

COLLEGE FAQs

What kinds of programs or certificates does college offer?

- Certificate (1 year)
- Diploma (2-3 years)
- Degree (not all programs or colleges offer)
- Collaborative & Joint program with University
- Graduate Certificate (Post Graduate)
- Co-op
- Apprenticeship
- Courses (cooking)
- Academic upgrading

When do I have to apply by? Know important dates!

- Feb. 1st for highly competitive programs

What are highly competitive programs?

- A highly competitive program consistently receives more applications than available seats. Program is full. You must apply before Equal Consideration Date, Feb 1st

How can I find out if a program is competitive?

- Click programs and then click on program details

What are JOINT / COLLABORATIVE PROGRAMS BETWEEN COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES?

- Is when two educational institutions work together to create policies for students to transfer credits between institutions.
- Takes less time and get you into the workforce faster
- Most students to graduate with BOTH university and college credentials!
- Many colleges and universities are involved
- Many joint programs to choose from

How many program choices and colleges can I apply to?

- You can select up to **5 program choices** on your application, with a **maximum of 3 choices** for any **single college**.

Can I pay extra money to apply to more programs?

- No, you can pay extra or submit a second application for more choices.
- You can make changes to programs you've selected at any time by logging in to your application and selecting the Program Choices option from the left-column navigation.

What programs are available at Ontario colleges?

- Over 5,000 programs, ranging from one-year diplomas to 4-year degrees. (Find a Program section to browse all programs offered or to search by area of study, college or credential offered).

Where can I find details about a college program?

- Go to Find a Program section to search programs, specific details, such as credential, entry level, start date and more. You can also see whether a program is open, closed or waitlisted.

Where can I find out if a program is still accepting applications?

- In our Find a Program section, you can see whether a program is open, closed or waitlisted by checking the Availability column.
- **Open** - The college is still accepting applications to the program.
- **Closed** - The program is already full for this start date.
- **Waitlisted** - The college has established a waitlist of applicants for this program, however you can still apply.
- If you apply to a program after the Equal Consideration Date, your application will be considered on a first-come, first-served basis.

What are program entry semesters?

- Entry semesters indicate the year and semester that you want to start a program. I.e., Semester 1 is the first semester of the first year, Semester 2=second semester of the first year, Semester 3 is the first semester of the second year, and so on.

What does it mean if I'm put on a waitlist for a program?

- Qualified applicants may be placed on a waitlist if the program is full
- Programs may become waitlisted or closed at any time
- If you're applying to a **highly competitive program**, or after the **Equal Consideration Date**, there is a higher chance that programs will become waitlisted.
- If you're applying to a waitlisted program, remember that admission to the program is **not guaranteed** and the **application processing fee** is **non-refundable**.

Will I get a seat in a program if I'm on the waitlist?

- If other applicants who were already accepted to the program decline their offer of admission or don't register with the college, you may be offered a seat in the program.
- The college may contact you directly with an offer, so be sure to keep your contact information up-to-date on your application. Offers for waitlisted programs are time-sensitive and it's important that you respond as quickly as possible.
- Contact the college you've applied to directly for details on receiving and confirming offers of admission for waitlisted programs.

Will I automatically get an offer if I apply to a different start date for a waitlisted program?

- Waitlisted applicants will not automatically be considered for later start dates of a program.
- If you're interested in applying to a later start date of the program, you will need to add it as a new program choice on your application. See the Online Application FAQs to learn more about updating your application.

How do I find out where my name is on the waitlist?

- Each college maintains their Program waitlists NOT OCAS.
- Contact the specific college to find out where you are on the waitlist. (Not all colleges will provide this.)

Can I accept an offer for another program while I am on a waitlist?

- Waitlist processes vary by college. Contact the college you've applied to directly to find out if accepting an offer of admission to another program at the same college or a different college will affect your placement on the waitlist.

Where can I find more information about apprenticeship programs?

- You can find information on some apprenticeships on the Apprenticeships page in 'Find a Program section'. You can view some available apprenticeship programs.
- Visit the Employment Ontario website for more information

Can I apply to the collaborative nursing program?

- DEPENDS. Some collaborative nursing programs require you to apply through ontariocolleges.ca, and others through Ontario Universities' Application Centre (OUAC).
- View collaborative nursing programs in our 'Find a Program section'. Check program details and view program title or the Notes field for application requirements.

What is a post-diploma program?

- Post-diploma programs (also called post-graduate programs) are programs that require a college diploma, college certificate or university degree for admission. You can view all the [post-diploma programs](#) in our Find a Program section.

How do I find out about transfer programs?

- Visit ONTransfer.ca, visit our Transfer Credits page. (When your college credits are transferred & accepted by a university)

How do I get my Ontario high school transcripts if I've graduated?

- Guidance will send your transcripts electronically OCAS

When do I need to apply?

- Depends on start of a program. RESEARCH.
- Go to [find a program that is currently accepting applications](#), view list of [open programs](#).

How do I pay for my application?

You can pay for your application three ways:

1. Online. With Visa (or Visa Debit), MasterCard, American Express and Interac Online.
2. By phone. You can contact us to pay over the phone using a credit card. We accept Visa (including Visa Debit), MasterCard and American Express.
3. Mail a certified cheque / money order. Include your OCAS ID #

How do I confirm my offer?

- Log in to your account and go to the [View Offers](#) screen.
- Click on “[Confirm Offer](#)” button next to the offer you wish to accept.
- Click “Yes, I do wish to confirm this offer”.
- Your offer is then considered accepted and we will notify the college of your decision.
- You will also receive an email confirmation from ontariocolleges.ca.

How can I make changes to my application?

- Log in to your ontariocolleges.ca account.
- You can make as many changes to your program choices as you like, with no additional fees, as long as the choices all fall within the same school year.
- If you wish to apply to programs beginning in the next academic year, you will need to create a new application and pay another application fee.

What do I do if I am having problems with the online application?

You can get help with the online application in the following ways:

1. Check the Online Application section of this FAQ for your question.
2. Download the Online Application User Guide for step-by-step illustrated instructions.
3. Contact the Customer Contact Centre for assistance via telephone or live chat during our office hours, or by email anytime.

Please note that removing a program choice will notify the college you are no longer interested in that choice.

What documents do international students need to apply?

- The documents required for international applicants will vary from program to program. For detailed information about applying as an international applicant and about specific documents, visit our International Applicants page.

When will I find out if I have been offered admission to a program?

- Fall Start: Colleges start sending out offers of admission on the Equal Consideration Date (Feb 1st) and will continue to send them until programs are full or wait-listed.