

Langley Fine Arts Secondary

Parents' Handbook

on

Post Secondary Information

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Introduction

The Grad Parents' Handbook is designed to help both students and parents sort through the large amount of information that is available for post-secondary.

Students and parents can easily access post-secondary information through the various websites described in this booklet. Information may also be obtained in the Career Center and by attending the Post-secondary Liaison night.

The application process and requirements for post-secondary has changed dramatically over the past twenty years and continues to change. By researching the information for themselves, students can feel more informed in their decision making and parents can feel more secure in the decisions students make about their post-secondary years.

If the information in this booklet raises more questions, students and parents can make an appointment at any time with Mrs. Bunyan in the counselling center to discuss post-secondary options. (cbunyan@sd35.bc.ca)

Graduation Requirements

All Grade 12 students are responsible for ensuring they meet the graduation requirements for British Columbia. Twice during their Grade 12 year, students will check their transcripts individually with the counsellor. At that time, students can inform the counsellor if there are any errors or omissions, particularly courses which the student is completing through Distributed Learning or correspondence. Their final transcript of grades is based on the information provided in those two meetings.

To graduate from Langley Fine Arts Secondary, a student must complete:

80 credits (equivalent to twenty 4 credit courses)

48 credits are required Courses, including

English 10
English 11
English 12 or Communications 12
Socials 10
Socials 11
Science 10
A science 11/12
A math 10 course
A math 11 course
PE 10
Planning 10
One Fine Arts or Applied Skills course (10, 11, or 12)

Graduation Portfolio assessment (4 credits)

28 credits additional Elective Courses

Students must have a minimum of 16 credits (4 courses) at the Grade 12 level, including English 12 or Communications 12.

Deciding on a Post-secondary Institution

Once a student has decided to attend post-secondary, they must choose the type of program they wish to attend. There are currently seven types of post-secondary institutions in B.C. They are: public universities, private universities, public university-colleges, public colleges, private colleges, institutes and the Open Learning Agency. A student's decision should be based on educational need, financial need, and emotional/social need. Post-secondary programs can be researched using the internet, college calendars and view books, and by attending open houses and information sessions. It is very common to begin a program at one institution, such as a university-college, and transfer to another institution after completing one or two years.

Application Dates

The following is a list of dates when post-secondary institutions will begin accepting applications for Fall 2007. As most college and institute programs accept on a first-come first-serve basis, students are encouraged to submit their application on the first day. Universities accept students based on their Grade Point Average (see below). All public post-secondary schools in B.C. can be accessed for application through **www.pas.bc.ca**.

BCIT	- October 1st, 2007
University College of the Fraser Valley	- October 1st, 2007
Douglas College	- October 15th, 2007
Kwantlen University College	- November 1st, 2007
Simon Fraser University	- before February 28, 2008
University of British Columbia	- before February 28, 2008
University of Victoria	- before February 28, 2008
Thompson River Univ.	- Oct. 1st, 2007 - Feb. 28th 2008

University Academic Admission Requirements for Fall 2008

General Admission - Please check course calendars for specific requirements

- Secondary School Graduation including English 12 (not Com 12)
- Principles of Math 11
- French 11 or another approved Language 11
(SFU will accept a Beginner's Language 11)
- A Science 11 from Biology, Chemistry, Physics or Earth Science
- 3 academic Grade 12 courses from list below

Biology 12 Geography 12 Physics 12
Chemistry 12 Principles of Math 12 French 12
English Lit. 12 History 12

Comparative Civ 12 (UNBC and UVic only)
Writing 12, Law 12 (UNBC only)

Note: SFU and UNBC have admission requirements based on **5** courses. Admission to University is based on the highest percent obtained in four or five academic Grade 12 courses including English 12. TRU has separate entrance requirements as it has non-degree programs.

General Science Admission

Academic requirements must include:

Chem 11 Physics 11 Math 12
UBC - one grade 12 science min. (Bi., Chem. or Physics)
SFU and UVic - two grade 12 sciences (Bi., Chem., Physics or Geog.)

College Admissions

Colleges and University Colleges have different requirements for entry into their programs. Please check the college calendars or go on line to view specific prerequisites. College admission is based on early application and satisfying prerequisites.

Private Universities and Colleges

As these institutions are privately run, they set their own admission requirements. Often, they are the same as the public institutions, but the admission average may be lower.

Each post-secondary institution has both general admission requirements and a unique set of admission requirements for each program. Students and parents are encouraged to consult a college's website or calendar for specific information.

English Assessment Requirements

Most institutions will require some type of English assessment , in order for a student to be eligible to register in a first-year English course. The most common of these assessments is the **Language Proficiency Index** (LPI exam). Students can register for this exam at www.lpi.ubc.ca. Generally, a student can be exempt from the exam by having a final mark in English 12 that is sufficiently high (mark required differs from institution to institution). Again, students must check prerequisites of their program and institution to see if they meet this exemption.

Langley Fine Arts holds one sitting of the LPI exam. The date for the exam is April 3rd, 2008.

Financial Opportunities for Students

<http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/scholarships/fo/toc.htm>

Included on this website are:

- lists of open entrance scholarships to BC universities, colleges, and private institutions.
- entrance scholarships across Canada.
- limited application entrance scholarships (not solely based on academic criteria).
- lists of available bursaries.
- other awards and scholarships offered through private companies and institutions.
- student loan and financial assistance information.

Passport To Education

Passport to Education money is awarded every year to the top students in grades 10 through 12. the Ministry of education allocates a set number of awards to each school. The criteria for calculating this award is currently under revision by a District Committee, but will likely include a student's top course marks in Grade 12 and Portfolio mark. Passport money may be used at a recognized post-secondary institution (BC and elsewhere), which has been approved by the Ministry of Education. Awards have the following value:

Grade 10 - \$250 Grade 11 - \$250 Grade 12 - \$500

Financial Aid

There are three main types of financial aid for post-secondary education.

Scholarships: generally based on academic performance and/or community involvement. These awards are non-repayable.

Bursaries: awarded on the basis of need and non-repayable.

Loans: granted for financial need, must be repaid.

Scholarships

There are six basic types of scholarships available to students graduating from a Langley District school. Scholarship generally recognizes high academic performance, but some also have more specific criteria related to the donor or the intended use of the scholarship. Students are advised to prepare a resume and a short biography of themselves, highlighting not only their academic career, but also any community work and extracurricular involvement. As scholarships can be highly competitive, students should be aware that showing a wide range of skills and interests, as well as true involvement reflects well for the student who is applying.

I. Provincial Scholarships (Academic)

Awards based on the provincial exam results of no fewer than three provincially examinable courses. Students must achieve a minimum letter grade of B in English 12 and have an average of 86% on their top three provincial exams.

Students who qualify are awarded a \$1000 voucher which may be used at a recognized post-secondary program within five years. The top twenty students in the province receive an additional \$1000.

II. District Provincial Scholarships (Specialty Areas)

District Provincial Scholarships are awarded to those students who achieve a high standard in a specific area of interest. They are calculated on the students top 5 courses in a specialty area (e.g.. fine arts), Math 11, English 11, Social Studies 11, a Science 11, English 12 and an additional three courses in grades 11 or 12 (not including provincially examinable courses).

The number of awards given in the district is based on a percentage of the number of students graduating. Students are given \$500 and an additional voucher for \$500 for a post-secondary institution.

Students may receive both a Provincial and District Provincial Scholarship, using different criteria for calculating the GPA.

III. Langley District Scholarships (Local)

Langley District Scholarships are those scholarships granted to students by various firms, community groups, individual sponsors, service clubs etc. for post-secondary education. They are based on a variety of criteria and school performance. A percentage is calculated based on the students' top 12 courses (academic and non-academic). Langley Fine Arts students compete with all Langley District students for these awards.

IV. Langley Fine Arts Scholarships (School)

These scholarships are similar to Langley District Scholarship, although they are awarded to Langley Fine Arts students only. The application is available in the spring and published through the Grad newsletter.

V. College/University Entrance Awards

Most universities and colleges offer considerable awards to first-year students. Applications are available directly from the university or through the counselling office. Some universities (such as UBC) do not require an application. Students with high GPA's (85% average) in grades 11 and 12 should search the websites of universities and schools to obtain application information.

VI. Private Scholarships

Many scholarships are available through private companies and unions or associations. Some scholarships may be found on the internet at:

<http://bcawardsonline.sd61.bc.ca/>
www.scholarshipscanada.com
www.studentawards.com
www.bced.gov.bc.ca/scholarships/fo/toc.htm

Individual scholarships which are sent through the school mail are advertised through the monthly Grad Newsletter.

BC Student Assistance Program

The BC Student Assistance program is a financial need based program that gives repayable loans and non-repayable grants to eligible students. The Student Services Branch of the Ministry of Advanced Education, Training and Technology will review the costs and income on your application to determine how much assistance you receive. With one application, you apply for the BC Student Loan, the Canada Student Loan, BC Grants and the Canadian Millennium Scholarship.

For more information, the BC Student Assistance Website is located at <http://www.aett.gov.bc.ca>

Helpful Websites for Parents and Students

Career Planning/Career Search

www.achievebc.ca
www.educationplanner.bc.ca
www.schoolfinder.com
www.schoolsincanada.com
www.canlearn.ca

Post-secondary links

www.pas.bc.ca (for all public BC institutions)
www.educationplanner.bc.ca
www.pctia.bc.ca (private career colleges)
www.collegeboard.org (for US schools) www.ouac.on.ca (for Ontario universities)
www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/college/corank.htm

Financial Aid

<http://www.aett.gov.bc.ca>
<http://bcawardsonline.sd61.bc.ca/>
www.scholarshipscanada.com
www.studentawards.com
www.bced.gov.bc.ca/scholarships/fo/toc.htm.