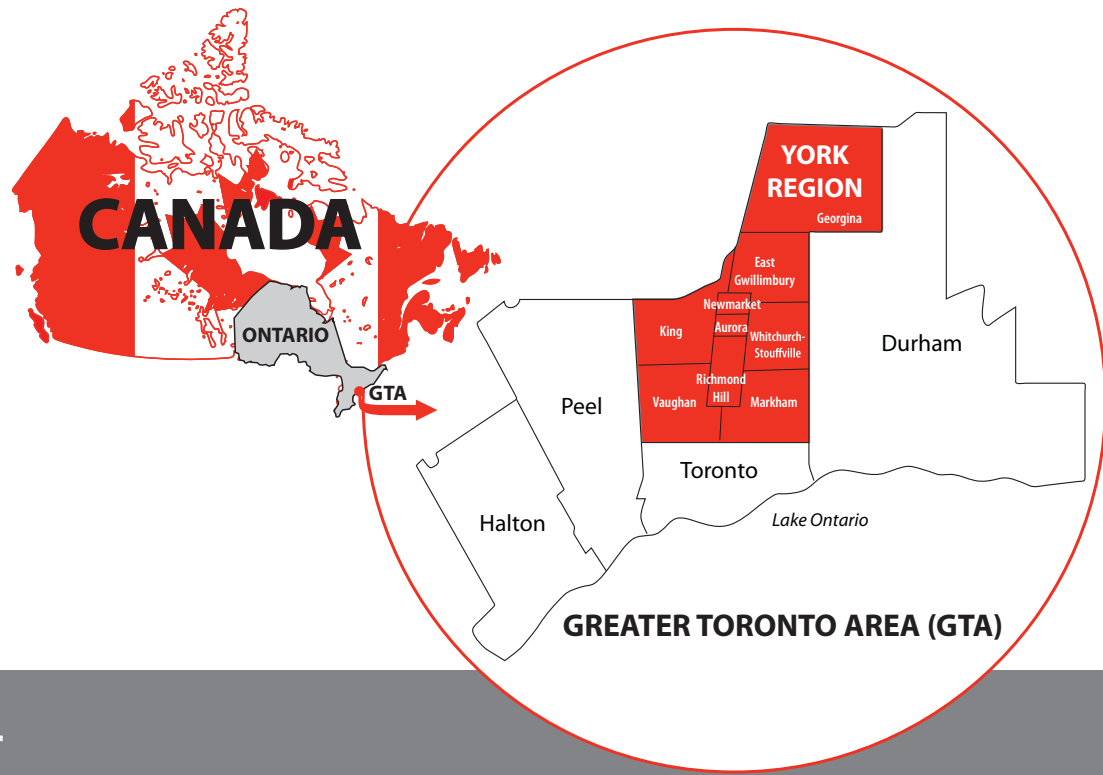


York Region District School Board



Study ⁱⁿ  Canada





York Region - Ontario's Rising Star

Located within the Greater Toronto area (GTA), just north of the City of Toronto, York Region boasts an inspiring mix of cultural attractions that will satisfy a variety of interests and expectations.

York Region consists of nine municipalities, each with its own distinctive character and unique attractions. Each municipality has plenty to offer, including local festivals and events, entertainment and sport facilities, shopping destinations, a variety of restaurants, leisure facilities, beautiful parks and landscapes. For more information about York Region's municipalities and touristic information visit www.yorktourism.com

York Region has a strong and diverse economic base. The Region's positive business climate encourages new business investment. Key industries represented include: business and financial services, automotive parts and transportation equipment manufacturing, information technology, biotechnology, construction and building related services and furniture and related products.

Coming to York Region

The Toronto Pearson International Airport is the closest airport to York Region approximately 43 km from the Region's core. The airport offers many non-stop flights to major cities in Canada and USA as well as international flights to Latin America, Asia and Europe.



York Region District School Board (YRDSB) is a provincial leader in education. Our schools foster excellence, celebrate diversity, promote individual competence and champion quality education. YRDSB students are enriched by the opportunity to live and learn with students from around the world.



Why Choose YRDSB?

In province wide testing, YRDSB students continue to achieve among the highest results in the province according to the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO). We believe this is due to a unique combination of students who are prepared and motivated to succeed, teachers who are skilled at helping students learn, strong educational leaders who have a common vision of excellence, and a supportive community that understands the importance of quality public education.

Some of the facilities available to students:

- technology-enabled classrooms
- science and computer labs
- gymnasiums and fitness rooms equipped with showers
- modern libraries
- communication, design and media arts labs
- theatre arts and music rooms
- cafeterias
- outdoor sports fields
- online resources

Students can join a variety of extra-curricular clubs and sport teams, such as:

- student council
- environmental clubs
- drama and theatre
- computer engineering
- chess
- mathematics
- snowboarding/skiing
- robotics
- visual arts
- photography
- music
- weight training
- peer tutoring

International Student Program

Ranked among the highest in student achievement, YRDSB is Ontario's third largest school board. Located north of the City of Toronto, YRDSB has almost 200 schools serving elementary and high school students. International students attending YRDSB schools can attend from Grade 1 to Grade 12.

Elementary Education (Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8)

Elementary school includes Junior Kindergarten (4 years old) to Grade 8 (13 years old). The school year begins in September and ends in June. English as a Second Language (ESL) support classes are available in most elementary schools. Over 160 elementary schools are available for students and parents to choose from.

High School Education (Grade 9 to 12)

High school students from 14 to 18 years old can select one of the many designated secondary schools available to international students. A school year is divided into two semesters with a student participating in four courses (credits) each semester. ESL instruction is offered at five levels throughout the school year as credit courses and will help students strengthen their language proficiency. Advanced Placement (AP) courses are also available in certain schools.

International students who earn 18 compulsory credits and 12 optional credits, pass the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test, and complete 40 hours of community involvement are eligible to graduate and receive the Ontario Secondary School Diploma.



Short-term Programs

A variety of short-term programs are available for students 10 to 18 years old and are offered at various times throughout the year. Students may participate in:

- classroom and cultural immersion
- English language programs
- credit programs

Additional information about these programs can be found on the website www.yrdsb.ca/international



Student Services

High School Orientation Program

The YRDSB Orientation Program is designed to give new international students the best possible start to their learning career in York Region. Its focus is on helping students settle in to a new community and to achieve success at school through the use of classroom activities, guest speakers, school and community centre visits, and field trips. Assessment of each student's English language and mathematics skills is scheduled as a component of the program. This assessment will enable school staff to prepare the most appropriate course of study for each individual student.



Custodianship Service

Parents who choose this service for their children under the age of 18 can be assured that YRDSB will act as the official custodian on academic matters and will maintain contact with parents throughout the school year.

Guidance Counselling

Each school has a team of guidance counsellors that provides assistance in course selection and educational choices. Students are welcomed to speak with their guidance counsellor to discuss post-secondary education planning.



Student Liaison

Dedicated staff act as liaison between students and schools by assisting in the transition to a new school and community, making regular visits to schools to meet with school officials to monitor students' academic achievement and communicating with parents on students' progress.





Homestay Services

Understanding the personal well-being of our international students is crucial to their academic success while studying in York Region. YRDSB Homestay Services takes pride in its commitment to providing caring, reliable and trust-worthy homestay families for its visiting students. Accommodations are arranged in safe and secure family homes, within close proximity to school and public transportation. International students and hosts are matched according to their interests, background, lifestyle, personal needs and preferences.

Regular monitoring of the student and host family ensures that they are adapting well. Homestay Representatives are available seven days per week if required by the student or their family.



YRDSB Homestay Services include:

- security-checked families
- host family e-profiles
- personal matching of students and families
- quality assurance and 24-hour emergency services
- homes which are in close proximity to schools
- warm, caring English-speaking families

Homestay families offer:

- a safe and secure environment
- private, furnished bedrooms and shared bath
- three daily meals, including snacks



Inspire Learning!

COMMUNITY & INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION SERVICES

York Region District School Board

www.yrdsb.ca/international