

Career Cruising & Pathways Planning Parent-Guardian Workshop



Career Cruising



Education and Career-Life Planning Process

What is a Pathway?

A pathway is your individual journey that includes experiences in school and the community. The four-step inquiry process will help you to establish your own personal goals and plan your individualized pathway for your future.

What is my plan for achieving my goals?

Who am I?

Education and Career-Life Planning

What are my opportunities?

Who do I want to become?

Who am I?

How can I discover who I am?

Who do I want to become?

What are my personal goals?

What are my opportunities?

What are my home, school, parish and community opportunities?

What is my plan for achieving my goals?

How can I create a plan for my future?

Post-Secondary Pathways

A student's initial post-secondary pathway may be: Apprenticeship Training, Career College, College, Community Living, Gap Year, University, or Workplace.

See stmary.dcdsb.ca > Guidance > [Getting Ready for Post-Secondary](#) for resources.

Apprenticeship: Apprenticeships provide classroom instruction and on-the-job skills training by a skilled tradesperson.

Career College: These privately funded post-secondary institutions provide individuals with specific job skills to join the workforce and opportunities to enhance their practical skills.

College: Publically funded colleges combine theory and practice to provide students with hands-on experience and learning that is career-specific and responsive to the labour market needs.

Post-Secondary Pathways

Gap Year: A period of time before, during, or after post-secondary education to reflect and explore pathway options through travel, work or volunteer experiences.

University: Publically funded universities provide conceptual and field-specific knowledge. Additionally, they offer graduate programs that provide advanced analytical and research skills.

Workplace or Entrepreneurship: Directly entering the workplace environment from secondary school involves exploring labour market opportunities that may require a secondary school diploma. The opportunity may include part-time, full-time, contract or self-employment.

Individual Pathways Plan (IPP)

- Starting in Grade 7, students will document their learning in education and career/life planning in a web-based Individual Pathways Plan (IPP). St. Mary CSS uses **Career Cruising**.
- The IPP becomes the primary pathway planning tool for students as they move through secondary school towards their initial post-secondary destination.
- Developing their IPP increases students' awareness of their strengths and interests, and of the related opportunities for learning and work.
- It enables students, in collaboration with teachers and parents, to make decisions, set goals, and develop steps to achieve those goals.

IPP Development

- In Grade 10, **GLC2O1: Career Studies** is a 0.5 credit compulsory course. In this course, students reflect on and further develop their IPP by developing self-knowledge, exploring a range of education and career-life opportunities, setting initial post-secondary goals, and developing a plan for achieving their goals.
- In Grade 11 and 12, students may earn credits through **Cooperative Education /OYAP** while completing a work placement in the community.
- Other learning activities may include Take Our Kids to Work (Grade 9), guest speakers, field trips, post-secondary fairs, and/or within programs such as Dual Credit classes and **Specialist High Skills Majors (SHSM)**.

Pathways Planning & Career Cruising

Career Cruising and Parent Portal

- Students access DCDSB-CC through stmary.dscb.ca
- Each student has a unique login based on their student ID.
- Career Cruising User Guide is found under St Mary > Guidance > [Career Cruising](#)
- Parents may also access their child's CC via "Parent Portal" (see handout).

Pathways Planning & Career Cruising

Areas of Career Cruising

- **Assessments “Explore My Interests”**: Matchmaker & My Skills, Learning Style Inventory
- **Careers “Learn About Careers”**: Search for Careers or Career Selector (assessment)
- **Education “Explore Education Options”**: Search for Schools & Programs or Apprenticeships
- **Employment**: Employment Guide, Job Search, Resume Builder

Pathways Planning & Career Cruising

Where do I start?

1) Matchmaker and My Skills

Career Matchmaker, helps a student understand how interests and career choices are related by matching their likes and interests to occupations in the program.

After answering all 116 questions, the Matchmaker results page lists the top 40 career matches ranked in order of suitability. This list can be saved to the IPP, and completed more than once throughout secondary school.

Learning Styles Inventory, is 20 questions to analyze your preference for visual, auditory and tactile learning methods.

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2) Explore an Occupation Profile

Career Selector, is an assessment that allows students to explore possible career interests based on School Subjects, Career Clusters, Type of Education, Core Tasks, Earnings and Working Conditions.

After answering the survey, several career matches are suggested. This list can be saved to the IPP.

When exploring a **Career Profile**, use the links to learn more about job description, working conditions, earnings, education, sample career path, related careers, and other resources.

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3) Explore Education and Training

From a **Career Profile**, search under the Education tab.

Related College & University and Apprenticeship Programs are listed. Click on the different programs to see what specific post-secondary institutions offer education that prepares a student for that specific occupation.

Clicking on the specific program name provides more details about the program such as admissions and costs.

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3) Explore Education and Training (continued)

Examine **Suggested High School Subjects** for Grade 9 to 12.

Also, use the information from post-secondary admissions requirements (Grade 12 required and/or recommended subjects) to help plan what courses to take in Grade 10 – 12 to best prepare for post-secondary applications.

An individual appointment with a Guidance Counsellor is strongly suggested as a valuable resource to help plan Grade 10 – 12 course selection.

Choosing Secondary Courses with Post-Secondary & Career Goals

Use Career Cruising to research a specific career (e.g. Nurse)

Option 1: Registered Nurse (university degree, 4 years)

Option 2: Practical Nurse (college diploma, 2 years)

Option 3: Bridging program (college to university)

All options require Grade 11 and/or 12 English, Math, and Sciences.

In student's IPP "My Course Plan", choose the post-secondary program pre-requisite programs (e.g. SBI4U) in Grade 12 column. You will see that SNC2D and SBI3U are the Grade 10 and 11 pre-requisite pathway courses for Grade 12 University Biology (with recommended grades of 70% or higher in each).

Choosing Secondary Courses with Post-Secondary & Career Goals

Use Career Cruising to research a specific career (e.g. Electrician)

Option 1: Electrician (apprenticeship, 4-5 years)

Option 2: Electrical Engineering Technician (college diploma, 2 years)

Option 3: Electrical Techniques (college certificate, 1 year)

Option 4: Pre-Apprenticeship/“Trades Fundamentals” (college certificate, 1 year)

Both college options require Grade 11 or 12 English, Math, and Sciences (Chemistry and Physics are recommended).

Other courses to consider at St. Mary: Transportation and Construction Technology

Post-Secondary Planning

See stmary.dcdsb.ca > Guidance > Getting Ready for Post-Secondary for resources.

- **Apprenticeship:** Apprenticesearch.com and Ontario College of Trades' earnwhileyoulearn.ca are the top starting points for researching a post-secondary pathway in the skilled trades. There are also a variety of skilled trades college programs as an alternative to the usual direct to workforce Apprenticeship pathway. Grade 11 and 12 courses can be at Workplace (E), College (C), Mixed (M), or University (U) level.
- **College:** ontariocolleges.ca is a guide to Ontario's 26 publically funded colleges. It provides information about college programs (certificate, diploma and degree), admission requirements and more. Grade 11 and 12 courses can be at the College (C), Mixed (M), or University (U) level. Some speciality programs accept Workplace (E) level courses.

Post-Secondary Planning

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- **University: eINFO** is a guide to Ontario universities. It provides information about university programs, admission requirements and more. eINFO should be used as a starting point for researching university options. Admission to University requires ENG4U and 5 other Grade 12 courses at the U or M level.
- **ONTransfer:** For high school students, **ONTransfer** can help plan a post-secondary route that starts in a college diploma program and ends with a degree (or vice-versa), and provide information on preparatory/bridging and college-university collaborative programs.

Labour Market Information

See stmary.dcdsb.ca > Guidance > Pathway Planning for resources.

Labour market information and statistics can help plan for successful career pathways. Investigate wages, employability outlooks, education, and skills needed for a career at:

- **Ontario's Labour Market**
<https://www.ontario.ca/page/labour-market>
- **Canada's Labour Market Information: Explore Careers**
<https://www.jobbank.gc.ca/explorecareers.do>

Resources

stmary.dcdsb.ca

* Guidance

Course Levels and Calendars

Pathway Programs

Getting Ready for Post-Secondary

* Cooperative Education

* **What's Next: Your Guide to Education and Career/Life Planning in Ontario (Parent and Student Guide)** on St. Mary Guidance (Pathway Programs)

* **Ontario School Counsellors' Association (OSCA):** www.osca.ca

Student Resources: Who Am I? What Are My Opportunities? Who Do I Want To Become? What Are My Plans For Getting There?

Families & Public Resources: Success at School, Post-Secondary, Community Involvement