



February 23, 2024

4901 Rutherford Rd, Vaughan, ON L4H 3C2

# PLEASE NOTE:

# Contact

Contact Us

Phone 905-850-5012

Extensions

Reception 0 Attendance 1 Guidance 3

emily.carr.ss@yrdsb.ca

@emilycarryrdsb

Online

**School website** 



Principal Tanya-Lynn Paul



Vice Principals

Nadira Lawrence-Selan

Paula Borges (M-Z)

**School Council** 

Ajay Kumar (co-chair) Andre Tsopelas (co-chair)

Superintendent

Otilia Olteanu

**Trustee** 

Dr. Elizabeth Sinclair

# In this Issue:

- Important notice regarding course selections for 2024/2025
- Internet safety and the use of technology

## **Message from Administration**

Please review our newsletter for important updates.

## **Timetable**

Schedule	Start	End
Period 1 (75 min)	8:00am	9:15am
Homeroom (5 min)	9:15am	9:20am
Travel Time	9:20am	9:25am
Period 2 (75 min)	9:25am	10:40am
Travel Time	10:40am	10:45am
Period 3 Lunch (75 min)	10:45am	12:00pm
Travel Time	12:00pm	12:05pm
Period 4 (75 min)	12:05pm	1:20pm
Travel Time	1:20pm	1:25pm
Period 5 (75 min)	1:25pm	2:40pm





# **School News**

### 2024/2025 Course Selections

#### Dear Families:

Please take note of some important information regarding course selections and course change criteria for the 2024-2025 school year.

At our Course Selection assemblies the week of February 5th, we shared with students that it is very important they select their courses carefully, including their three Alternate selections, as 1, 2, or all 3 Alternate choices may be used to complete student timetables.

In September, students may request to modify their 2024-2025 timetable based exclusively on the 11 choices they make during the course selection process. The ONLY course change requests that will be considered outside of the 11 choices are for the following 3 reasons:

- 1. A student is missing a prerequisite course
- 2. A student has made a pathway change i.e. College to University, University to College, College to workplace, etc.
- 3. A student was not successful or did not complete a summer school course

It is important for students to think carefully about their course selections. They should choose courses that match their academic goals and future plans.

Thank you for your cooperation. We look forward to a successful 2024-2025 school year.



# **Important Dates**

## March 11-15, 2024

March Break

# **Helpful Links**

#### **CARING & SAFE SCHOOLS:**

Kids Help Phone Report It (YRDSB)

# SUPPORTING MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING:

**Crisis Mental Health Supports for Students:** 

**310-COPE**: 905-310-COPE (2673) or 1-855-310-COPE (2673) -

available 24/7

<u>KidsHelpPhone:</u> 1-800-668-6868, text 686868 - available 24/7

ECSS e-Newsletter Page Two





# **School News**



# **Important Dates**

## **Internet Safety and Use of Technology**

YRDSB policy outlines expectations for our students to uphold the standards of responsible behaviour by communicating respectfully verbally, non-verbally and through technology. The use of the internet has helped with enhancing student learning. However, it can be a challenge where young adults may not have the knowledge of how to be safe and make positive decisions that develop character and promote well being and respect while using technology or online platforms. We encourage families/guardians/caregivers to have discussions with their child(ren) about the appropriate use of technology and online platforms including social media sites. Please visit the <a href="YRDSB Caring and Safe Schools Site">YRDSB Caring and Safe Schools Site</a> for more information about safe online practices.

### **University of Waterloo Math Contests:**

Students in Grades 9 - 11 are invited to write the University of Waterloo's Pascal (Gr. 9), Cayley (Gr. 10), or Fermat (Gr.11) math contest. They will be written **in person at ECSS** on **Wednesday**, **February 28th**.

Students in Grade 12 are invited to write the University of Waterloo's Euclid math contest. It will be written **in person at ECSS** on **Wednesday April 3rd.** Participating in a mathematics and computing contest helps students develop invaluable skills, like creative problem-solving and big-picture thinking. Students applying to a program in the Faculty of Mathematics at the University of Waterloo are strongly encouraged to participate.

Please email Ms. Ahmed (sobia.ahmed@yrdsb.ca) if you have any questions.

## The Toonies 4 Tummies campaign has started in Ontario with Longos!

Anyone can go to any Longos and donate a Toonie. 100% of funds stay local and go to student nutrition programs. That means, the more Toonies donated during the campaign specifically in York Region, the more funds we get for our students!

**Metro/Food Basics/independent stores** started February 1, **Sobeys/Freshco** started February 15, etc.

Click this <u>link</u> to view participating stores/locations.

# March 11-15, 2024

March Break

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ECSS e-Newsletter Page Three





# School News

## **Morning Announcements**

The time school announcements are made during the school day is changing. Currently announcements are made at the beginning of period 1. It will be shifted to the end of period 1. This will help students be in <u>class on time</u> for **8:00am**. This change will take effect on **Monday**, **January 8.** In addition this will help to ensure all of our students are able to hear the announcements and not miss important information as sometimes busses are late to the school, and some of our Grade 12 students have period 1 spare.

#### **Hall Passes**

In an effort to promote student safety and in consultation with our school council and school community members, we will be implementing a hall pass system. Each teacher will be given a hall pass for their classrooms and students wishing to leave the classroom to use the washroom must have a hall pass. Staff will also be tracking the time that a student leaves the classroom and when they return back to class.

#### **Centre for Black Excellence**

<u>Here are several events</u> that are taking place within York Region District School Board and our broader community to recognize Black History Month and beyond.

## **Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)**

Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) is the formal evaluation and credit-granting process whereby students may obtain credits for prior learning. Prior learning includes the knowledge and skills that students have acquired, in both formal and informal ways, outside secondary school. Please see the attached information sheet.



## **Important Dates**

March 11-15, 2024

March Break

**Helpful Links** 

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Kids Help Phone Report It (YRDSB)

SUPPORTING MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING:

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ECSS e-Newsletter Page Four



**Winter Weather** 



# **Important Dates**

With the arrival of winter weather, we wanted to provide some important reminders about the steps we take to keep students safe when severe weather occurs.

School News

## **School Transportation Cancellations**

School transportation (buses and taxis) may be cancelled due to extreme cold or inclement weather. On these days, schools will remain open unless otherwise stated. If school transportation is cancelled in the morning, it will also be cancelled in the afternoon. Any special or hot lunch days and field trips will also be cancelled.

Families should use their best judgment to decide whether to send their children to school on extreme cold or inclement weather days. Students will not be penalized for missing school on those days. For safety reasons, please ensure you let the school know if your child will not be attending school that day.

#### **School Closures**

Emergency closures will be considered when conditions may not be safe for students and staff members to attend school for the full day. This may include events that significantly limit school operations or access to the school site (e.g., widespread, prolonged power failures or downed power lines).

In keeping with our current practice, we will continue to keep our schools open as much as possible. However, it is important that families have alternate childcare arrangements planned for the rare occasions when schools may be closed. Before and aftercare programs will not operate if schools are closed.

## **Communication to Families**

Decisions about school transportation and school closures will be made as early as possible and no later than 6:00 a.m. We will do our best to notify families in advance when we may be considering closing school and Board offices. Transportation cancellations or school closures are communicated through:

- Student Transportation Services: www.schoolbuscity.com /1-877-330-3001
- Board and school website
- @YRDSB Twitter accoun
- Radio and TV media outlets

For more information on severe weather days, please visit our website www.yrdsb.ca.

# March 11-15, 2024

March Break

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# Updates from Guidance

**COURSE SELECTIONS FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR** are now closed. Thank you to families for following up with their student(s) to ensure the deadline was met. Students interested in summer school will be able to register in the Spring once information is shared by the Continuing Education department.

**THE STUDY AND GO ABROAD/SCHOOL FINDER FAIR** is taking place on Sunday, March 3rd. Click <u>here</u> for more information and to register.

George Brown College is offering their **WINTER WEBINAR SERIES**. Students and families can register for virtual evening sessions on *How to Pay for College & University (OSAP)*, *Discover Apprenticeships & Skilled Trades*, & *Discover George Brown Programs and Pathways*. Click on this link for more information.

#### **REMINDERS:**

**College and University Open Houses & Tours:** Attending a college and university open house or tour is a great way to find out more about the campus, the programs, and the environment. Each post-secondary institution offers a variety of events throughout the year for secondary school students. We encourage students and families to visit each institution's website to find out more details about in-person and virtual opportunities.

Students and families are invited to review the **Trades Report** and/or participate in an online **Trades and apprenticeship Workshop**. The links and passwords to access this report and workshop have been posted in the grade specific Google Classrooms. The links and passwords are not to be shared.

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# **Community News**

## **Ontario's One Fare Program**

Starting February 26, Ontario's One Fare Program will allow transit riders to only pay once when connecting to and from the TTC and GO Transit, Brampton Transit, Durham Region Transit, MiWay and York Region Transit. Click here for more information.

# **Updates from the City of Vaughan**

The City of Vaughan is once again offering the Summer Company program, in association with the Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, to prepare young entrepreneurs with a comprehensive portfolio of tools, skills, connections and resources required to succeed in business. Applications for this year's Summer Company program are now open at <a href="mailto:vaughanbusiness.ca/Summer-Company">vaughanbusiness.ca/Summer-Company</a> and will close on Monday, April 15.

## **Updates from Vaughan Public Libraries**

Vaughan Public Libraries is pleased to invite you and your students to *Summer Company Information*Sessions for Young Adults. Summer Company is a program that prepares students **15 to 29 years old** to start and operate a full-time business over the summer.

Summer Company provides mentorship from Vaughan's business community, along with a pipeline of tools, skills, connections, and resources required to turn goals into reality.

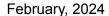
Young entrepreneurs will have the opportunity to get up to \$3,000 in provincial grant funding to kick-start their business.

Here's how to register for one of the info sessions:

Session 1: A private session for educators and their students Live on Zoom Tuesday, February 13, 9:45-10:45. Please register your class <u>here</u>.

Session 2: For everyone at Civic Centre Resource Library and Live on Zoom, **Thursday, February 29, 7:00-8:00.** Please ask students to register <u>here</u>.

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Dear parents/guardians,

As part of a partnership between YRDSB and Renewed Computer Technology (RCT), families with children enrolled in our Board have the opportunity to purchase quality refurbished computers at a reduced cost. Applicants must live in Ontario, have a student enrolled at YRDSB and either receive government assistance payments or qualify as a limited income earner under the limited income cut-off standards\*.

Below is a limited income grid for your reference.

Family size	Annual income*
2 people	\$30,286
3 people	\$37,234
4 people	\$45,206
5 people	\$51,272
6 people	\$57,286
7 people +	\$64,381

This year, there are different packages available for purchase. Please reference the <u>online</u> <u>application page</u> for the current available package offerings. Please note that there are three options for delivery.

- 1. If you would like for the computer to be delivered directly to your home, there is a \$40 charge for laptops and a \$50 charge for desktops. Families who choose this delivery option will have their order shipped when it is ready, roughly 3 weeks from date of order.
- 2. If you would like the device shipped to your child's school there is a \$20 delivery charge. If you choose this shipping option, the computer will be delivered to your child's school **after** the end of the promotion period. Please indicate the name of the school on the form when selecting this option.



3. You may choose to pick up the computer from the RCT Mississauga Warehouse, for free, located at **945 Meyerside Drive, Mississauga**. Families who choose this option will have their order ready for pick up roughly 3 weeks after the date of order.

Parents and legal guardians may apply for one computer per student, with a limit of two per household. Please see below for a full list of device specifications.

If you are interested in applying, please complete an online application at <a href="https://www.jotform.com/210054491659255">https://www.jotform.com/210054491659255</a> using the group code on the attached program flyer. The application period is from February 1, 2024 – March 15, 2024 with delivery to schools taking place in April.

Please note - There are sections in the RCT Online Application that are no longer applicable:

- Requirement of Proof or Documentation of Income
- Requirement to participate in training prior to receiving your computer/laptop

The Section on Course of Study can pertain to elementary or secondary. If you do not have access to a computer or the Internet, please contact the administration team at your school for assistance.

For inquiries related to the RCT application process, devices and delivery, please contact Alexander Oliver (Aoliver@rcto.ca) and for inquiries related to support from YRDSB, please contact Yvonne Kelly (yvonne.kelly@yrdsb.ca)

For more information, including complete application and payment instructions, please refer to the attached program flyer and checklist.

Sincerely,

Ms. R. Reid - Principal

# Do you need a computer?

Renewed Computer Technology (RCT) is a not-for-profit, charitable organization that empowers learners, educators and not-for-profit organizations with increased access to information and communications technology (ICT), skill development and learning opportunities, in a socially and environmentally responsible manner.

Working with **York Region District School Board**we are offering affordable, renewed computer packages.



- 1. Open camera on phone
- 2. Hold camera up to QR code above
- 3. Click link that appears on your screen

## You can apply for this program if you are:

A resident of Ontario and you are an individual with limited income.

Parents or legal guardians may apply on behalf of a child or youth under the age of 18.

We offer 1 computer, per family, with a limit of 2 per household per year.

We have Desktop Packages from \$75.00 to \$160.00. Plus \$50.00 to ship the computer to your home.



You get - a desktop complete with Windows 10 and MS Office 2019 - Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook and OneNote plus learning software, monitor, keyboard and mouse

### For more information, please contact:

Alexander Oliver RCT Community Engagement Lead AOliver@rcto.ca

All systems include our STANDARD 1 YEAR DEPOT WARRANTY

\*batteries not covered by warranty

We have Laptop Packages from \$140.00 to \$250.00. Plus \$40.00 to ship the computer to your home.



**You get -** a laptop complete with Windows 10 and MS Office 2019 - Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook and OneNote plus learning software

\*Computers may not appear exactly as shown





# **Application Check-List**

You can begin to apply for a computer on: February 1st, 2024

Application deadline: March 15th, 2024

Group Name: YRDSB | Group Code: G-YRDSB24



- 1. Open camera on phone
- 2. Hold camera up to QR code above
- 3. Click link that appears on your screen

# How to fill out your application

Scan QR code OR access application using the link your organization provided

### **Section A**

Group Name: YRDSB

Group Code: G-YRDSB24

Name of School: Please enter the name of the

student's school

#### **Section B**

This section does not apply to you.

#### **Section C**

I would like to pick up my computer in Mississauga RCT Warehouse (\$0.00 Shipping fee)

OR

I would like to order a laptop, please ship my computer to my home (\$40.00 shipping fee)

OR

I would like to order a desktop, please ship my computer to my home (\$50.00 shipping fee)
OR

I am part of the York Region District School Board Group order (\$20.00)

#### **Section D**

Pick your computer package and method of payment.

Our partner organization will need proof of eligibility (one of the following) before you can apply for a computer.

# **Proof of Financial Status (one of the following)**

- Canada Revenue Agency Notice of Assessment (most recent)
- Ontario Works Statement (Social Assistance)
- OSAP Statement of Funding
- Refugee Payment Received from government
- Letter from school supporting the application
- El Benefit Statement
- ODSP (Disability Benefits)
- Second Career

# **Payment**

You will have the following online payment options when completing your order:

- Credit/Debit Card
- Money Order or Certified Cheque
- A Third Party will be Paying (Ex. Ontario Works)

**Certified Cheques should be made to:** Renewed Computer Technology The applicant's name must be added in the memo field. When you come to pick up your computer, please bring a government photo ID.





# **SUMMER PATHWAYS PROGRAMS 2024**

www.yrdsb.ca/summer-pathway

#### EARLY REGISTRATION PROGRAMS

# SHSM 2 Credit Co-op: Mackenzie Health/Cortellucci Hospital & Scarborough Health Network

The SHSM Summer Co-op Program is for SHSM students in the Health & Wellness or Business sectors (for non-clinical positions), interested in working at Mackenzie Health/Cortellucci Hospital or Scarborough Health Network. Students are eligible to earn two Cooperative Education credits while developing skills and gaining experience in the Health & Wellness or Business SHSM Sectors. Students will participate in virtual and in-person learning with their Co-op teacher and gain work experience at either the Mackenzie Health/Cortellucci or Scarborough Health Network. Pre-placement classes will take place in-person and virtually beginning in May.

<u>Application is limited to SHSM students entering Grade 12</u> who could not schedule Co-op into their regular timetables. Applicants will be contacted for interviews. This program is being offered in collaboration with YCDSB.

Please review the information on the registration website for each hospital. Students <u>must attend summer school Co-op on all scheduled dates.</u>

Registration: https://yrdsb.cc/HospitalSummerCo-op2024

Opens: Wednesday, February 28, 2024 at 9:00am Deadline: Friday, March 8, 2023 by 4:00pm

\*Please note registration does not guarantee a space. Please review program dates for each hospital on the registration website.

## 2 Credit Co-op

2 Credit Co-op is available to students in grades 10 – 12 interested in a work experience. Students will participate in remote/in-person learning (see schedule below) and in-person/virtual Co-op placements in their community during the month of July. Pre-placement classes will take place Tuesday evenings from May 21 to June 25, 2024 between 5:00pm - 9:00pm. <u>In-person classes</u> will take place at Dr. Bette Stephenson Centre for Learning at 36 Regatta Avenue in Richmond Hill.

Students entering Grade 11 and Grade 12 may apply. However, Grade 12 students who could not fit Co-op into their regular timetables and require it for graduation will be given priority.

Students must be available for all scheduled dates.

#### **Program Dates:**

- In-person Pre-Placement: May 21 (5pm-9pm), June 25 (5pm-9pm)
- Virtual Pre-Placement: May 28 (5pm-9pm), June 4 (5pm-9pm), June 11 (5pm-9pm), June 18 (5pm-9pm)
- Placement: July 3 August 2 (approximately 40 hours/week)
- Integration Classes: dates to be determined

Registration: <a href="https://bit.ly/YRDSBSummerCo-op">https://bit.ly/YRDSBSummerCo-op</a>
<a href="Opens: Friday February 16">Opens: Friday February 16</a>, 2024 at 9:00am
<a href="Deadline: Monday March 18">Deadline: Monday March 18</a>, 2024 by 4:00pm

\*Students who are applying to the SHSM 2 Credit Co-op for Mackenzie Health/Cortellucci Hospital or Scarborough Health Network do not need to apply again for the regular 2 Credit Co-op. If students are not successful in securing a placement with the hospital, they will be automatically considered for the regular 2 Credit Co-op.

# **SUMMER PATHWAYS PROGRAMS 2024**

www.yrdsb.ca/summer-pathway

#### REGISTRATION THROUGH MY PATHWAY PLANNER

## 1 Credit Co-op

1 Credit Co-op is available to students in Grades 10 – 12 interested in a work experience. Students will participate in virtual and in-person learning with their Co-op teacher and in-person/virtual Co-op placements in their community during the month of July. In person classes will take place at Dr. Bette Stephenson Centre for Learning at 36 Regatta Avenue in Richmond Hill. Due to limited enrollment, students entering Grade 12 who could not schedule Co-op into their regular timetable will be given priority.

#### **Program Dates:**

• In person Pre-placement: July 3-5, 2024

Placement: July 8 - 26, 2024 (40 hours/week)

• Integration Classes: to be determined

Registration: Through My Pathway Planner starting April

#### 1 Credit ALEP

1 Credit ALEP is available to students in grades 10 – 12 interested in earning a credit in July through a paid placement. Students will participate in remote/in-person learning and will be required to have a full time job for the month of July. Employers must meet with the summer ALEP teacher for a placement assessment prior to students being accepted into the program.

#### **Program Dates:**

Pre-placement: July 3-5, 2024

Placement: July 8 - 26, 2024 (40 hours/week)

• Integration Classes: to be determined

Registration: Through My Pathway Planner starting April

# Youth Innovation by Design

The Youth Innovation by Design course (IDC4U or IDC4O) focuses on ways in which innovators identify problems, see them as opportunities, generate ideas, and organize resources to develop and take successful solutions forward into the world, both for-profit and not-for-profit. Students will use a variety of design thinking techniques to develop and grow their ideas. They will consider the ethical and legal implications of decisions, the breadth of roles in innovation culture as well as related financial literacy and sustainability models. Student learning will be supported by guest speakers and mentors provided through a collaboration with York University's YSpace-Markham and Innovation York. Learn more <a href="here">here</a>, hear from the <a href="here">past course instructor</a> and <a href="Innovation York">Innovation York</a>.

**Program Dates:** July 3 - July 26, 2024, 8:30 am - 3:30 pm **Registration:** Through My Pathway Planner starting April 2024

Location: YSpace Markham 169 Enterprise Blvd, Markham, ON L6G 0E7

#### OTHER SUMMER PATHWAYS PROGRAMS

#### **Dual Credit**

The Summer Dual Credit program allows secondary students in Grades 11 and 12 to explore the college pathway by taking courses in an area of interest. Students simultaneously earn two credits; one college credit and one secondary school elective credit. All costs are covered, including course tuition fee and college books. Local GTA colleges will be offering dual credit programming in person. For more information on eligibility and courses visit: <a href="https://bit.ly/summerdcflyer">https://bit.ly/summerdcflyer</a> \*Link Only Accessible by YRDSB student and teacher accounts

Program Dates: TBD (Likely July 3 - 26, 2024)

Registration: https://bit.ly/yrdsbsummerdc (Approx.early-May, please check with your guidance department)

Deadline: June 23, 2024, or until filled



#### Description:

Join our virtual workshop where we will discuss the requirements of finding employment and offer some job search tips and strategies. Learn how to create a resume and cover letter and how to find employment.



#### FOR YOUTH AGES 14 TO 18

you are interested in joining, please contact





Abinna

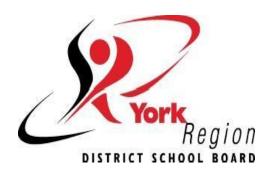
416-261-4901 Ext.3248

asubramaniam@polycultural.org

 Polycultural Immigrant & Community Service 3225 Eglinton Ave East, Unit 101B Scarborough, ON, M1J 2H7



Relugees Immigration, Rélugiée



# Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)

Challenge for Credit

Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) is the formal evaluation and credit-granting process whereby students may obtain credits for prior learning. Prior learning includes the knowledge and skills that students have acquired, in both formal and informal ways, outside secondary school.

# WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO CHALLENGE A COURSE FOR CREDIT?

- ★ YRDSB secondary school students who are enrolled in a regular day school program in a secondary school.
  - Students under the age of eighteen need parental approval before applying to challenge for credit for a course.
  - Students who have their Principal's approval.

## HOW DO I GET STARTED?

Your school guidance department will announce the date that applications are available. Follow the instructions of your guidance department. Be sure your application is submitted to your counsellor by March 7, 2024.

When you see your counsellor, you will receive information on what documentation is required, how your application will be processed, how your tests and assessment will be conducted, how your results will be reported, appeal procedures, withdrawal policy and contact information.

The PLAR challenge assessments will take place virtually on July 2, 2024

# WHAT COURSES ARE AVAILABLE TO CHALLENGE FOR CREDIT?

Grade 10 – 12 courses offered by YRDSB in regular day school.

#### WHAT CAN I DO NOW?

A student may begin by gathering and organizing any evidence that demonstrates the knowledge and skills related to the course for challenge. For information on any course information visit the Ministry website <a href="https://www.edu.gov.on.ca">www.edu.gov.on.ca</a> and follow the path:

- > English or Français
- > Secondary
- > Secondary Curriculum
- > By Grade

course?

- > Choose a Grade
- > Choose a Subject.

Examples of evidence may include letters of reference from teachers or community leaders, certificates, sample assignments, samples of original work, a portfolio, descriptions of programs, courses or experiences that support your application.

#### AM I LIKELY TO BE AN ELIGIBLE CANDIDATE?

You also must be able to answer "**NO**" to all of the following questions to be an eligible PLAR Challenge candidate.

☐ Is the course you want to challenge a grade 9 course; a cooperative
education course or a transfer course?
□ Have you already earned a credit in this subject in a later grade? (for example you earned a Grade 11 music credit and now you would like to challenge the Grade 10 music course)
☐ Have you earned a credit in this course at a different level? (for
example, you earned an ENG3C credit and now you would like to
challenge the ENG3U course)
☐ Have you been granted/earned equivalency for this course?
☐ Have you previously failed this course?
☐ Have you previously earned a credit in English and want to challenge
for ESL or ELD? (ESL – English as a Second Language; ELD –
English Literacy Development)
☐ Have you already earned a credit in Français at a French language

school and want to challenge a French as a Second Language (FSL)

#### ADDITIONAL CHALLENGE INFORMATION

#### **Appeal Procedure**

In cases where there is a disagreement with the decision of the principal about whether a student should challenge for credit, an adult student or the parent of a student who is not an adult may ask the appropriate supervisory officer to review the matter.

### Repeating the Challenge

A student may submit an application for challenge for a specific course for a second time after a reasonable interval, if the student can provide reasonable evidence of additional study and experience.

#### **Assessment and Evaluation**

Assessment and evaluation strategies will be based on curriculum expectations and achievement charts in the Ontario curriculum policy. They will include formal tests and other assessment strategies with a balance between written work and practical demonstrations that is appropriate for the subject/discipline and that may include written assignments, quizzes, demonstrations, performances, laboratory work, and observation of the student.

#### Withdrawal Policy

A student may withdraw from the challenge process prior to the final formal test without a notation on the student's Ontario Student Transcript (OST). If students have entered the final phase of the challenge process in the summer, and then choose to withdraw from the process, a mark will be entered on the OST (Grade 11 and 12) and on the Cumulative Tracking Record (Grades 10-12).

#### **Final Mark**

The student's final percentage grade will be recorded on the student's Ontario Student Transcript (OST) in the same way as achievement in other courses. For challenges of Grade 10 courses, only passing percentage grades will be entered on the OST. For challenges to Grade 11 and 12 courses, both passing and failing percentage grades and withdrawals will be entered on the OST. The teacher will communicate the mark to you once the challenge is complete.

The PLAR challenge assessments will take place virtually on July 2, 2024.





The Summer Mentorship Program (SMP) gives high school students of Indigenous or African ancestry a chance to explore health sciences at the University of Toronto over four weeks in July.

#### You will:

- Explore health science education and careers through handson activities, experiments, lectures, and special projects
- Learn from and connect to a variety of health science faculty, professionals, and students
- Enjoy valuable mentoring experiences from a variety of professionals
- Earn a credit you can use on your University and/or College applications

#### **WHAT YOU LEARN**

If you participate in the program, you'll gain some of the skills you need to further your academic and professional career. You'll get to try your hand at a variety of health science professions, including medicine, dentistry, kinesiology, medical radiation sciences, nursing, pharmacy, public health, and social work. You'll need to complete various exercises and assignments with your teacher during the four-week program.

You'll also be connected to a student-mentor who is studying in a health science field of interest to you. You'll meet the mentors at the beginning of the program, and you'll be encouraged to keep up this relationship once the program is completed. You'll also be able to connect with and learn from various health professionals to give you deeper insight into a variety of health science careers

We want to provide you with the skills you need to be a successful student and professional. The health sciences are a broad field with a vast range of career opportunities and we're here to help you find a career that's right for you.

#### **WHAT YOU EARN**

Students who attend a provincially funded Ontario school can earn a credit in Science, Grade 12 University/College Preparation (SNC4M). That's a credit that will be applied to your Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD). To be eligible, you must be 16 years of age by June 30. You must have completed a Grade 10 Science, Academic or any Grade 11 university (U), university/college (M), or college (C) preparation course in the science curriculum. Preference will be given to grade 11 students that are returning to school for at least one semester.

### **DEADLINES**

There are two deadlines for the Summer Mentorship Program. Space is limited, so we encourage applicants to apply as early as possible.

January 12, 2024
First application deadline

**January 15 - 19, 2024** 

Email sent to arrange for interviews

February 10 - 11, 2024

First round interviews

February 13 - 20, 2024

Offers emailed to first round applicants

March 22, 2024

Final application deadline

March 25 - 29, 2024

Email sent to arrange for interviews

April 13, 14 and 20, 2024

Second round interviews

April 22 - 26, 2024

Offers emailed to applicants

July 2 - 26, 2024

Summer Mentorship Program Period

#### **Application available at**

www.temertymedicine.utoronto.ca / summer-mentorship-program





#### **HISTORY OF SMP**

The SMP was founded in 1994 by the Faculty of Medicine and the Toronto District School Board, together with the Association for the Advancement of Blacks in the Health Sciences. The program was created to help address concerns about the under-representation of Black and Indigenous people within the health sciences. The key individuals who contributed significantly to establish the SMP were Dr. Miriam Rossi, Dr. Dominick Shelton, Diana Alli, Harold Braithwaite, Gerry Connelly, Dr. Kristine Whitehead, Fred Chan and Kelvin Andrews.

In running the SMP, we work with the faculties of Dentistry, Kinesiology and Physical Education, Nursing, Pharmacy, Public Health, Social Work, the Office of Indigenous Medical Education, First Nations House, Black Physicians Association of Ontario, several school boards in the Greater Toronto Area, including TDSB, TCDSB, YRDSB, and DPCDSB, and Indigenous communities outside of Toronto.

Over 28 years, the SMP has had more than 1400 students complete the program — and many of those students have since entered professional faculties and health care professions. Every year, we invite more than 100 students to participate in the four-week program. In 2023, we aim to run the SMP in-person at the U of TST. George campus. In an effort to address the under-representation of Black men and Indigenous people in the health sciences, we highly encourage these two groups to apply to the program.

Summer Mentorship Program in Health Sciences



Dr. Joel NM Kerr, BPHE, DC, D. Ac -SMP Alumni

Founder and Director of Therapy at The Health Institute. His organization provides the physical aspects of training, manual therapy and nutrition with mental aspects such as stress reduction, stress management and sleep hygiene to ensure the success of young athletes.

**Mentorship** provides guidance from experienced individuals who will motivate you to succeed. Their impact will

last a lifetime.



ADVICE

Apply for the Summer Mentorship Program at:

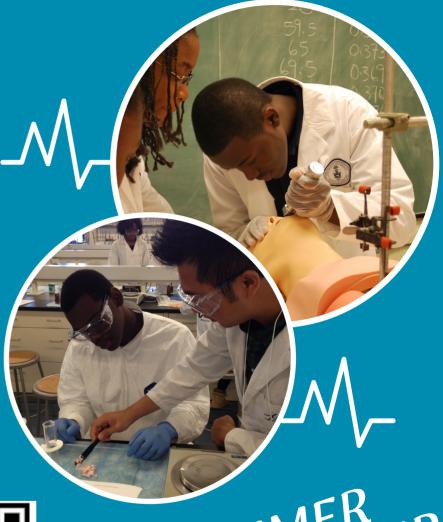
uoft.me/smp

**Application Deadline** March 22, 2024!





# SMP/sciences



SUMMER-HIP MENTORSHIP MENTORSHIP MENTORSHIP

Students of Indigenous or African ancestry can explore the health sciences through the University of Toronto's Summer Mentorship Program.

Over four weeks of July, you will:

- Earn a credit towards your high school diploma
- Get hands-on experience through experiments, lectures, shadowing, and projects
- Discover university education and professional careers in the health sciences

In an effort to further address the underrepresentation of Black men and ndigenous peoples in the health sciences, we highly encourage these two groups to apply to the program.











"SMP was an amazing summer filled with new experiences and friends. I learned so much about different career paths and university programs that I feel even more prepared to graduate high school."

# - **Devon Asemota** *University of Waterloo '21, Kinesiology*

"The SMP is an enriching program that teaches the people involved a multitude of things. Throughout the course of the program you will also learn essential skills such as time management and professional communication."

# - Nahom Wondimu Ryerson University '23, Engineering

"SMP was an amazing and unique experience, that not only inspired me to pursue the health sciences, but showed me that race isn't a limiting factor in what I want to become".

# -Jamar Hewitt

University of Toronto '22, Life Sciences

"SMP was an extremely influential part of my life. It played a large role in my decision of what career to pursue. It provided me with a strong foundation going into university so that I may thrive."

# - Charles Adeyinka University of Toronto '22, Kinesiology