<u>Self Guided Tour through Ontario Colleges Website</u>
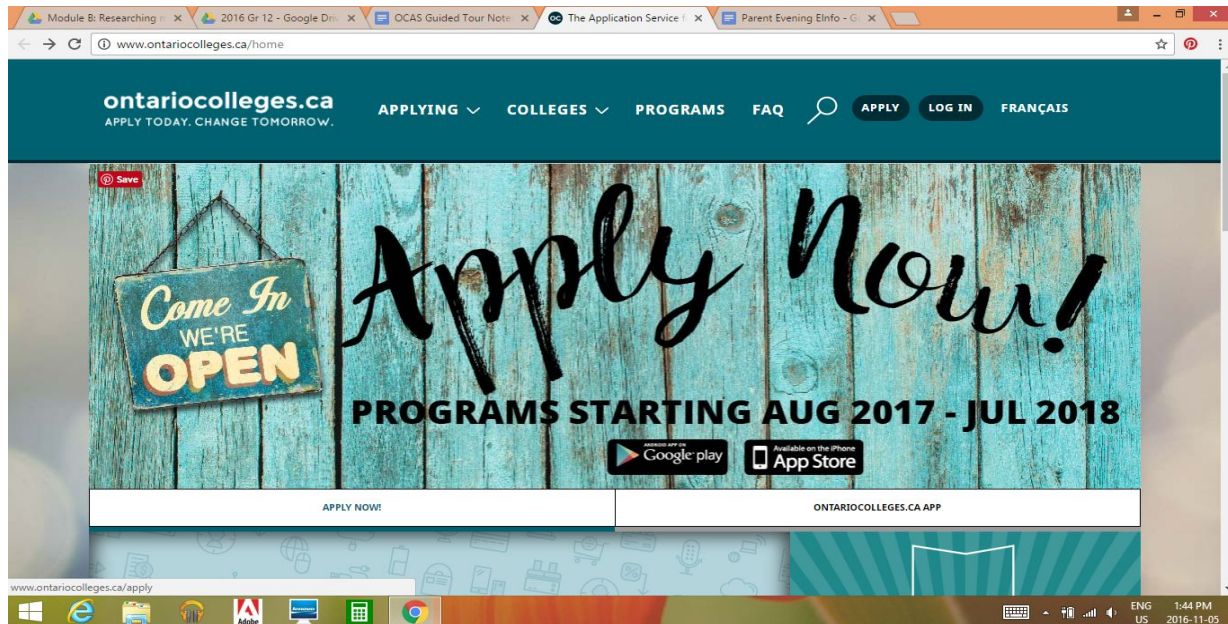
This outline has been provided to assist parents and students to walk through the parts of the website. It includes some prompting questions to allow the participant to think about what is being researched. Please see the Powerpoint "Trailblazers: Creating Your Own Pathway " for a good start to your research.

Suggested Activities:

1. View short video "Think you know college...think again!"
   http://www.ocif.ca/ or
   https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vtw8fUy_m9M

2. Guided exploration of the Website: http://www.ontariocolleges.ca/home

Website Home Page:

Look at the top Menu Bar—Applying, Colleges, Programs, FAQ, Apply, Log in

Look at the top menu "Applying"→click on **How to apply**

1. Application dates and fees

2. Types of programs (VERY IMPORTANT to understand differences--look at this!)

3. Highly competitive programs** (different timelines)

4. Skilled trades--programs and careers

5. Admission requirements
6. Offers of admission
7. E-MATERIALS—Areas of Study *Need to open this tab*
        →Areas of study: this booklet will help with the search words
     and what   schools to look at for each of the credentials
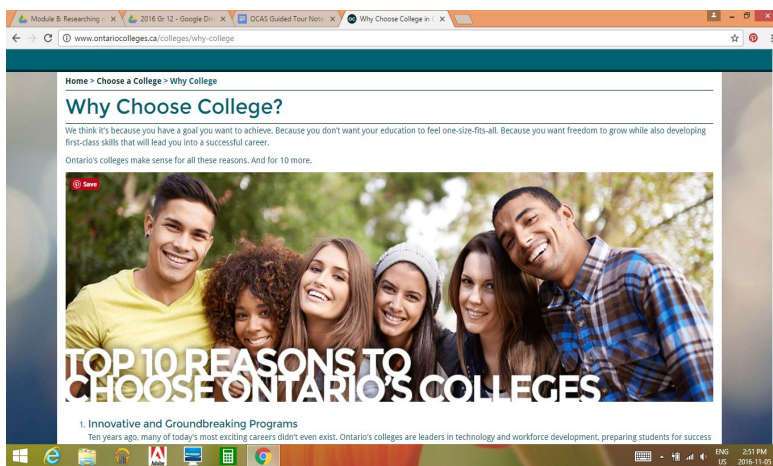   →Tutorials
        →Highly competitive programs
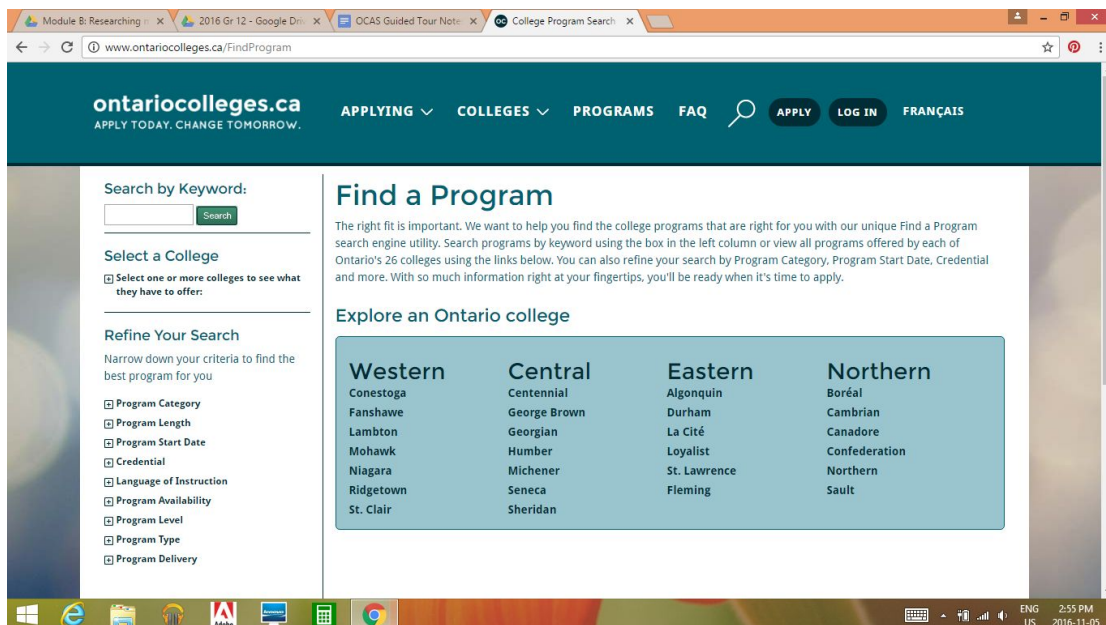
Look at top menu "Colleges"→click on Choose a college

- College Map
- Why college--article on top 10 reasons
- Paying for college

This will let you search specifically for programs under a specific college; for more options go the the "Programs" search

Look at top menu "Programs"→Find a Program

Search by any of the side bar categories (How to...)

1. Select a college→number of programs will show
→search by keyword (ie: business, architecture, counselling)
→Select a College
→Select a Campus

2. After putting in a general keyword, you will need to refine your search since you will get a lot of "hits"

Narrow down your criteria to find the "best" program for you

- Program Category
- Program Length
- Program Start Date
- Credential
- Language of Instruction
- Program Availability
- Program Level
- Program Type
- Program Delivery

For example, Technician at Durham college for a diploma

Things to note on program chart

a) Name of program (can click on and find core information)
b) Campus and location
c) Availability (Open, closed, waitlist)
d) Program length
e) Start date (Sept, Jan and May most common)

Tip #1: Finding Specific Information for the program

"Visit"—takes you to the college website for that program to find information like:
1. program overview and outline
2. benefits
3. admissions
4. how to apply
5. virtual tours
6. career outlooks
7. other credentials you can earn
8. tuition and fees

Tip #2: Using the "Refine your Search" Button Effectively
-look under Credential to find the type of program that you wish to take
-narrow it down by school if there is a particular school you are interested in

Tip #3: Other things to look for

Degree programs--Do a search for *Honours* or *Bachelor* or narrow search by credential (there are 141 degree programs across the province)

These programs require six Grade 12U or 12M courses for a degree program...just like admission to a degree at the university.

Look for this example:

Seneca College and check out one of their Bachelor of Commerce degree programs through "Visit" tab
George Brown Honours Bachelor of Early Childhood Leadership

A. **Transfer programs: type in the word "transfer" or "bridge" or "university transfer"**
  ● Check under Liberal Arts--Seneca@York (one example)
  ● Read the options available for students
    http://www.senecacollege.ca/fulltime/LAT.html

B. Courses indicating Diploma to Degree--do a search for these!
- Search under Durham College—Accounting/Business or Computer Systems Technician (Transfer to UOIT Bachelor of _____)
- General Arts and Science—Engineering Prep, Health preparation, Liberal Arts, Nursing UOIT Transfer
- Look to see what it says about the requirements to get into the next course?

C. Courses indicating a partnership between the college and university

https://www.ouac.on.ca/docs/undergrad/collab_b.pdf

Another example is Seneca—look under Arts and Science—University Transfer partnership with University of Toronto Scarborough)

- Who is this program designed for? What might you have to do to get into the next level program? How many years will it take?

Note: Seneca and U of T Scarborough created the first Bachelor of Science Pathway in Ontario Under the transfer agreement, graduates of Seneca's new Arts and Science program who meet certain admission requirements will be able to enrol in courses at UTSC, leading them to receive both a Seneca diploma and a University of Toronto Honours Bachelor of Science degree in four years.

For more answers, contact the Guidance department or the college or university.