


School Counsellors'
Overview of the Graduation
Year and Beyond:

For Students & Parents



Overview


- Tools for Students/Parents/Guardians to help with post-secondary planning
 - Review of post-secondary options
 - Getting ready to apply – what you need to know
 - Application Process
 - Financing
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Planning for after High School


- <https://myblueprint.ca/>
 - Simple student portfolios and career education resource
 - Students have direct access to this through their **GNSPES** launch page



Options After High School

- University
 - Community College
 - Apprenticeship (a formal on-the-job training program)
 - Military Training and Employment
 - Private Career College
 - Direct entry to full-time work
 - Gap year experience – travel/volunteerism
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What Information is Needed?

- Student's skills and interests
 - Programs that match those skills & interests
 - Requirements for programs
 - Institutions that offer the programs
 - Location/size of institution, cost of program
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High School Transcript

A transcript is a credit summary that indicates the courses and grades each individual student has attempted and obtained throughout high school (Grades 10-12)

It is required by post-secondary institutions for acceptance


In-Progress versions are used during the school year for applying to post secondary programs before the final marks are available

MyTranscripts


MyTranscripts is a system that allows many local universities/colleges to pull electronic copies of student transcripts

- NS High School students can provide their **Provincial Student Number** (found on their PowerSchool account) along with their date of birth on applications for admission to NS universities.
- This provides the institution with permission to create an electronic request for these students' records.
- They send the request to the NS Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (EECD) via secure channels through the MyTranscripts system.
- Students will not need to send a paper copy of their transcript at any point in the process.
- MyNSFuture.ca/MyTranscripts


Credit Checks & Grad List

- The counsellors regularly check students' credits for graduation status, but it remains the responsibility of students and parents to ensure that all graduation requirements are being met.
 - The Potential Grad List is the list of all Grade 12 students on track to graduate in June, and will be posted at various times of the year. The one posted the day before graduation is the actual Grad List.
 - The Grad List shows what we have on record as the full name in order to prepare graduation diplomas. It must be the correct full legal name.
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Do You Have What You Need?

- Post-secondary admission requirements vary from school to school. For EACH of the post-secondary schools being considered, students must know:
 - which courses they require
 - what final grades they need in these courses
 - Go to the college/university website and check under “Future Students” and “Admission Requirements”
 - The word “program” refers to a set of courses that leads to a particular certificate, diploma or degree.
 - This can be reviewed at any time with a counsellor.
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NSCC Admission Requirements

- Minimum grade 12 or equivalent for most programs.
 - Some technology programs may require Math 12, Physics 12, and/or Chemistry 12
 - Resumes and Portfolios may also be required.
 - It is important to check the requirements on the NSCC website.
 - Course space is limited. Apply now!
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Typical Requirements for University Admission in Atlantic Canada

- English 12 (a mark of 70 or higher) and four other acceptable Grade 12 academic courses (some programs may require specific Math or Science courses depending on desired program)
 - Typically, 70+% in each of the required courses, and about a 70+% average in the five courses with no mark below 65% (Note: some cut-off averages can be higher or lower)
 - Math is not necessarily a requirement for some programs.
 - Deadlines can vary from province to province and can be as late as the summer, except for limited-enrolment programs.
 - Deadlines are typically earlier for scholarships (often March 1)
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Finding Post-Secondary Info

- View books in Student Services
- Institution websites
- Lunch time visits by post-secondary representatives
- AARAO Tour <https://aarao.ca/fairs/>
- Open houses at institutions
 - Sometimes Application Fees are waived at these events if they are offering on-the-spot admissions, so students are advised to bring an official transcript with them.
- Visit your Counsellor

U.S. and Other Foreign Institutions

Students typically need to apply before Christmas. Fees required. Outside North America, deadlines may be as early as October.

U.S. institutions require SAT or ACT scores:

- Apply by late October to write in early December or apply in mid November to write in late January
- It's recommended that students write in grade 11

Check out www.collegeboard.com

Ontario Universities

Applying to Universities in Ontario is a different process:

Ontario has one central application center
(OUAC)

<http://www.ouac.on.ca/>

Students may apply to as many as 3
universities with one application

BUT transcripts must be sent directly to the
universities themselves.

Completing the Application - following graduation...

- Graduates are given three official copies of their transcript at the grad ceremony
- It is the student's responsibility to ensure the final transcript is sent to the institution
- Students pick post-secondary courses and schedules in the late spring or summer, online or at the institution
- A few of the local universities come to PAHS and schedule individual appointments with accepted students to set up their first-year schedule of courses

Typical Tuition Fees

- Community College: approximately \$3000 +/-yr for most programs.
Programs are usually 2 yrs. in length
- University: \$7000 +/-yr. Commonly 4 years for first degree. Add more years for additional degrees, e.g. teaching, medicine, law, dentistry, vet, masters degree.
- Private Career College: \$5000 to over \$20,000/yr. 1 or 2 years.
- There are costs above and beyond tuition – usually these are itemized on the institution’s website under “Tuition and Fees”

Monetary Awards

- There are monetary awards based on *academic achievement, financial need, leadership, volunteerism, etc.*
- Local awards - provided by local service clubs, foundations and businesses (may be based on affinity and/or need, as well as grades)
- Community/Corporate awards – typically administered by the corporation (some are based on affinity or are specifically for students who identify as African Nova Scotian, Indigenous, etc.)
- PAHS specific ('Green Sheet') awards - administered by the school (students must complete the Google form and attach a resume)
- Institution specific awards

<https://sites.google.com/gnspes.ca/paguidance/scholarships>


Entrance Scholarships

- Awarded by practically all universities, and by some private colleges.
- Intended to attract the top academic students
- Values typically \$500 to \$8000. May be renewable. At least 80% admissions average needed. Averages of mid-to upper-90's typically needed for largest.
- Typically, the scholarship amount awarded is based on grades received at the end of Semester 1, using an average of the required courses for program admission.
- For some universities, students are automatically considered for entrance scholarships when they apply. For other universities, there is a separate "Scholarship Application." Be sure to check each university website to find out whether a separate application for scholarships is required.

Student Loans

Every **May 1st**, students may begin to apply online for Canada Student Loans at the following website: <http://novascotia.ca/studentassistance/>

Prior to this May 1st activation date, students can get the following materials ready:

- Social Insurance Number
 - Information about the school program you are most likely to be attending (# of credits or class hours)
 - Student's and parents'/guardians' total income information from last year's tax returns
 - A bank account in student's name
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Questions?

- ❖ Please reach out to your School Counsellor
 - Pop by Student Services to set up an appointment or send them an email

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<https://sites.google.com/gnspes.ca/paguidance/home>