



Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program

OYAP is funded by the
Ministry of Training, Colleges and
Universities

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Newsletter For Parents



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What is OYAP?

The Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP) is a program that enables students to learn a skilled trade while completing the requirement for their Ontario Secondary School Diploma (O.S.S.D.).

The partnership involves a student who wants to learn a skilled trade, the school cooperative education teacher who arranges and monitors the placement, an employer who provides the training and the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities which administers and regulates the program.

OYAP provides young people with a head start in skilled occupations!

Facts to Consider

Demographics and labour market statistics suggest that within the next few years many skilled trades people will be retiring. This will present opportunities for young people interested in beginning a skilled occupation.

In Ontario many students do not attend university or college after leaving high school. A number of these students enjoy learning by doing. A work experience in a skilled trade through the OYAP option can provide these students with an early start in a career with a future.

The average age of an apprentice in Ontario is 26 years. The Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program enables high school students to begin careers in the skilled trades at a much earlier age.

There are over 130 skilled occupations in Ontario. Many of these skilled trades are well paying, secure and provide a great future. In several skilled trades, wage rates are higher than in many other careers and professions.

It takes an average of two to five years to complete an apprenticeship program. In comparison, it takes three to four years to complete a university undergraduate program and two to three years to complete a college program. Apprenticeship training is a cost-effective third option in addition to the traditional community college or university route enabling apprentices to earn while they learn. Between 8090 per cent of apprenticeship training takes place on the job.

Did you know....

- OYAP provides a link between apprenticeship and post secondary education.
- OYAP can make it easier for young people to enter skilled occupations.

Frequently Asked Questions



Q *Who is eligible for OYAP?*

A OYAP is available to students who:

- Are in either grade 11 or 12
- Are at least 16 years of age
- Are registered in a co-op program
- Show an interest in the skilled trades and a readiness for the workplace
- Have good references and attendance records

Q *What characteristics should OYAP students possess?*

A Since OYAP is a school to work transition program, students selected for the OYAP option must show:

- A readiness for the workplace
- A commitment to a career in a skilled occupation
- A career focus
- Maturity, dependability and punctuality

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Q *Who does well in the OYAP option?*

A Students who enjoy learning by doing excel in the OYAP option. A work experience in a skilled trade through the OYAP option enriches school courses. Students who participate in OYAP recognize the relevance and importance of a high school education. Students have registered as cook, electrician, hairstylist, auto service technician and auto body and collision damage repairer apprentices.

Program expectations—OYAP students are expected to:

- Follow a strict attendance policy
- Meet employer expectations in the workplace
- Follow co-op in-school requirements

Types of Apprenticeships—A few skilled trades includes: Cook, Chef, Welder, Construction, Auto Service Technician, Network Cabling, Child Development Practitioner, Information Technology Support Analyst and Hairstylist.

A young person's career choice begins at home. If you believe your son or daughter has what it takes to do well in the OYAP option, talk with them about a career in the skilled trades.

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