## TDSB Secondary School Information Guide



## Diploma Requirements

An Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) requires the completion of:

- a minimum of 30 credits, including 18 compulsory and 12 optional
- 40 hours of community involvement activities
- the literacy requirement

The 18 compulsory credits are:
4 English, one per grade level
1 French as a Second Language
3 Mathematics, at least one in Grade 11 or 12
2 Science
1 Canadian Geography
1 Canadian History
1 Arts (dance, drama, media, music, visual arts)
1 Health and Physical Education
0.5 Civics
0.5 Career Studies

Plus one credit from each of the following groups:

Group 1: additional credit in English or French as a Second Language* ${ }^{*}$ or a third language
or Social Sciences and the Humanities or Canadian and World Studies or Guidance and Career Education or Cooperative Education*
Group 2: additional credit in Business Studies or French as a Second Language* or Health and Physical Education or Arts
or Cooperative Education*

Group 3: a Grade 11 or 12 Science credit or French as a Second Language* or Technological Education or Computer Studies or Cooperative Education*

* A maximum of two credits in Co-operative Education and two credits in French can count as compulsories

The framework of the Education and Career/Life Planning Program is a four-step inquiry process based on four questions linked to four areas of learning-Who am $!$ ? (Knowing Yourself); What are my opportunities? (Exploring Opportunities); Who do I want to become? (Making Decisions and Setting Goals); and What is my plan for achieving my goals? (Achieving Goals and Making Transitions).

## Who Am I?

Six comprehensive interest
and career assessments
Goal Setting
Create S.M.A.R.T. goals and a plan of action to stay on track

Resumes \& Cover Letters Record experiences and export them for school or work
High School Plan Plan to graduate and discover the impact of course selections


## Post-Secondary

 Research the opportunities available in every pathwayOccupations
Compare extensive information on careers across Canada

Budgets
Improve financial literacy and build an interactive budget

Portfolios
Upload and share photos, files, and videos to multiple portfolios

## Additional Learning Opportunities

 in a related high school course. www.tdsb.on.ca/High-School/Your-School-Day/Curriculum/Experiential-Learning
Dual Credit Program - The dual credit program allows students the unique opportunity to enrol in a college-delivered course. Upon successful completion students earn both a college credit and a secondary credit. www.tdsb.on.ca/programs/dualcredits
 collaboratively. www.tdsb.on.ca/High-School/Going-to-High-School/e-Learning
E-learning Summer - E-learning Summer is available to all Ontario residents, age 14-20. This free high school credit program is for Ontario secondary school students who wish to pursue secondary school credit courses online in July or August.
Continuing Education - TDSB offers an Academic Credit Night School Program two nights per week in two 15 week semesters. TDSB also offers summer school that runs for 4 weeks in the month of July.



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## Tips to be Successful

Embrace a healthy life balance
Understand what time management really means
Choose extracurricular activities wisely Appreciate the importance of sleep Communicate with your teachers

Eat well to feel better

## Optional Attendance

Students who reside within the City of Toronto have the right to attend a school which is designated to serve their residential address. The "Find Your School" section of the TDSB website identifies the designated schools for each residential address.

Students also have the opportunity to access schools other than their Home School by applying on Optional Attendance. Acceptance at these schools is subject to space availability and program suitability.


## TDSB

Other Learning Environments/Programs
Alternative Schools - There are 17 alternative schools with the TDSB. Each of the schools differs in its approach to student learning and program structure. Their environments vary and are aimed at providing students with an alternative educational experience suited to meet their learning style/preferences and/or needs. Go to www.tdsb.on.ca click on Find Your school and then Alternative Schools for more information.

EdVance Programs - Offer programming to students who are 18 to 20 years of age and have been out of school for 6 months and have a minimum of 5 credits. There are 5 EdVance programs located throughout the GTA. Students can earn 12 credits in one.

Year-Round Alternative Centres - There are 4 centres in Toronto. They offer grade 9 to 12 credits in 9 to 10 week quads throughout the year. Students must be between the ages of 16 to 18 .
Adult Schools - Offer high school credits for students aged 21 years or older. There are 5 schools throughout the City of Toronto. There are 4 quads a year and students can earn up to 12 credits a year.

## 5th Year Plan

Is it part of your plan to take five years in secondary school?
Do you want to do co-op, apprenticeship training (OYAP) and explore more options?

Although courses are organized into four grade categories, some students may take longer than four years to complete their diploma without repercussions to their future plans. All students may want to explore cooperative or technological education, OYAP, etc, and a fifth year of high school may be another planning option.

What is your destination?
APPRENTICESHIP
COLLEGE
COMMUNITY LIVING
UNIVERSITY
WORKPLACE
Research your post-secondary program requirements using the following tools: Myblueprint: post-secondary planner,
ontariocolleges.ca; www.ouac.on.ca;
electronicinfo.ca; ontransfer.ca

## Specialized Programs

| - Advanced Placement/Pre-Advanced Placement | - Gifted |
| :--- | :--- |
| - Afrocentric | - Integrated Technology |
| - Alternative | - International Baccalaureate |
| - Arts Focus | - Leadership Pathways |
| - Cisco/Nortel Systems | - LEAP |
| - Cyber Arts | - Math and Science Focus |
| - Cyber Studies | - Media Arts |
| - Elite Athletes/Arts | - Skills Enhanced |
| - Extended or French Immersion | - Specialist High Skills Major |

