

Other Important Stuff: Diploma Requirements

Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) Requirements

- 30 credits (18 compulsory and 12 optional)
- 40 hours of Community Involvement
- Literacy Requirement

The 18 compulsory credits are:

- 4 English, one per grade level
- 1 French as a second language
- 3 Mathematics, at least one in Grade 11 or 12
- 2 Science
- 1 Canadian Geography
- 1 Canadian History
- 1 Arts (Dance, Drama, Media, Music, Visual Arts)
- 1 Health and Physical Education
- 0.5 Civics
- 0.5 Career Studies

Plus one credit from each of the following groups:

- Group 1: additional credit in English
or French as a second language *
or a third language
or Social Sciences and the Humanities
or Canadian and World Studies
or Guidance and Career Education
or Cooperative Education *
- Group 2: Business Studies credit
or Health and Physical Education
or the Arts
or Cooperative Education *
or French as a second language *
- Group 3: a Grade 11 or 12 Science credit
or Technological Education
or Computer Studies
or Cooperative Education *
or French as a second language *

Plus 12 optional credits.

* A maximum of two credits in Cooperative Education and two credits in French can count as compulsory credits.

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT)

In the spring of their Grade 10 school year, students will write the provincial Literacy Test, which is created and marked by the Ministry of Education and Training.

- Students who pass the test fulfill the Literacy requirement.
- School boards are required to provide remedial assistance for students who do not complete the test successfully.
- If students have an Individual Education Plan (IEP) accommodations and/or modifications consistent with students daily work, is available for the test although content may not be altered.

Ontario Secondary School Certificate (OSSC)

The Ontario Secondary School Certificate will be granted upon request to students who leave school before earning the Ontario Secondary School Diploma, provided that they have earned a minimum of 14 credits, as follows:

- 2 English
- 1 Canadian Geography or Canadian History
- 1 Mathematics
- 1 Science
- 1 Health and Physical Education
- 1 Arts or Technological Studies
- 7 optional credits selected from any available courses in the school.

The provisions for substitution for compulsory credits applies to the OSSC.

The Certificate of Accomplishment

Students who leave school before fulfilling the requirements for the OSSD or OSSC may be granted a Certificate of Accomplishment. This Certificate is a useful means of recognizing a student's participation in the secondary school program, especially for those students who plan to take certain types of vocational programs or further training for employment after leaving school. A student may return to school or take additional credit courses after having received the Certificate. The student's transcript (OST) will be updated, but a new Certificate will not be awarded when the student leaves again. A student who receives the Certificate and chooses to return to study at the secondary level may earn the OSSC and/or OSSD after fulfilling the appropriate credit requirements for each.