

? Frequently Asked Questions ?

What do I need to do during the program?

To make the most out of this program, you need to have a positive attitude and an open mind to explore who you are and your potential opportunities. Your career coach is your main contact throughout this program so regular communication with them is very important. The required workshops are developed to help you figure out your PSE and career path, how to get there and how to stay there – so be ready to actively engage in the work. The more you put into the program, the more you will get out of it!

I plan on going right to work after I graduate from high school. Is this program for me?

Experience Ontario is for Grade 12s and recent graduates who are interested in attending PSE or apprenticeship training in the next two years. If your main goal is entering the workforce after graduating, here are some alternate options to help you transition to the workforce: www.ontario.ca/page/get-help-finding-youth-or-student-job

Are there any additional supports to help with career and postsecondary exploration opportunities?

Experience Ontario has funding available to support your access to career and postsecondary exploration activities (e.g., transportation within your region, safety equipment).

Will I have to miss school to participate in this program?

Your career coach will provide you with timelines at the beginning of the program. Workshops are often held during lunch at your school or after school hours. You may occasionally be out of school to attend career and PSE exploration opportunities but there should be minimal disruption to your school schedule.

I'm interested! How do I apply?

See a guidance counsellor for an application and submission instructions. Make sure to get your application in quickly as spaces are limited!

More questions? Email experienceontario@ontario.ca

This program is funded by the Province of Ontario.

EXPERIENCE ONTARIO 2018-19 STUDENT INFORMATION BROCHURE

Q. Do you have an interest in attending postsecondary education (i.e., apprenticeship, college, university) but aren't exactly sure of what you want to do?



Q. Current **Grade 12** students:

- Are you graduating by August 2018?
- Did you apply and were accepted to an apprenticeship, college, or university but aren't sure if you're ready?
- Did you apply to college or university and weren't accepted?

Current **Grade 11** students:

- Are you on-track to graduate in 2018-19?

Q. Would you benefit from additional support with determining their next steps for career and postsecondary pathways?

Q. Are you 21 or younger?



If you said **YES** to the above, **Experience Ontario** may be for you!

EXPERIENCE ONTARIO 2018-19

This program is designed to help you figure out your next steps for postsecondary education (PSE) and career planning with greater certainty and confidence.

WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE PROGRAM?

Career Coach – You will work one-on-one with a career coach to continue exploring your PSE and career goals and expand on your Individual Pathways Plan. Your coach will help you to identify possible areas of interest and then work with you to find career and PSE exploration opportunities.

Conference and Workshops – At the start of the program, you will attend a one day local conference (all expenses paid) to kick-off the program. At this conference and workshops throughout the program, you will participate in a variety of activities including: personal growth and development, career and PSE exploration and planning, financial planning for PSE and transitioning to PSE.

Career Exploration – Your career coach will work with you to find short, unpaid career exploration opportunities (e.g., job shadowing, information interviews with employers) related to your career interests. Your career coach may also be able to help you find paid employment. These jobs may or may not be related to your career interest.

Postsecondary Exploration – Your career coach will coordinate postsecondary exploration opportunities (e.g., arrange a visit to a nearby PSE campus or training facility, information interviews) so you can explore further options at a career centre or program area.

Application Fees Covered – Once you have decided what you want to do and where you want to go, your career coach will help you apply to Ontario colleges and/or universities or help you find potential employers for an apprenticeship. Your college/university application fees are covered by the program OR your first year membership to the Ontario College of Trades if you find an sponsoring employer.

There are over **1,100** students in the 2017-18 program.

Over **75%** have applied to an apprenticeship, college or university!

WHEN DOES THE PROGRAM BEGIN/END?

Experience Ontario officially begins in September 2018 with our conference and ends in April 2019. Your career coach may start working with you over the summer, if you are available.

Testimonials from past participants:

“Doing the program has helped fuel my drive to attend postsecondary.” – Participant, Timmins

“If it weren’t for my career coach, I wouldn’t have applied to college and feel confident to succeed.”
– Participant, Owen Sound

“The workshops helped me figure out different parts of my personality and my strengths.” –
Participant, Kingston

As a result of this program, you will develop a **postsecondary and career plan** to support your next steps.