

# HOW TO BECOME A TEACHER IN ONTARIO

A brief overview of teaching divisions, teachables, and the admissions process with CCD



UNIVERSITY OF  
**WATERLOO**

Centre for Career  
Development



# Who are we?



Kira  
(she/her/)



Kate  
(she/her)



UNIVERSITY OF  
**WATERLOO**

Centre for Career  
Development

# Territorial Acknowledgement

The University of Waterloo acknowledges that our work takes place on the traditional territory of the Neutral, Anishinaabeg, and Haudenosaunee peoples. Our main campus is situated on the Haldimand Tract, the land cared for, stewarded by, and stolen from Six Nations, which includes six miles on each side of the Grand River. Our active work toward reconciliation takes place across our campuses through research, learning, teaching, and community building, and is coordinated within the [Office of Indigenous Relations](#).



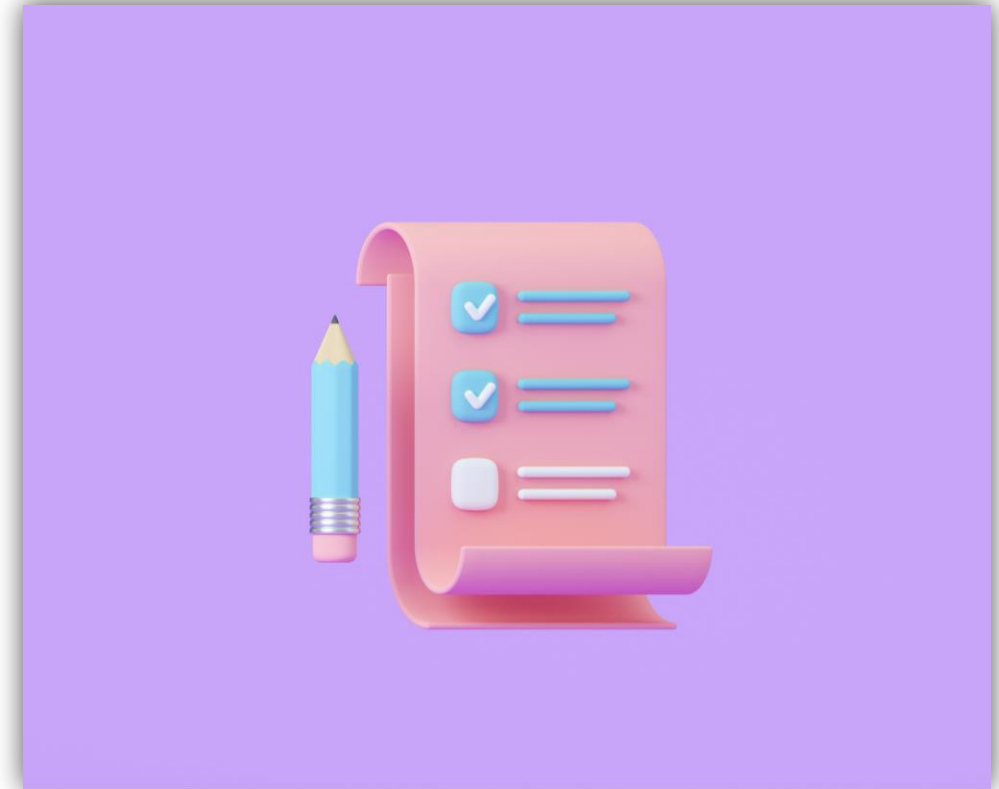
# HOW MIGHT WE CO-CREATE THIS SAFE(R) SPACE?



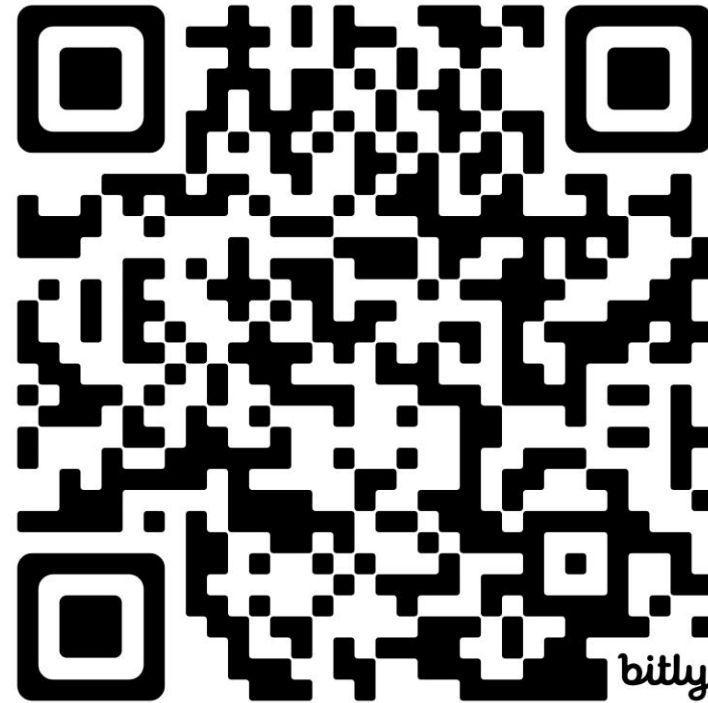
- Take things at your own pace and participate in a way that works for you
- Take what works for you, leave what doesn't
- Ask questions whenever!
- Listen to each other

# Today's Agenda

- When and how to apply
- Pathway to becoming a teacher in Ontario
- What is a 'teachable' subject
- What makes an application competitive
- How to access CCD support
- Q&A



# What do you have questions about?



UNIVERSITY OF  
**WATERLOO**

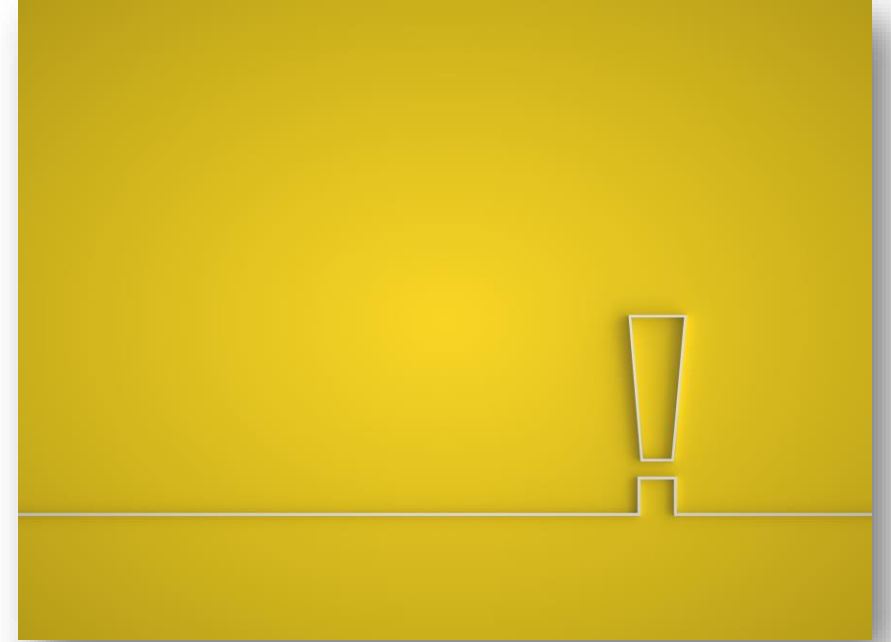
Centre for Career  
Development

# INFORMATION DISCLAIMER

This presentation includes information that was collected in September of 2026.

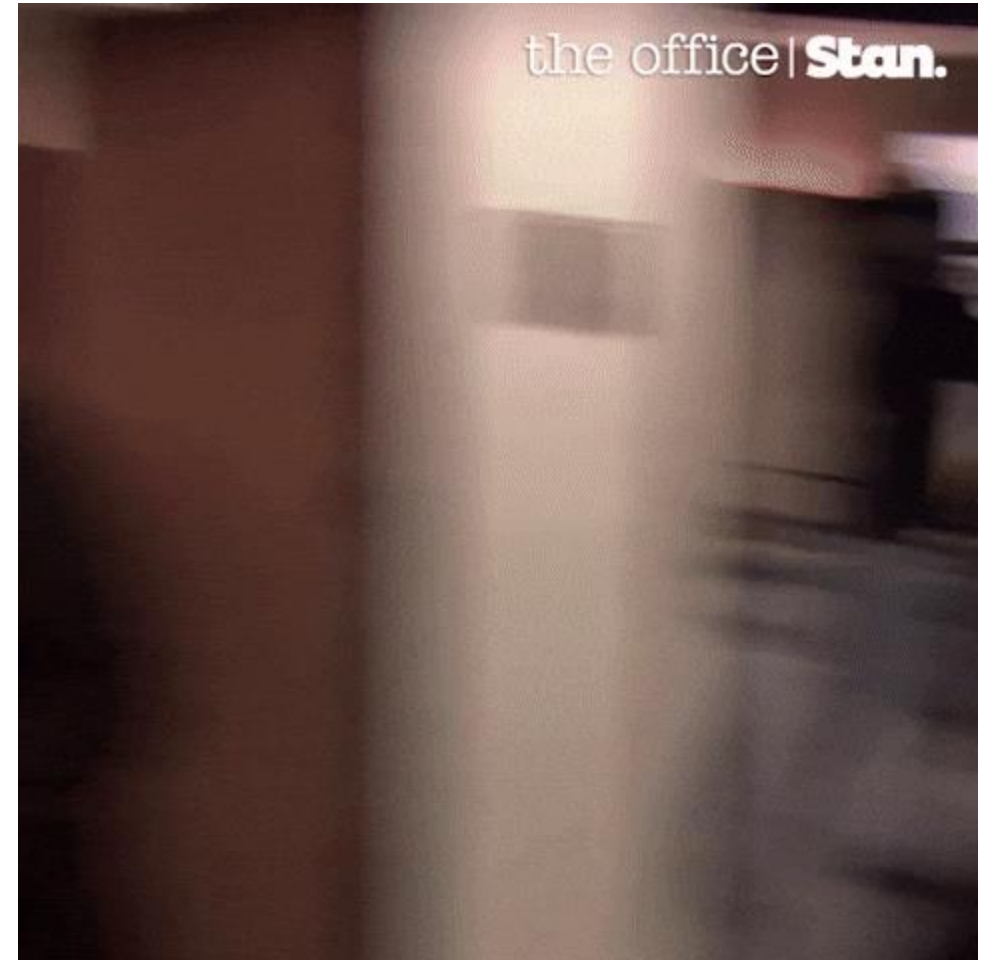
Specific information about admissions requirements and deadlines are subject to change and vary year to year.

Please refer to [TEAS](#) and specific institutions for detailed admission information.

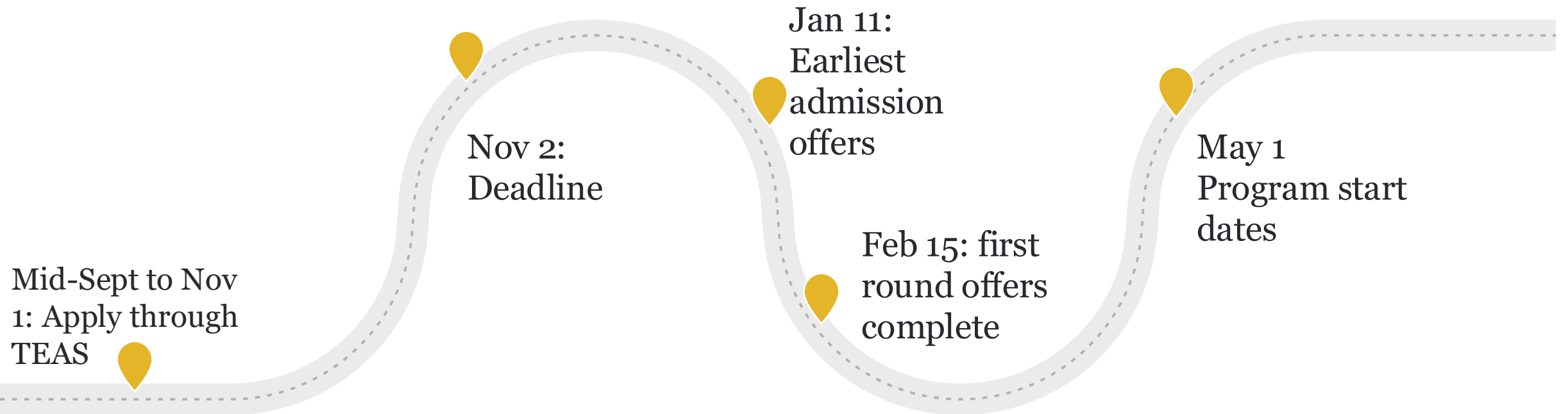


# The BIG change

- From two years to 12-month model
- Why did they change it
  - Addressing a growing province wide shortage
  - Lowering financial barriers
- How does it impact you?
  - Cost savings
  - Changed start date



# When do I apply?



UNIVERSITY OF  
**WATERLOO**

Centre for Career  
Development

# How do I become a teacher in Ontario?

## Public School Board

- 12-month full time teacher education program
- Masters of Teaching pathway
- Additional provincial requirements as set by Ontario College of Teachers (OCT)

## Catholic School Board

- 12-month full time teacher education program
- Masters of Teaching pathway
- Reference from a priest, usually
- Religious Education AQ, sometimes
- Additional provincial requirements as set by Ontario College of Teachers (OCT)



# First Question: Am I Eligible?

- ☐ Do I have—or will I have—a recognized bachelor's degree?
- ☐ Do I meet the academic requirements?
- ☐ Am I applying to the appropriate teaching division?
- ☐ Do I have the required teachable subjects?
- ☐ Does the program require anything beyond grades?

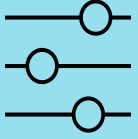


# TEAS: Your Starting Point



- Use TEAS to explore Ontario consecutive teacher education programs and their application requirements.
- **Take 30 seconds:**
- Have you heard of TEAS?
- Have you visited the website?
- Have you looked at any programs yet?

# Where should I apply?



## Division

- Not all schools offer all divisions



## Teachables

- Not all schools offer all teachables



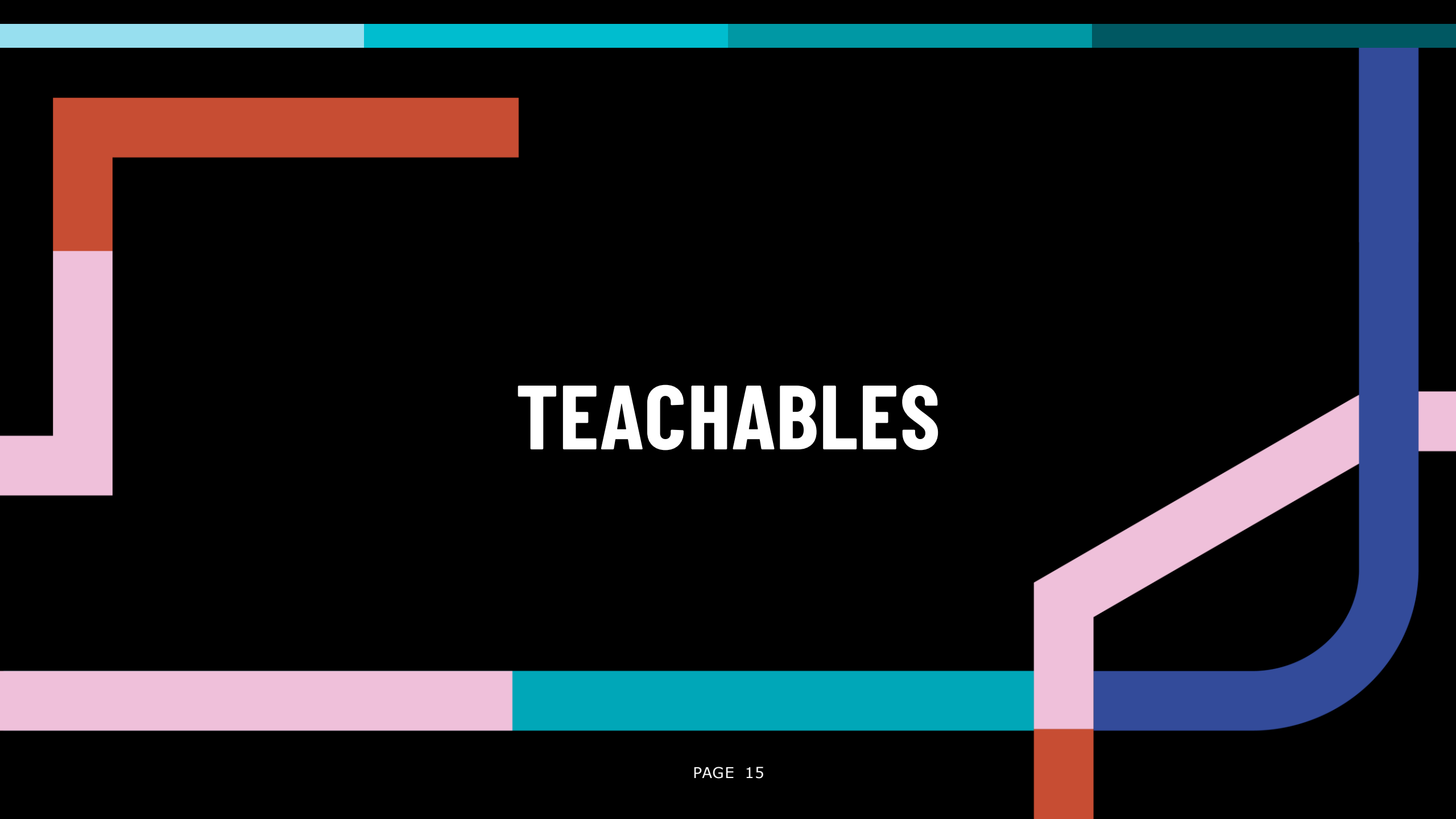
## School board

- Seniority is important and placement counts!



## Cost

- Depends on what and how many programs

The background is a solid black field. It is decorated with several thick, colorful geometric lines and shapes. At the top, there is a horizontal bar composed of three segments: light blue, teal, and dark teal. On the left side, there is a large L-shaped structure made of orange and pink segments. A horizontal pink bar runs across the bottom left. A teal bar runs horizontally across the bottom center. On the right side, there is a complex arrangement of pink and blue lines, including a diagonal pink line and a vertical blue line that curves at the bottom. The word "TEACHABLES" is centered in the middle of the page in a large, white, bold, sans-serif font.

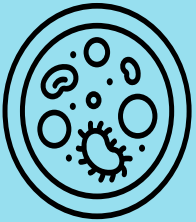
# TEACHABLES

# What are the different teaching divisions?



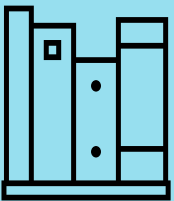
## **Primary/Junior or P/J - JK to 6**

- No teachables
- Core courses give preference for admission
- Experience with age group



## **Junior Intermediate or J/I - 4 to 10**

- 1 teachable required
- Core courses give preference for admission
- Level of UG courses used for teachables
- Experience with age group



## **Intermediate Senior or I/S - 7 to 12**

- 2 teachables required
- Core/related courses give preference for admission
- Level of UG courses used for teachables
- Experience with age group

# What's the deal with teachables?

## Junior / Intermediate

- One teachable
- 3 or 4 full courses (6 or 8, 0.5 courses) or more required
- Additional requirements within those 3 full courses, sometimes
- If more than 6: will take your top marks
- Completed before or during the fall semester of the year you apply
- Teaching grades 4-10

## Intermediate / Senior

- Two teachables
- First teachable: either 5 or 6 full courses (10 or 12, 0.5 courses)
- Second teachable: 3 full courses (or 6, 0.5 level courses)
- Teaching grades 7-12



# What's a teachable?

**A teachable is a subject area you may be qualified to teach in a B.Ed. program.**

Think of it as:  
Your Waterloo coursework  
↓  
Your teachable subject(s)  
↓  
What you may be prepared to teach

*Your major is not automatically your teachable!*



# Your Teachable Depends on the B.Ed. Program

- Not every university offers every teachable.

What can I qualify to teach?

Where can I apply with that teachable?

**E.g. You have the coursework for Geography**

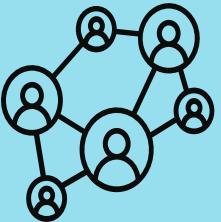
- Brock- Intermediate Senior: **Geography offered** ✓
- Ontario Tech: **Geography not offered** ✗
- University of Toronto - Inter: **Geography offered** ✓

# What's the deal with teachables (cont'd)?



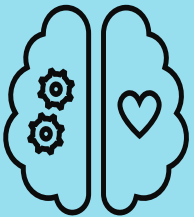
## Health & Phys Ed

- Eligible courses must have practicum activity across a variety of areas (i.e., aquatics, team sports, track and field, dance, individual sports)
- Some programs, min 2 activities required, other programs preference given for 3+, and anatomy and health courses



## Family Studies

- Psychology, sociology, another social science plus courses that focus on early childhood education, health studies, business studies, fashion studies
- Often a minimum number of courses required across subjects



## Social Sciences

- Combination of social science and humanities courses, political science not accepted
- Must have completed courses across 2 subject areas
- Often “recommended” as a second teachable

The background is a solid black field. It is decorated with several thick, colorful geometric lines and shapes. At the top, there are three horizontal bars in light blue, medium blue, and dark blue. On the left side, there is a large L-shaped bracket-like structure composed of a red horizontal bar and a pink vertical bar. At the bottom, there is a horizontal bar divided into a pink section on the left and a teal section on the right. On the right side, there is a complex arrangement of lines including a long pink diagonal line, a blue vertical line, and a blue curved line that forms a partial circle. 

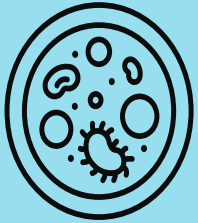
# **WHAT MAKES AN APPLICATION COMPETITIVE?**

# What do programs look at in the admissions process?



## Grades

- Always a factor
- Best 2 years or last 2 years or best 20 credits



## Experience

- Division-specific age groups
- Interest for a period of time
- Teaching-specific and teaching-adjacent contexts
- Relevant (to you!)



## Additional components

- Teachables if applicable
- References, sometimes
- CASPER test, and/or interviews

# How are grades calculated?

- Your GPA isn't necessarily calculated the same way at every university.
- When you apply, the B.Ed. program may specify:
  - Which courses count toward the admission average
  - How many semesters/years are included
  - Whether they use your overall average or a specific set of courses
  - How repeated courses are treated
  - How courses from different institutions are converted
  - Whether certain courses are excluded or treated differently

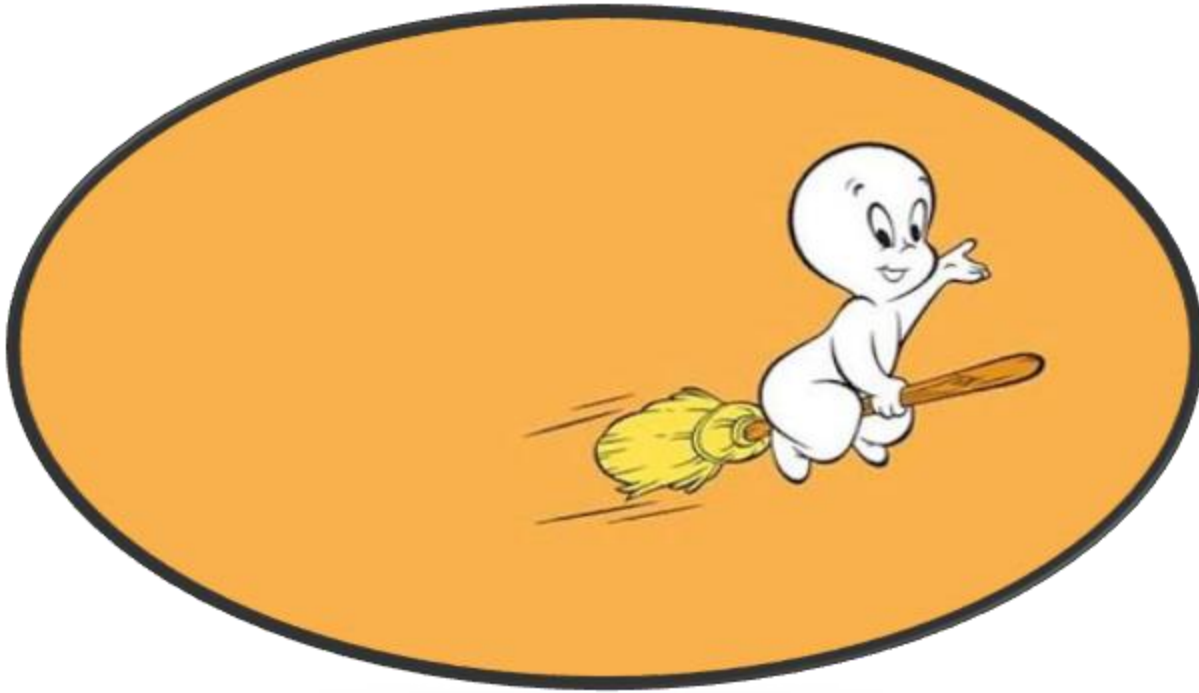


# Example

- Brock (as of September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2026): “You will be assessed, regardless of preferred division, on your admission average. Brock requires a minimum “B” average, equivalent to 70% at Brock, based on the best 10.0 full undergraduate degree level credits (not including college diploma transfer credits).”
- A full credit (1 weight) – spans across two full academic semesters  
A half credit (.5 weight) – A standard, one-semester course

 Most UWaterloo courses have a .5 weight.

# Casper



Casper is an open-response situational judgment test that measures aspects of your social intelligence and professionalism, like ethics, empathy, problem-solving and collaboration.

Only 3 teachers colleges in Ontario currently require Casper – **Brock, Ottawa and Western University.**

You can take a practice quiz online through **Acuity Insights** – and you can also practice with a Career Advisor!

# Don't wait until you apply

Keep track of:

- **WHAT I DID**  
Role + organization + dates
- **WHAT I ACTUALLY DID**  
Responsibilities + contributions
- **WHAT I LEARNED**  
Skills + challenges + growth
- **WHY IT MATTERS**  
How the experience connects to teaching

Note: [Book an appointment](#) with a Career Advisor or Career Mentor to chat more about articulating your experience effectively.



# Don't assume an experience has to happen in a classroom to be relevant

It can happen through

- **Work** – co-ops, summer jobs, campus jobs
- **Education** – tutoring, peer mentoring, TA, academic support
- **Leadership** – student clubs, orientation, residence leadership, team leadership
- **Community** – Volunteering, community organizations, faith-based organizations
- **Working with Youth**- camps, recreation, childcare, youth programs
- **Other responsibilities** – family/caregiving responsibilities, advocacy, significant life experiences



**You don't have to figure out the whole application alone!**

Come to a career advising appointment with your questions, your transcript, your experiences or even just  
*“I don't know where to start.”*



# Keep the conversation going: Services for undergraduate students



## Career advising

One-on-one appointment for:

- Résumé & cover letter development
- Interview practice
- Career exploration

Book via [WaterlooWorks](#)



## Workshop & events

Topics include but not limited to:

- Résumé & cover letter writing
- Networking strategies
- Job search tips

Register  
via [WaterlooWorks](#) or [Portal](#)



## Drop-in sessions

Same day, 20 minute session for:

- Résumé & cover letter reviews
- Quick interview prep
- Work search support

Registration  
on [WaterlooWorks](#) daily at 8 a.m.



## Online resources

- [CareerHub](#) for career planning
- [Recorded workshops](#) for flexible learning

Explore more about the Centre for Career Development on our website ([uwaterloo.ca/career-development/](http://uwaterloo.ca/career-development/)).



# What do you have questions about?



UNIVERSITY OF  
**WATERLOO**

Centre for Career  
Development