

Grade 12 Survival Guide

Dr. Charles Best Secondary 2018-2019

Counsellors: Mrs. Rachel John

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(For last names beginning A-G)

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Monthly Checklist

October

- You must complete Grad Transitions in order to graduate!** Grad transitions are all on line. Get more information at: <http://www.sd43.bc.ca/secondary/charlesbest/ProgramsServices/gradtransitions/Pages/default.aspx> or see Mrs. Weeks mweeks@sd43.bc.ca
- Thinking of going to a university/college in the US? An SAT score is needed for admission to most American post-secondary schools. Some schools also require subject SATs. These cannot be done at the same time as the general SAT.
 - Register for the **SAT EXAM** at www.collegeboard.com . Our school code is **821063**. Generally, January is the last chance you have to write the SAT if you want to attend a US school the following September. Locally, you can write the test in Vancouver, Richmond or Chilliwack. Practice tests and information available online as well. Check out ACT college entrance exam as an alternative to the SAT: www.actstudent.org
- Start your UBC/SFU application NOW.** Apply by December 1st to be considered for Major Entrance Scholarships (merit-based). You will need to write, edit, and re-write your personal profile. You can (and should) save and come back until it is your best effort. Don't push "submit" until it is ready.
- Arrange an informal meeting in the Career Centre or with your counselor to begin post-secondary/career planning.
- Read the Best Informer daily!**
- Check out the Online Career Centre website throughout the year for post-secondary and other opportunity information.** [here](#)
- Apply to BC universities and colleges on-line: www.educationplannerbc.ca. You will need your PEN # and your SIN #. Make an appointment to discuss your post-secondary plans with your counsellor or Mrs. Healey-Wright if you have not yet done so.
 - **NOTE! You do not have to submit marks at the time of application.**

- **Douglas College** began accepting applications on Oct 1st, 2018. Apply early. Many programs are first-come, first-served.
 - **General Admission requirements:** completed BC secondary school graduation OR lack one course for BC secondary school graduation OR are 19 years of age or older on the first day of the semester.
 - English Language proficiency requirement of English 12 with a min. grade of “C” or equivalent substitution. Check out: www.douglas.bc.ca/calendar/general-information/admissions.html#generaladmissionrequirements
 - Individual programs may have additional requirements and/or higher English grades.
 - Developmental Studies (DVST) courses are available for students needing to upgrade their English and/or Math. <http://www.douglas.bc.ca/programs/developmental-studies.html> .
 - See complete admission requirements at www.douglascollege.ca/calendar.
- **BCIT** applications are accepted year round for trades programs; for most technical programs applications are accepted until the program fills but details and deadlines vary. Check program specifics and get more info at www.bcit.ca. Check for additional requirements—e.g. résumé, references, letter of intent, and/or statement of standing.
- Apply for **Ontario** universities at www.ouac.on.ca. Application deadlines vary; **however**, out of province applicants are encouraged to apply by **mid-January**.
- **ESL** students: check with the post-secondary institutions for their English language and second language requirements.
- Request any letters of reference you may need. Supply the referee with detailed information about yourself by giving them a completed **brag sheet**. Brag sheets are in the Career Centre or online. **Please give your referee at least two weeks’ notice**.
- Research language proficiency requirements at your schools of choice. Do you need to write the LPI? See your counselor or CRC if you have questions. www.lpitest.ca
- Do you have a “**Plan B**”? If you are not accepted to “My First Choice” University/school do you have a backup plan?
- **October 9th – 13th** – Grad Photos.
- **Wednesday, Oct. 10th - 9:15-12:30. Post-Secondary Day at Best**
- October 16th and 18th after school – **Applying to Post-Secondary Workshops**
- **Thursday, Oct. 26th** - Students wanting to obtain Grade 11/12 credit for a language they speak but did not take in high school must register for the Language Challenge exams written in January in Delta. Applications filled out online: <http://web.deltasd.bc.ca/schools/secondary/challenge-exams>; a \$50 refundable deposit must accompany application. Hand completed application to Mr. Areshenko by Friday Oct. 26th. The actual challenge exams will be held in January 2019..
- **Wednesday, October 17th** - Grade 12 parent information meeting 6:00pm in the Library
- **Monday, October 23rd** – UBC visit to Best.

NOVEMBER

- Check your Transcript Verification Report to confirm the accuracy of your record at the Ministry. See your school counselor for details.
- Apply for a Social Insurance Number (SIN#) if you don't already have one. Apply [here](#)
- Continue to check your daily Best Informer and the Career Centre for scholarship and post-secondary information.
 - If you are a First Nations student talk with your counselor or Mrs. Tsang about financial aid scholarship opportunities for Aboriginal students. Other resources are the District Aboriginal Education Program (604.945.7386) and our Aboriginal Youth Worker. Also, check with your band Office or Friendship Center.
- Apply to BC Post-Secondary schools @ www.educationplannerbc.ca

DECEMBER

- December 1st** – Early application deadline to UBC to be considered for Entrance Scholarships: <https://you.ubc.ca>.
- NEW: December 3rd** – Early application deadline for SFU to be considered for Entrance Scholarships.
- CHECK** post-secondary school application deadlines. Deadlines vary between **institutions** and **programs**. Some programs have earlier admission deadlines.
- Apply for SFU Entrance Scholarships if you have a min. 90% avg. Applications are on-line at www.students.sfu.ca/entrancescholarships/. Deadline is Feb. 28.
- Apply to Eastern Canadian universities now!
- If you plan to go to the US for school, you should be registered to take the SAT by December. <http://www.collegeboard.org/>. Some schools require SAT subject tests as well as the general SAT. These cannot be done at the same sitting.
- December 4, 5, 6** – Meetings to give the Ministry of Education permission to send your grades to post-secondary schools If you haven't created an account with the Ministry of Education you will be directed to do so--you will need your PEN#. By completing this online form you authorize the Ministry to send your interim grades to the post-secondary schools of your choice; final transcripts will be sent in July. Please note, your information will be sent to the institutions in an electronic format. Counsellors will be providing sessions during your Block 4 class time to fill out the **Student Transcripts Service** form.
 - www.studenttranscripts.gov.bc.ca

JANUARY

- January 15th** - deadline to apply to UBC & to apply for Major Entrance Awards (based on financial need).
- Plan for a spring visit of your post-secondary school, if you can.
- January 15th** – **GT Deadline for student taking English 12 in second semester. You must complete Grad Transitions to graduate! You will not be able to purchase your**

Dinner/Dance tickets or pick up your commencement tickets if you have not completed your Grad Transitions. Grad Transitions are all online:

<http://www.sd43.bc.ca/secondary/charlesbest/ProgramsServices/gradtransitions/Pages/default.aspx> or see Mrs. Weeks, (mweeks@sd43.bc.ca).

- NEW: January 31st** - Regular Application deadline for SFU (All programs)
- NEW: January 31st** – On-line course completion deadline for SFU and UBC

FEBRUARY

- Feb. 6th** - Scholarship Meeting #2. Local scholarship packages will be handed out.
- Make sure to check the financial aid page of the post-secondary school you plan to attend.
- If you are leaving your home community for post-secondary, apply for housing now.

MARCH

- If you have applied to a BC University, check the status of your application and emails regularly! You may be asked to self-report first semester final grades and second semester interim grades electronically.**
- Do you need to write the LPI? Check literacy requirements of the post-secondary schools you have applied to. Check online at www.lpitest.ca for information on public sittings.
- Some offers of admission are based on self-reported grades. All other offers of admission are made in May based on grades sent by the Ministry of Education.
- Finished Grad Transitions? You must complete Grad Transitions to graduate! You must complete Grad Transitions before purchasing Dinner/Dance tickets or picking up your commencement tickets! See Mrs. Weeks, (mweeks@sd43.bc.ca)**

APRIL

- April 5th, 2019** - Completed Local Scholarship application packages are due to Mr. Chang by 3:30 pm. Late applications are not accepted.
- April 15th** – Grad Transitions Deadline for students taking English in the first semester.
- Have you filled out the **Student Transcripts Service** online form to give the Ministry of Education permission to send you grades to the post-secondary schools of your choice? You've already missed the first deadline if you haven't done it yet. That means you won't get early admission and you are hoping the school still has space to consider you.
<https://www.studenttranscripts.gov.bc.ca>

MAY

- Canadian Universities make the bulk of their admission offers from mid-May thru to the end of the month.
- Early May** - If you have completed Grad Transitions you can purchase Grad Dinner & Dance tickets and pick up guest tickets for Commencement. Check dates and times tickets are available.

- Please let Mr. Chang or Mrs. Tsang know about any scholarships you have won so they can be acknowledged in the Commencement program. Ensure you write a thank you note to the scholarship donor
- Check out www.canlearn.ca and www.studentaidbc.ca for info on Canada and BC student loans and grants.

JUNE

- June 8th** – Grad. Dinner/Dance at the Fairmont Waterfront Hotel at 6:00pm
- June 9th** - After grad, 12:30am Charles Best Gym
- June 13th** – Commencement at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre at 7:00pm
- Remember to send thank you notes for any scholarships you have won.
- Post-Secondary Course registration is usually done mid-June to early July.

JULY

- Transcripts and Dogwood diploma mailed to your home.

*Congratulations to the
Class of 2019!!*



Websites & Widsom from Farther Afield

Gathering Information:

Post-Secondary Options in BC

www.educationplanner.bc.ca

The Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada

www.aucc.ca

University Study

<http://www.universitystudy.ca/>

Info on Ontario universities out-of-province admissions

www.electronicinfo.ca

US Colleges and Universities

www.utexas.edu/world/univ

www.bestschoolsusa.com

www.acuinfo.com

US College Board, SAT info and Registration

www.collegeboard.com

MacLean's Magazine university rankings

www.macleans.ca/universities

Globe & Mail University Report Card

www.globecampus.ca

Industry Training Authority (ITABC)

www.itabc.ca

My Blueprint

<https://app.myblueprint.ca/?sdid=sd43>

BC Post-Secondary Application System

www.educationplanner.bc.ca

Ontario University Application Site

www.ouac.on.ca

Alberta University Application Site

www.applyalberta.ca

After Applying:

BC Transfer Guide

www.bctransferguide.ca

Canadian Government Financial Info Site

www.canlearn.ca

BC Student Aid (loans)

www.studentaidbc.ca

Some common BC Post-Secondary School web sites:

BC Institute of Technology

www.bcit.ca

Simon Fraser University

www.sfu.ca

Capilano University

www.capilanou.ca

SFU Surrey

www.sfu.ca/surrey

Douglas College

www.douglas.bc.ca

Thompson Rivers University

www.tru.ca

Emily Carr University of Art of

www.eciad.bc.ca

TRU Open Learning

www.openlearning.tru.ca

Design

Justice Institute of BC

www.jibc.bc.org

University of the Fraser Valley

www.ufv.bc.ca

Kwantlen Polytechnic U.

www.kwantlenu.ca

University of British Columbia

www.ubc.ca

Langara College

www.langara.bc.ca

UBC Okanagan

www.ubc.ca/okanagan

Nicola Valley Institute of Tech.

www.nvit.ca

University of Northern BC

www.unbc.ca

Okanagan College

www.okanagan.bc.ca

University of Victoria

www.uvic.ca

Royal Roads University

www.royalroads.ca

Vancouver Community College

www.vcc.bc.ca

Work/Study programs

House of Commons Page Program

http://www.parl.gc.ca/Employment/House/PageProgram/pp_welcome-e.htm

First-year university students are employed to provide a messenger service to Members of Parliament in the Chamber while the House is in session. Successful candidates will be employed for a period of one year. Pages are paid \$13,633 in 26 equal payments over a 12-month period. In addition, a sum of \$1,200 is paid at the end of the employment period. Work schedules are planned to accommodate both the university and the House timetables. Pages work approximately 14 hours per week on duty in the Chambers. Students must apply either to the University of Ottawa or Carleton University and have a good knowledge of both official languages, as well as a demonstrated understanding of how government works. Application is competitive.

Senate Page Program

The Senate Page Program is similar to the Parliamentary Page Program, but with a few key differences: the program pays between \$12,000-\$20,000 and the position is renewable for a second year. There are only 15 Senate Page positions. See: <http://www.senate-senat.ca/pages.asp>

The Canadian Armed Forces Regular Officer Training Program (ROTP) is available to students who wish to attend either a Canadian civilian university or a Canadian military college and who might enjoy either a short-term or a career-length period of service as an officer in the Canadian Armed Forces. In addition to officer training programs, the military also offers support for select apprentice and training programs. Contact the recruiter for more information.

Contact: Canadian Forces Recruiting Centre
620 Royal Avenue New Westminster
Vancouver, British Columbia V3M 1J2
info.vancouver@forces.gc.ca
<http://www.forces.ca/>

Royal Canadian Military College : <http://www.rmc.ca/>

Thinking of going to University outside of BC? More Info:

For American Universities and Colleges:

- Useful sites:
 - <http://canada.usembassy.gov/educationusacanada.html> Official US source of info on higher education in the USA
 - http://www.educationusa.info/5_steps_to_study/Bk1_English.pdf Printable booklet that covers the following topics:
 - understanding the U.S. Undergraduate system
 - choosing the best school
 - entrance requirements and standardized tests
 - financing your education
 - the application process
 - student visas
 - **NCAA Guide for Canadian students:**
<http://www.ncaapublications.com/productdownloads/CBSA.pdf>
 - Determine your eligibility, find out about SAT minimal requirements, and review a list of which colleges/universities offer your sport of interest.
 - Students should start early in the process, (grade 10 or 11), as applications and meeting athletic as well as academic requirements can be complicated and take a great deal of time.

See Mrs. Healey Wright for more information and resources about U.S. study.

Financial Aid for International Study

- Financial aid for Canadians studying abroad is generally scarce, though it does exist.
- Check eligibility rules for scholarships; some have restrictions on the location of schools the scholarship can be applied to; others have no restrictions.
- Some useful websites:
 - *Canadian Information Centre for International Credentials*
<http://www.cicic.ca/2/home.canada>
 - *Financial assistance for Post-Secondary Education* <https://www.cicic.ca/976/Get-information-on-applying-to-study-abroad/index.canada>
 - *Financial aid for studying abroad* <http://www.bcstudyabroad.ca/financial-aid>

Thinking of taking a year off? Work, Volunteer and/or Travel Abroad:

Study Abroad -

<https://www.studyabroad.com/>

<http://www.studyandgoabroad.com/>

Canada World Youth/Jeunesse Canada Monde (CWY) <http://canadaworldyouth.org/>

CWY provides a variety of programs, in over 20 countries around the world, for youth between the ages of 15 and 35 looking to gain leadership experience through participation in community-driven development projects. Participants must raise some money from their home community towards their admission into CWY. Costs incurred during the program (food, lodging, transportation) are covered.

Helpful Links:

<http://exchanges.gc.ca/index.php/eng/p200902191325.html> Federal site on exchanges.

<http://www.swap.ca> *not for profit program of the Canadian Federation of Students*

<http://www.lattitudcanada.org/> *charity specializing in global volunteering for 17-25 year olds.*

<http://www.breaktimecanada.org/> Vancouver company organizing study, internship, and work abroad programs

Visit the online Career Centre or Mrs. Healey Wright for additional information and opportunities.