

GRADE 12 COURSE SELECTIONS FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. How many electives do I get to choose in grade 12?

- Typically in Grade 12 the only compulsory course left to take is English 4E/4C/4U. However, each student has had a different high school experience. Therefore, it is your responsibility to check under the heading **Diploma** in MYWAY to see **exactly what YOU need to graduate**.
- If all compulsory credits are met, count the number of electives still needed. For an OSSD you need 18 compulsory courses and 12 elective courses, which equal 30.

2. What else do I need to check to make sure I graduate?

1. Student must add their **Community Involvement Hours** to the MyWay Portal **by the end of May** in the year they are graduating. March Break will be a perfect time to complete all required hours.
2. Check that you have passed the **Ontario Literacy Test**. If not speak to your guidance counsellor about the Ontario Literacy Course.

3. How many credits can I take in high school?

- In September 2013 the Ontario Ministry of Education implemented a policy that secondary school students are allowed to take **a maximum of 34 credits** at their day school in order to complete an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD).
- This means you can take 4 more credits after graduating - but **failed credits count** as any attempts are counted, not just completed credits.
- Students can continue their learning by using the adult school system instead of the day school system. There is an exception for students using Special Education Services. Read the FAQ here:
<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/students/faqs.html>

4. What are the admission requirements for a college program?

- **COLLEGE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**
 - OSSD (ENG 4CI + any additional prerequisites)
 - many programs have specific prerequisites, so check the specific program to which you want to apply
 - additional requirements for admission to some programs (i.e. portfolio, audition)

Go to www.ontariocolleges.ca click on Find a Program Type a keyword to search and click on the "visit" button to look for Admission Requirements for a specific program.

5. What are the admission requirements for a university program?

● UNIVERSITY ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- six 4U/M courses (minimum admission requirement) (ENG 4UI usually required)
- many programs have specific prerequisites which are included in admission average
- additional requirements for admission to some programs (i.e. portfolio)

Go to www.electronicinfo.ca click on Find a Program Type a keyword to search Click on the title of the program. The drop down menu shows the average that a student needs to get into a university program and the Grade 12 prerequisite courses needed for admission.

6. I am in college courses at PHS, can I still go to university?

- Yes, but not directly from high school.
- There are many articulation agreements between colleges and universities. You are able to begin a 2-3 year college program and transfer into a university program at various stages. Check www.ONTransfer.ca

7. If I am in university courses at PHS, can I apply to college?

- Yes you can. For the **college diploma programs** you have overdone the admission requirements since most college programs focus on English as the key entrance requirement.
- Note, however, that you do not necessarily have an advantage to get into a college diploma program if you took university programming in high school.
- For the **college bachelor degree programs**, the requirements are the same as a university degree program and you should have exactly the necessary requirements of 6 Gr. 12 University (4U) or Gr. 12 Mixed (4M) level courses to be averaged for the entrance requirements.

8. If I took a Grade 12 4C/4U/4M course during my Grade 11 year, will the mark go to the college or university I apply to?

- Yes, all 4C, 4U and 4M course codes will show on your transcript that gets sent to the post-secondary schools. They will get the marks.

9. Are there other things I can do to prepare for college or university while I am still in Grade 11?

- YES!
 - a. Research schools on either electronicinfo.ca or ontariocolleges.ca
 - b. BOOK A CAMPUS TOUR! Once you find some schools that interest you, book a tour of the campus. There are always Fall Tours, March Break Tours and tours can also be prearranged on weekends. Contact the specific institution to book a campus tour. This information can be found on the websites listed above.

10. How can I check if I am on track to graduate? (Check if I have a Group 1, Group 2 and Group 3 credit)?

- The first place to look is in **MYWAY**. Check the "diploma" tab. It lists how many of the 18 compulsory credits and 12 elective credits you have earned. It also identifies if you Completed the Literacy Test AND it tells you how many Community Involvement Hours you have recorded in your MyWay Portal.
- Secondly, you may always make an appointment with your guidance counsellor to ask if you are on track to graduate.

11. I don't know what I want to do in the future, how do I pick my courses?

- At this point you will have a general understanding of whether you have any future plans to go directly into the workforce, to attend a college or a university or to start an apprenticeship. Look up programs that interest you and their admission requirements.
- Book an appointment with your Guidance Counsellor to explore your interests and possible post secondary programs.

12. I am looking for work, where can I go for help?

The youth employment centers in Cambridge are:

- **Cambridge Career Connections** 40 Ainslie St S, Cambridge, ON N1R 3K1 (519) 622-0815
- **Lutherwood Youth Employment** 35 Dickson Street Cambridge, ON N1R 7A6 (519) 623-9380

13. If I want to take a 5th year in high school how do I pick courses?

- During Course Selection time in February, you simply submit a course selection on the MYWAY computer system and hand in a printed copy of your course selection to your homeroom teacher or to Guidance if you have a spare or e-learning homeroom.

14. Am I eligible for a spare?

- PHS students must have earned 15 credits in the June of the previous school year before they can take a spare. Planning out courses for both Grade 11 and Grade 12 will allow you to choose the best time to take a spare.

15. How do I show I want a spare on my course selections?

- Choose only 6 courses (if you are taking 2 spares in Gr. 12) or only 7 courses (if you are taking 1 spare in Gr. 12), rather than taking 8 courses. This will be interpreted by the system that you are requesting a spare.

16. I want to go to Summer School. How do I sign up, and how does this affect my application to College or University?

- Summer School registrations happen in April. There will be lunch time sign up sessions so listen to morning announcements to learn what specific days they will be happening. You may also see your Guidance Counsellor to sign up for Summer School.
- Please note that if you are looking to begin a Post-Secondary School Program in the September following your Summer School course, the college or university usually will not save a spot for you in the program while you complete summer school. This is especially true for competitive programs. You will need to communicate directly with the institution to see if they will wait for your summer school mark before they accept you into the program. Some undersubscribed programs do still have spots remaining in August. It depends on the program to which you are applying - which is why you need to communicate directly with them!