tuition Ancillary Fee Residence (Apt. Style) Books, supplies	\$2,936.46 1,226.00 5,850.00 900.00 \$10,912.46	Queen's University (Arts/Science Program) Tuition Student Fees Books and Supplies Residence (Room/Meal Plan) Personal Expenses	\$6,670 1,045 1,600 13,840 <u>2,000</u> \$25,155

All colleges and universities provide information on entrance scholarships, bursaries and awards on their websites, in guidebooks, during liaison presentations, in the Ontario College Guide, (ontariocolleges.ca) and (ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca).

Scholarship/Bursary/Financial Aid
Monthly Scholarship report available on the grade 12 Google Classroom.

www.scholarshipscanada.com www.yconic.com www.canlearn.ca www.osap.gov.on.ca

Ontario Colleges (OCAS) - Important Dates and Timelines

When to Apply

As long as space remains in an Ontario college program, you may apply for it. However, there are some important dates to keep in mind, especially for popular programs that fill up quickly.

Apply to college as soon as the online application becomes available in October. Complete and pay for your application on or before February 1 in order to receive equal consideration for admission to programs beginning the following September.

The following dates apply to programs starting in the fall of 2026. The application process at ontariocolleges.ca follows an annual cycle, based on the academic year (August to July). For programs beginning at other times of the year, please contact the individual colleges for more information about application processing dates.

Early October 2025: Online Application Opens

In early October, access to the online college application becomes available for programs beginning in the following academic year (August to July). You may create an account and begin your application.

November 1, 2025: Earliest Offer Date

This is the earliest date that colleges may begin to send offers of admission to programs for the upcoming academic year. Offers will continue to be issued until programs are filled or wait-lists are established.

February 1, 2026: Equal Consideration Date

Apply on or before this date in order to receive equal consideration for admission to programs starting the following fall. After this date, colleges consider applicants on a first-come, first-served basis until programs are full.

Note that applications to Highly Competitive Programs must be received by this date in order to be considered.

Applicants are encouraged to complete their applications well before the Equal Consideration Date, as website volumes on the online application are at their highest at this time.

Many programs continue to accept applicants after February 1. Use our Find a Program tool at any time to find programs that are still open.

May 1, 2026: Deadline to Confirm Offers of Admission

Applicants must confirm their acceptance of an offer of admission by this date. Log in to your ontariocolleges.ca account to confirm your offer.

Colleges may extend offers of admission after this date. Each college will set the deadline to confirm offers made after May 1, and this deadline will be communicated to you with your offer. Applicants should always review their offers of admission for exact deadline dates.

June 2026: Tuition Deposit Due at the Colleges

The colleges require payment of a tuition deposit in June to secure your spot in your program. Each college sets its own tuition deposit amount and payment deadline. This information will be communicated to you by the college.

Ontario Universities (OUAC) - Important Dates and Timelines

Last updated: April 28, 2025

August 2025

The OUAC launches <u>Ontario Universities' Info</u> and begins posting application material with updated information for fall 2026 admission.

November 6, 2025

Deadline for the OUAC to receive all electronic student data files from Ontario high schools.

November 20, 2025

Deadline for the OUAC to receive all midterm or final grades available for 4U/M courses from Ontario high schools. Schools may report in-progress grades for full-year courses as soon as they are available.

November 27, 2025

Target date for Ontario universities to receive all midterm or final grades available for 4U/M courses from the OUAC.

January 15, 2025

Deadline for Ontario high school students to submit their completed applications to the OUAC. The initial application includes all final grades from completed Grade 11 and 12 courses and a list of all current-year courses in progress.

Note: The OUAC will continue to process the applications we receive after this date and distribute them to the Ontario universities; however, specific university deadlines will apply.

January 22, 2026

Target date for Ontario universities to receive all application data and grades from the OUAC for applications submitted by January 15, 2026.

February 12, 2026

Deadline for the OUAC to receive all final grades available for 4U/M courses and current full-year grades for 4U/M courses from Ontario high schools.

February 19, 2026

Target date for Ontario universities to receive all final grades available for 4U/M courses and current full-year grades for 4U/M courses from the OUAC.

April 24, 2026

Deadline for Ontario high schools to report all midterm or final grades available for 4U/M courses and interim grades for full-year courses to the OUAC. The OUAC will send the grades we receive before the deadline to Ontario universities when they are received.

May 1, 2026

Target date for Ontario universities to receive all midterm or final grades available for 4U/M courses and interim grades for full-year courses from the OUAC. The OUAC will send the grades we receive before the deadline to Ontario universities when they are received.

May 28, 2026

The latest date all high school applicants who submitted their application by the January application deadline can expect a response from an Ontario university. This includes an offer of admission, a refusal or a deferral of admission, once additional information is received.

June 1, 2026

The earliest date an Ontario high school student may be required to respond to an Ontario university offer of admission and/or give a financial commitment (e.g., registration deposit, residence deposit).

All other admission-related elements, including scholarships, other forms of student assistance or financial incentives, and offers of residence, are considered part of the offer of admission. Therefore, a student may accept these other offers before June 1, 2026, but Ontario universities will not compel a student in any way to make a decision before this date.

July 7, 2026

Deadline for the OUAC to receive all final grades for 4U/M courses from Ontario high schools.

July 14, 2026

Target date for the OUAC to send all **remaining** final grades to the Ontario universities. The OUAC will attempt to contact all schools that have not provided their grades.

August 3 to 31, 2026

The OUAC collects summer school grades from Ontario high schools and school boards.

Electronic Transmission Dates for College and University 2025/2026

	Last Day for Changes	Data will be uploaded on:	Deadline OCAS/OUAC
Demographics College	October 1, 2025	October 2	October 3
Demographics University	October 1, 2025	October 2	November 6
Mid Semester 1 or Interim Marks College & University	Nov 13, 2025 (AM)	Nov 13 (PM)	OCAS: Nov 14 OUAC: Nov 20
Interim or Final Semester 1 Marks College & University	Feb 10 2026	Feb 11	OCAS: Feb 13 OUAC: Feb 12
Midterm Marks College & University	April 22, 2026	April 23	OCAS: April 24 OUAC: April 24
Final Marks College & University	June 30, 2026	July 2	OCAS: July 3 OUAC: July 7
Final Marks & Summer School College & University	August 5, 2026	August 6	OCAS: Aug 7 OUAC: Aug 3-31

Current High School Information and Grades

Ontario high school officials transmit data directly to OUAC and OCAS.

It is the student's responsibility to check the information carefully after each transmission and inform your guidance counsellor if you find any errors.

Courses Outside Your "Home" School

If you are taking courses at a school outside of your "home" school, you are responsible for ensuring that this school submits the course information and all updates to the OUAC or to your "home" school. You must include the school outside of your "home" school in the Academic Background section of your application.

If the course information is missing from your application, you must contact the relevant school and request that they submit the missing information to the OUAC or to your "home" school

Who Does What? - COLLEGE

	<u>Guidance</u>	<u>Student</u>	Board Data Centre	<u>OCAS</u>	Parent/Guardian
Sept. to Dec.	 → provide research materials → explain research materials → generate potential applicants list → provide student with OEN number to access application process 	→ Do the Research: Grade 12 Google Classroom: Information on Ontario College visits, application details, scholarship information and opportunities → use: www.ontariocolleges.ca → Speak with: Liaison officers; current students; guidance counsellors; parents	→ send autobiographical and academic information to OCAS	 → Maintain website (ontariocolleges.ca) → Produce Ontario College Handbook → keep student information records 	→ Help in the research. eg. visit a campus with your student
Oct. to Feb. 1, 2026 deadline	 → prepare on-line application workshop → continue to provide support in the on-going research → host application information workshop for parents in the evening 	 → learn how to apply on-line → make final choices from on-going research → start a file for important information and documents → complete application on-line no later than Feb. 1, 2026 www.ontariocolleges.ca Instruction guide for completing application is also available on this site. 		→ once payment is received, <i>send</i> information data to colleges	 → attend parents' information session → help student make final choices → help student to complete application on-line → complete application on-line no later than Feb. 1, 2026 – www.ontariocolleges.ca Instruction guide for completing application is also available on this site.

	<u>Guidance</u>	<u>Student</u>	Board Data Centre	<u>OUAC</u>	<u>Parent/Guardian</u>
Feb. to May	 → answer questions & concerns about on-going information → give advice on the acceptance of offers and alternative possibilities → encourage students to visit OSAP website for financial assistance information 	 → read & keep a file, respond when necessary to all college communication → keep track of deadlines, required additional/supplemental information (often may do this on-line) → follow all directions re: residence, bursary applications, etc. → may make changes, on line, if program is still accepting applications → complete residence, bursary applications, etc. → review academic data sent to OCAS containing final grades → accept offer by deadline → notify Guidance of your choice → apply on-line for OSAP 	→ send academic information to OCAS	 → forward updated academic information to colleges → forward admission responses to students on behalf of colleges 	 → encourage students to keep track of all information → encourage students to read & heed all information → assist with final decision and follow-up requirements → provide necessary information for OSAP application

Who Does What? - UNIVERSITY

	<u>Guidance</u>	<u>Student</u>	Board Data Centre	<u>OUAC</u>	<u>Parent/Guardian</u>
Sept. to Dec.	 → provide research materials → explain research materials → generate potential applicants list 	→ Do the Research: Grade 12 Google Classroom: Information on University calendars visits, application details, scholarship info and opportunities → use: www.ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca → visit: Sept 27-28 - Ontario Universities Fair Metro Toronto Convention Center www.ontariouniversitiesfair.ca → speak with: Liaison officers; current students; guidance counsellors, parents	→ send autobiographical and academic information to OUAC	 → maintain website (www.ouac.on.ca) → maintain website Ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca (Continually updated website version of INFO) → keep student information records 	→ help in the research. eg. visit a campus with your son/daughter
Oct. to Jan. 15, 2026 deadline	 → prepare on-line application workshop for students → provide student with OEN number to access application process → provide application information for parents → continue to provide support in the on-going research 	 → learn how to apply on-line → start a file for important information and documents → review academic data sent for semester 1 midterm grades → make final choices from on-going research → complete application on-line no later than Jan.15,2025 www.ouac.on.ca (Tutorials to assist with application also available on this site) 		→ once payment is received, <i>send</i> information data to universities	 → attend parents' information workshop → help student make final choices → help student to complete application on-line no later than Jan.15, 2026 www.ouac.on.ca (Tutorials to assist with application also available on this site)

	<u>Guidance</u>	<u>Student</u>	Board Data Centre	<u>OUAC</u>	Parent/Guardian
Feb. to June	 → answer questions & concerns about on-going information → give advice on acceptance of offers and alternative possibilities → encourage students to visit OSAP website for financial assistance information 	 → read & keep a file, respond when necessary to all university communication → make necessary changes on-line (may cost \$) → keep track of deadlines, required additional/supplemental information (often done on-line) → review academic data sent to OUAC containing final grades → complete residence, bursary applications, etc. → accept offer by required deadline → notify Guidance of your choice → apply on-line for OSAP 	→ send academic information to OUAC	 → forward updated academic information to universities → forward admission response to applicant 	 → encourage students to keep track of all information → encourage students to read & heed all information → assist with final decision and follow-up requirements → provide necessary information for OSAP on-line application