



# GUIDANCE BULLETIN

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## APPOINTMENTS

Students can make appointments online using Teach Assist.

- Have your child log in to their Teach Assist account
- Under the sub-heading “Appointment Bookings”
- Click on the day and time the student wants to have their appointment (if the appointment slot is highlighted in blue). If there are no appointments displayed, then you will have to select another day, as all counsellors have been booked for that day.
- You will see shaded in blue “All open appointments”. Choose the appropriate alpha Guidance counsellor (based on your child’s last name) from the list on the left.
- If the student needs to cancel their appointment for any reason, click “cancel”.  
If your child has any trouble making their online appointment, please let us know.

**The OUAC/OCAS transmission will occur on Thursday, November 23rd. It is the student’s responsibility to ensure that their OUAC/OCAS account has accurate educational information which includes their mid-term marks. MDHS is not responsible for transmitting marks received outside of YRDSB. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your transmitted marks, please contact your alpha Counsellor.**

**Semester 2 changes will continue to happen until late January.  
Once semester 2 starts, no further changes will be made to timetables.**

## Important Upcoming Dates!

Midterm Report Cards - beginning November 23—Semester 1 midterm report cards will be issued electronically to students’ GAPPS email accounts.  
**\* Students are encouraged to download and print their midterm report cards.**

Grade 8 Open House - November 23, 2023

Full Disclosure Date - November 29th  
Any courses dropped before this date will not show on a students’ transcript and will be removed from OUAC/OCAS.

OUAC application deadline — January 15, 2024

OCAS application deadline — February 1, 2024 (for equal consideration)

Please check our guidance website for updates:

<http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/markhamdistrict.hs/guidance/Pages/default.aspx>



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## Post-Secondary Information

### SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

#### QUEEN'S CHANCELLORS SCHOLARSHIP

**Due: November 23, 2023 by 2:50pm**

**Submit via to Guidance (for school nomination)**

Note: You must apply to Queen's University via OUAC no later than November 20th if you are planning to submit a scholarship application

November's copy of the **Scholarship Report** is now available!

<https://seekingscholarships.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/TSR-NOV23-FINAL.pdf>

Please take a few minutes to read through the report. Please see your counsellor if you have any questions. If the PDF requires a password: **scholar58**

Graduating Students are encouraged to join our Google Classrooms:

**Scholarship Classroom** = [mzcxprd](#)

**University Application Google Classroom** = [e5gz2ra](#)

**College Application Google Classroom** = [qsyzyr](#)

## Community Involvement/Volunteering

The community involvement graduation requirement is a minimum of **40 hours**.

Community involvement is an important educational opportunity that allows students to develop skills and gain experiences to become successful and contributing members of society now and in the future.

**Therefore, there will no longer be any hours used for work or any hours done in the home.**

**Contact your guidance counsellor if you are unsure if your activity will count. In the event that you do not discuss the volunteer activity with your guidance counsellor, then you run the risk of your hours not counting.**



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## MDHS Guidance goes Trading

On Wednesday, November 15, MDHS took 45 students to the International Centre to Level Up (sponsored by Skilled Trades Ontario)!

This dynamic fair that brought together many skilled trades professionals across industry organizations, post-secondary institutions, businesses and associations. Students had an opportunity to learn about Ontario's 140+ trades through interactive exhibitions and hands-on activities, while networking with tradespeople and local employers.

Quick facts for the skilled trades:

1 in 6 **job openings** are projected to be in the skilled trades by 2026

85 to 90% of an **apprenticeship** is paid, on-the-job training

24,600 **employers** offer paid apprenticeships

1.3 million people are working in skilled trades-related occupations in Ontario.

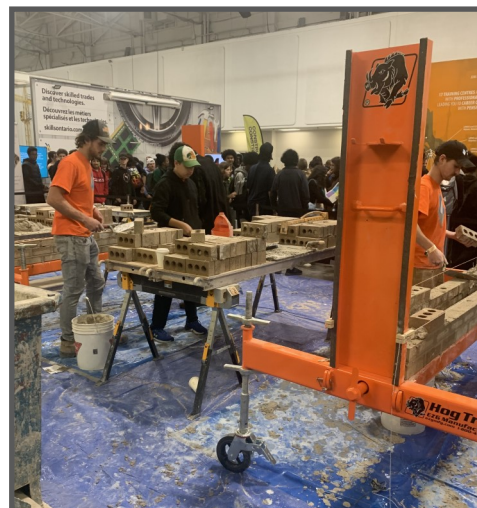
At least one in three workers in Ontario with an apprenticeship or trade certificate is aged 55 or over and nearing retirement.

In total, there were 91,634 apprentices active in Ontario as of April 3, 2023

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/skilled-trades>

<https://www.skilledtradesontario.ca/>

<https://news.ontario.ca/en/release/1003152/ontario-attracts-historic-number-of-people-to-skilled-trades>





# GUIDANCE BULLETIN

## Getting Started in the Trades

### Getting started in the Trades

#### **Cooperative Education**

Earn credits in a work placement in the community along with classroom learning.

#### **Benefits of cooperative education include:**

- experience hands-on learning
- “test-drive” career options
- see the relevance of classroom learning
- earn credits through workplace experience
- develop skills and habits required
- build a resumé with work related experience

Consider taking cooperative education in grade 11, grade 12 or grade 11 and 12

#### **Quality for these SHSM programs at MDHS**

Sectors:

**Arts & Culture, Construction, Health & Wellness, Non-Profit, Horticulture & Landscaping and Transportation**

#### **Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP)**

- School-to-work program
- Students explore and work in apprenticeships starting in Grade 11 or 12 through coop
- Students can become registered apprentices and work towards becoming certified in a skilled trade, while completing their OSSD

#### **To qualify for OYAP, you must be:**

- at least 15 years old
- studying part-time or full-time in high school
- either enrolled in Grade 11 or 12
- have earned at least 14 credits

### Apply for an Apprenticeship

Pathway to a rewarding career in the trades  
Take classes and learn a trade by working under the direction of experienced workers – and get paid at the same time

Find out how to qualify, find a sponsor or employer to hire you, or receive money or grants to pay for apprenticeship training and tools

### Career Progression

There are many opportunities in the skilled trades to move up the ladder, learn more, earn more and build a career. Start by pursuing an apprenticeship or just jump right in and start working.

Career pathways and time required to complete training differ between different skilled trades, but the typical journey can look like this:

- **Pre-apprenticeship (optional)**
- **Apprenticeship (2-5 years)**
- **Journey person**
- **Red Seal endorsement (optional)**

Find one of the 140+ skilled trades in these four sectors

- **Construction**
- **Industrial**
- **Transportation**
- **Service**

Many skilled tradespeople start their own businesses, and train & upskill the next generation in their profession.

### Apply to College

Learn from skilled/experienced tradespeople, benefit from industry connections that lead to apprenticeships and jobs  
Many college trades programs combine apprenticeship training or co-op in diploma programs; complete in-school requirements of an apprenticeship as part of the program

Consider a **pre-trades program** if looking to explore a variety of trades (introduce trades, including construction, electrical and machining) and develop complementary skills, such as mathematics for the trades, drafting, and employment readiness.

[www.ontariocolleges.ca/en/apply/skilled-trades](http://www.ontariocolleges.ca/en/apply/skilled-trades)