

TEACHER'S COLLEGE: PLANNING FOR A SUCCESSFUL APPLICATION

Alicia Flatt (She/her)

10/2/2026

Vanya G (She/her)

Career Advisors



UNIVERSITY OF
WATERLOO

Centre for Career
Development



TEACHER'S COLLEGE – PREPARING FOR A SUCCESSFUL
APPLICATION

Whose land are we on?

The University of Waterloo acknowledges that we live and work on the traditional territory of the Neutral, Anishinaabeg and Haudenosaunee peoples. Our main campus is situated on the Haldimand Tract, the land granted to the Six Nations that includes six miles on each side of the Grand River. Our work toward reconciliation takes place across our campuses through research, learning, teaching, and community building, and is centralized within the Office of Indigenous Relations.

Spotlight – National Day for Truth & Reconciliation

Indigenous Education in Ontario



Today's Agenda

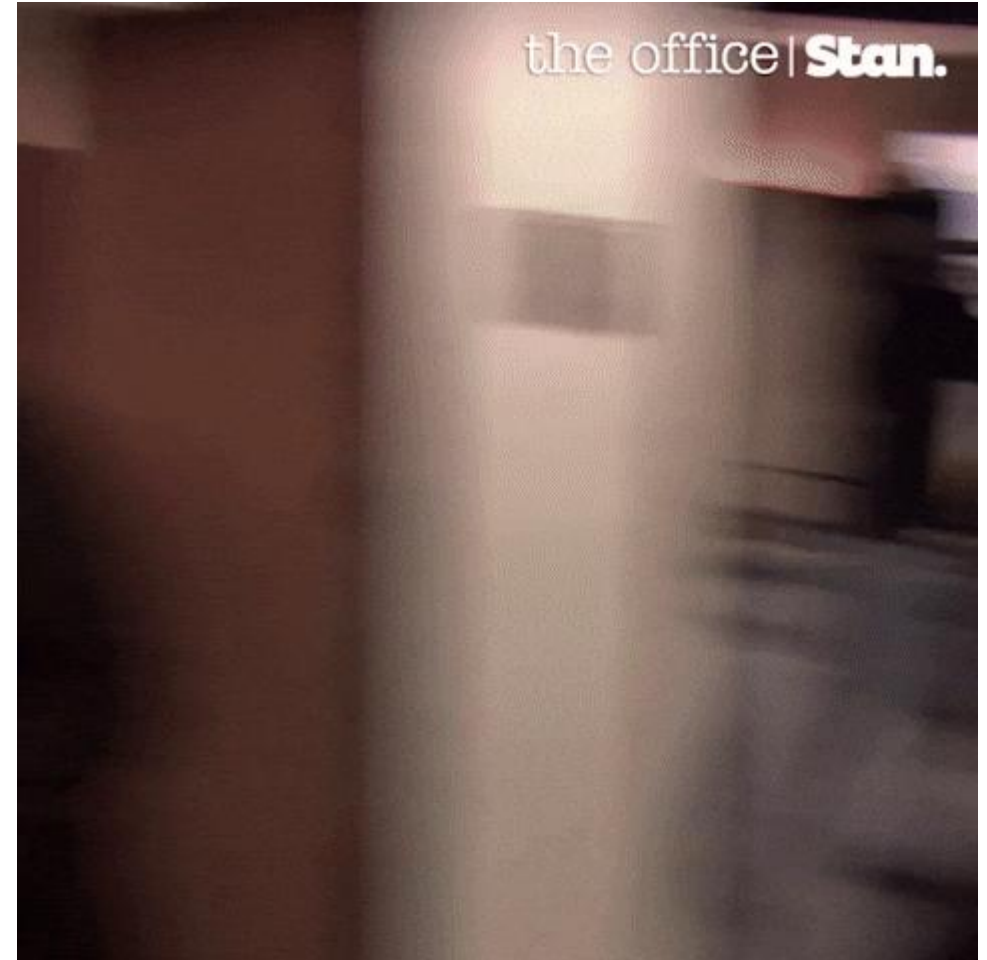
- Review the changes to Teacher's College effective 2027
- Understand teacher's college eligibility
- Live demo of the TEAS website and application pages
- Discuss teachables
- Highlight the elements of a strong application – your grades, your experience, admissions tests and more

Who's in the room?

1. What's a strength you have that you think would serve you well as a teacher?
2. What is drawing you toward teaching?

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



How do I become a teacher in Ontario?

Public School Board

- 4-semester (2 year) full time teacher education program (B.Ed) or a Masters of Teaching pathway
- Additional provincial requirements as set by Ontario College of Teachers (OCT)

Catholic School Board

- 4-semester (2 year) full time teacher education program (B.Ed) or a 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?

Concurrent vs. Consecutive

- **Concurrent**

- Education is integrated with your undergraduate degree
- You work toward your undergraduate degree and B.Ed. together
- Admission happens through the university/program

- **Consecutive**

- Complete your undergraduate degree first
- Then apply to a B.Ed. program
- Ontario applications are submitted through **TEAS**

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?

Start with your UG Degree

Before you apply, ask yourself:

- **What am I studying?**
Your Waterloo degree, major, and coursework
- **When will I finish?**
Your expected degree completion date
- **What can I teach?**
Whether your Waterloo courses meet the teachable requirements
- **Where do I want to apply?**
Different B.Ed. programs have different requirements
- **What do I need to plan now?**
Courses, GPA, experiences, and application requirements

Can I apply in my third year?

If you are currently in a four-year undergraduate program:

- **Year 1 → Year 2 → Year 3 → Year 4 → B.Ed.**
- Most programs require your undergraduate degree to be completed by the specified deadline before you begin the B.Ed.

Should I finish my degree early?

Finishing sooner can have benefits. But it is a decision worth thinking through.

Potential benefits:

- One less year of undergraduate tuition/living costs
- Earlier entry into teacher education
- Earlier entry into the workforce

Academic

Am I happy with my GPA?

Can I maintain or improve it?

Requirements

Will I complete my teachable prerequisites?

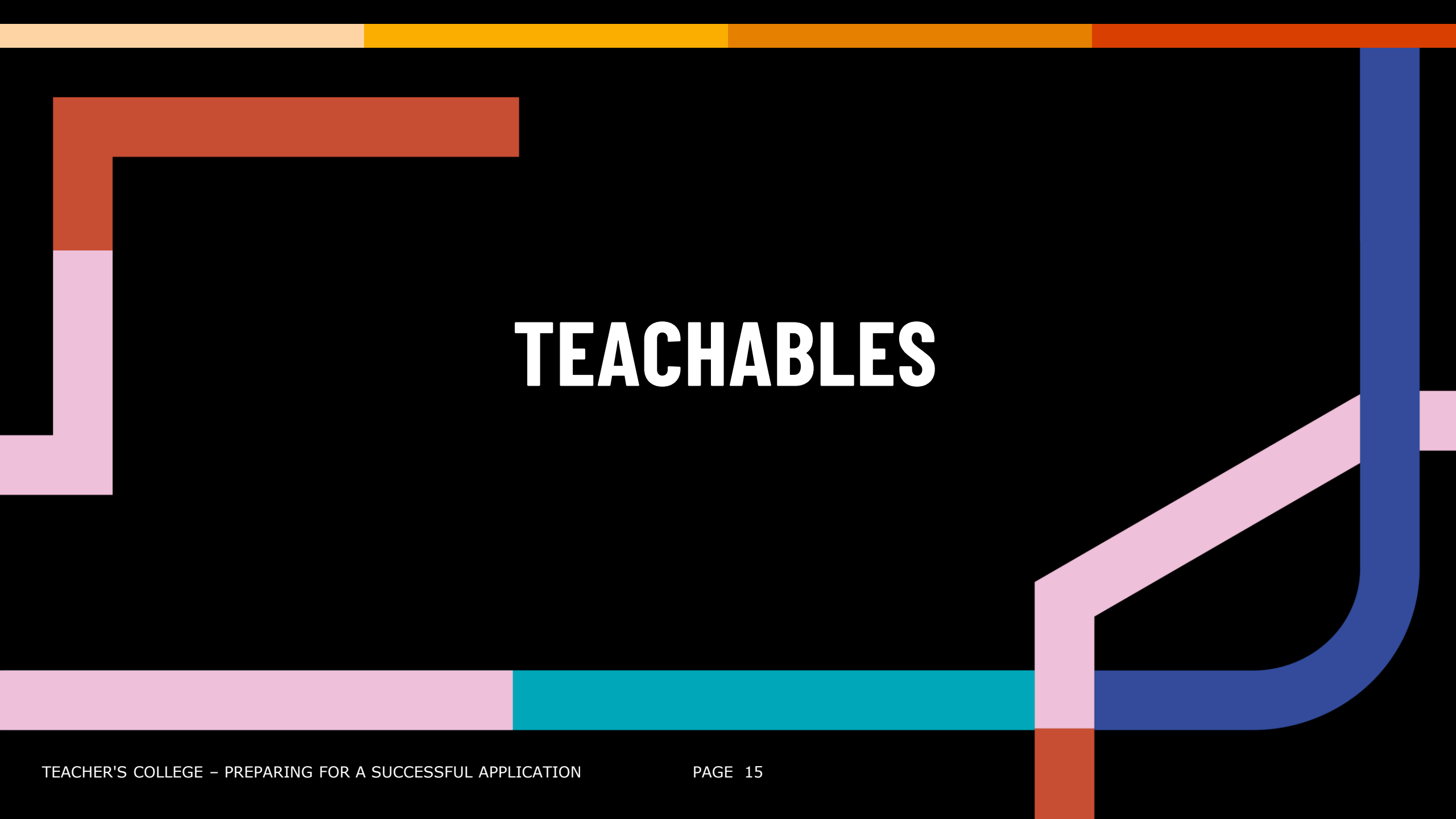
Personal

Do I enjoy my current academic experience?



Think Beyond Admission: Your Future Qualification

- Competitive schools heavily favor 4 year programs
- In Ontario, teacher salary placement is influenced by:
 - **QECO qualification category + recognized teaching experience**
 - QECO evaluates teachers' academic qualifications for salary-category purposes. School boards then use the resulting category within their salary grids.
 - Starting your career with a 3-year degree often places you at a lower pay category on school board salary grids.
 - You can upgrade your qualifications later through Additional Qualification (AQ) courses or by earning the extra credits while working.



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

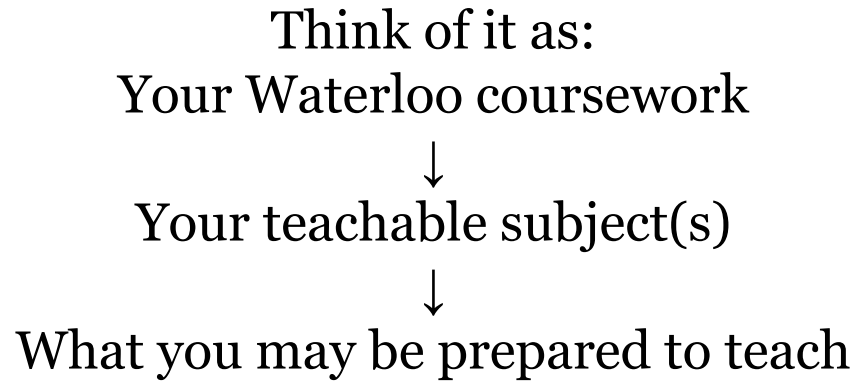
Intermediate / Senior

- 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.



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** ✓

Your Two Teachables Need to Work Together

- If you're interested in Intermediate/Senior teaching that requires two teachables, think about BOTH subjects — and where they're offered.
- Imagine you have enough coursework for:
 - Teachable 1: English
 - Teachable 2: Science, General

Example

	Brock (Intermediate-Senior)	Ontario Tech (I/S)	Lakehead (I/S)
First -English	✓	✓	✓
Second – Science, General	✓	✓	✓
English + Science	✓	X	✓

High Demand and Over Saturated Teachables

- Admissions and hiring operate on supply and demand. Pairing an over-saturated teachable with a high-demand one makes your application vastly more competitive.
- Critical Demand: French as second language, Technological Education, Computer Studies
- Do not panic if you do not have enough undergraduate credits for an in-demand teachable right now. Once you graduate from teacher's college, you can take **Additional Qualification (AQ)** or **Additional Basic Qualification (ABQ)** courses over a single summer to legally add new teachables to your teaching license.
- ABQ usually requires some UG level courses in subject you want to expand to.



Teachables – Your Next Step

- If you're confused about teachables, we're here to help
- Your job today isn't necessarily to have the answer. Your job is to leave knowing how to find the answer.
- **This week:**
 - Choose 2–3 B.Ed. programs you're interested in
 - Look up their teachable requirements
 - Compare those requirements with your Waterloo transcript
 - Identify your possible teachable(s)
 - Identify any gaps in your coursework
 - Bring your questions to a career advising appointment





WHAT MAKES AN APPLICATION COMPETITIVE?

What do programs look at?



ACADEMICS



EXPERIENCE

YOUR
APPLICATION



ASSESSMENT



OTHERS (REFERENCES,
TEACHABLES, FIT)

E.g. Brock



ACADEMICS (70%)



EXPERIENCE

YOUR
APPLICATION



CASPER (30%)



OTHERS (REFERENCES,
TEACHABLES, FIT)

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 Two

- Brock (as of September 24th, 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.

EXPERIENCE

Think of the process in two stages

- 1. Apply through TEAS**

Choose your B.Ed. programs and submit your main application.

- 2. Complete university-specific requirements**

Some universities will then ask you to complete additional components.

1. Experience Profile
2. Personal statement
3. References
4. CasPer
5. Others



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

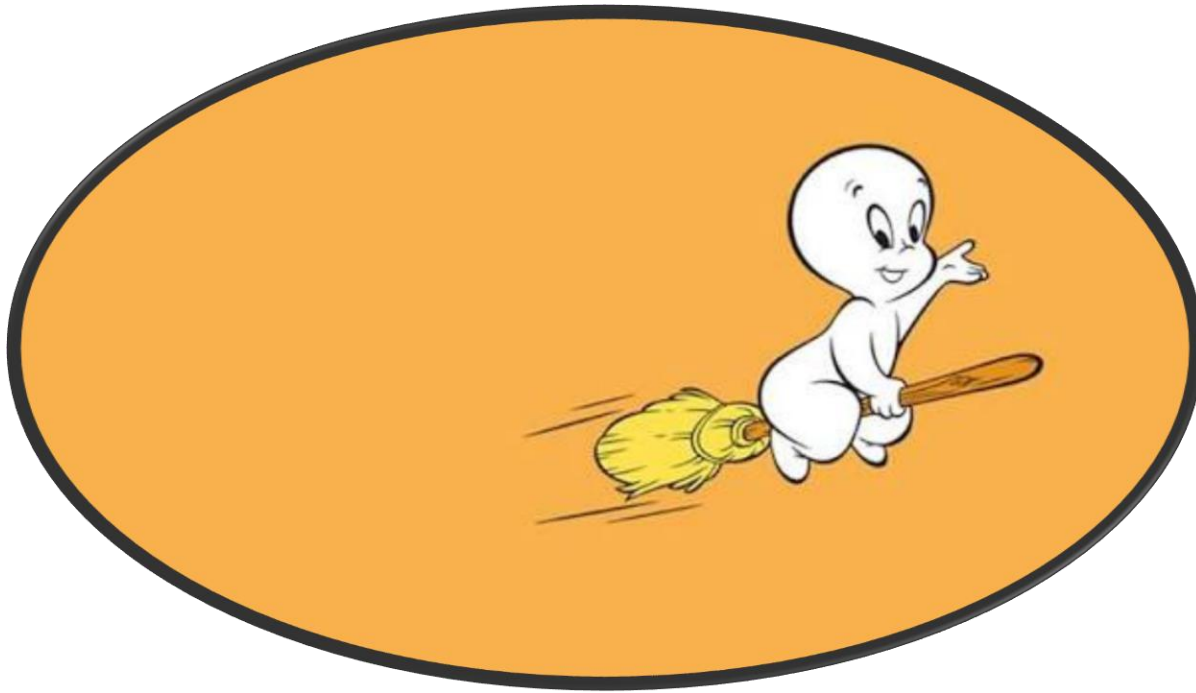
Note: Book an appointment with a Career Advisor to chat more about articulating your experience effectively.

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

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!

References

- Some B.Ed. programs require references. Others don't.
- If a program asks for references, you may be asked to provide someone who can speak to your:
 - Experience working with others
 - Communication and interpersonal skills
 - Leadership and responsibility
 - Work with children or youth
 - Commitment to education or community
 - Character and professionalism

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.”

How a Career Advisor can help

- Reviewing eligibility for different programs
- Is teaching the right career path for me?
- Crafting application documents
- GPA calculations, reviewing pre-reqs for teachables etc
- Casper prep
- And more...!

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HOME

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POSTINGS / APPLICATIONS

INTERVIEWS

APPOINTMENTS

EVENTS

You Are Currently Logged In As

Upload A Document

Create An Application Package

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Send A Message

Submit A Form

DASHBOARD

Graduating and Full-Time Jobs

Contract, Part-Time and Volunteer Jobs

Work Study Program Jobs

External Job Boards

Employer Information Sessions

Career Centre Events

Additional Networking and Professional Events

Appointments

Drop-ins - Centre for Career Development

Appointments - Centre for Career Development

Help

Logout

Welcome

DashboardDocumentsPostings / ApplicationsInterviewsAppointmentsEvents

HomeMy AccountMy Messages4My Forms

Jumpstart Your Co-op Interviews

INTERVIEW SUPPORTS

CO-OP AND INTERNSHIP JUMPSTART SERIES

UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO

Navigating Interview Processes and Supports

This video discusses the various processes and supports related to interviews, such as interview relief (if you are feeling overwhelmed), interview conflicts (for scheduling conflicts), off-campus support, on-site interviews, and requesting to withdraw your application after an interview.

Posted May 22, 2026

Check out other videos in the [Co-op and Internship Jumpstart Series!](#)

TODAY'S WEBCAM APPOINTMENTS AND/OR INTERVIEWS

View

UPCOMING EVENTS / WORKSHOPS

Tuesday, September 29, 2026

12:00 PM ET - 01:00 PM ET

Additional Networking and Professional Events

NVIDIA University Recruiting Insights

View

04:00 PM ET - 05:00 PM ET

Career Centre Events

Faculty of Health students: How to become a teacher in Ontario

Registration Required

View

Wednesday, September 30, 2026

11:00 AM ET - 02:00 PM ET

Career Centre Events

Career Advisor Drop-in Hours in the AUO Arts Undergraduate Office (PAS 2439)

View

11:30 AM ET - 01:30 PM ET

Employer Information Sessions

R.V. Anderson Associates Limited | Discover Consulting Engineering with RVA - IN-PERSON Information Session

Registration Required

View

01:30 PM ET - 03:30 PM ET

Career Centre Events

Career Advisor Drop-in Hours in the MUO Math Undergraduate Office (MC 4022)

View

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YOU+WATERLOO

Our greatest impact happens together.