



Alternative Learning Opportunities

Alternative Schools

The following charts provide an overview of the alternative learning experiences available to students in the TDSB. The environments vary and are aimed at providing students with an alternative educational experience suited to their learning styles/preferences and/or needs. Each of the schools and programs differs in their approach to student learning and program structure. The admission criteria, age, and/or grade for entry differs for each Alternative School and Program although a student profile has been included to help guide interested students to an appropriate choice. For more specific admission requirements, please contact the school or program directly or access school profiles. For more information, go to www.tdsb.on.ca click on "Schools" - and click on "Alternatives."

**School Profiles
on the web:**
www.tdsb.on.ca

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Quick Links

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**Choices for
Secondary Schools**

Alternative Learning Environments	Phone	Region	Student Profile
ALPHA II Alternative School	416-393-0501	SW	Grades 7-9
ASE 1	416-396-6914	SE	Self-directed and motivated learners; grades 11-12
Avondale	416-395-3130	NE	Flexible, individualized program for self-directed students; non semestered
BALC/CALC/YALC/SCAS: Adolescent Program	416-394-7130	NW	a) 17 to 20 year olds who are out of school at least 6 months and have earned 5-15 credits
a) Ed Vance	416-393-9740	SW	
b) The PLAR Advantage Program	416-395-4417	NE	b) If you are 18-21 with very few credits you may be eligible for the PLAR Advantage Program (see page 14 for details)
	416-396-6992	SE	
City School	416-393-1470	SW	Student-centred, small, supportive community of enthusiastic learners; semestered; grades 11-12
Contact School	416-393-1455	SW	Retention and re-entry program
Delphi Secondary Alternative School	416-396-6919	SE	Problem-based learning for highly motivated students; grades 9-12
East York Alternative High School	416-396-2925	SE	Retention and re-entry program
Inglenook Community School	416-393-0560	SW	Small, intimate, community-focused environment; semestered
Oasis Alternative Secondary School	416-393-9830	SW	Several unique continuous-intake programs, meeting a variety of student needs
Overflow Centre		SE	
a) Youth Co-op Program	416-396-3321		Trimester program; cooperative model for 16-20 yr olds with a minimum of grade 9 applied and some grade 10 courses
b) Overflow Program	416-396-5592		Continuous-intake model for 17-20 yr olds who need redirection and refocus to continue schooling
SEE	416-394-6990	NW	Integrated, innovative courses for self-motivated learners
S.E.E.D Alternative	416-393-0564	SW	Small, highly academic program, committed to individual growth and expression; semestered
S.O.L.E.	416-393-0756	SW	Flexible individualized program for senior students
Subway Academy I	416-393-9466	SW	Academic level small group seminars with one-on-one support
Subway Academy II	416-393-1445	SW	Flexible individualized program for senior students
The Student School	416-393-9639	SW	Warm supportive atmosphere for retention/re-entry of senior students
West End Alternative School	416-393-0660	SW	Flexible program with individualized modules for credit
Year Round Alternative Schools			
a) YRAS – 640 Lawrence Ave. West	416-395-4824	NW	Program for 16-18 year olds to earn grades 9-10 credits.
b) EYRAC – 160 Silverhill Dr.	416-394-2120	SW	Four entry points throughout the school year.
c) SEYRAC – 720 Midland Ave.	416-396-4552	SE	
d) NEYRAC – 2900 Don Mills Rd.	416-395-5300	NE	

Alternative Learning Opportunities



Ways of Meeting Diploma Requirements

Although most students complete the majority of their studies in a secondary school, credits towards the Ontario Secondary School Diploma may also be earned in a variety of ways.

These include:

- Continuing Education—summer or night school courses
- e-learning
- Independent Study
- Dual Credit
- Independent Learning Centre (ILC) courses
- Credit Recovery
- Music Certification
- Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (see PLAR)

See your Guidance Counsellor for more information.

Dual Credit Programs

One of the Student Success initiatives is partnering with local community colleges to create the new Dual Credit Programs. This enables high school students to earn a number of credits by participating in apprenticeship training and post-secondary courses that count towards both their high school diploma and their post-secondary diploma, degree, or apprenticeship certification. If you are interested in this program, contact your Guidance Department to find out where it may be available as this is still in pilot phase.

Adult Continuing Education

Adult daytime continuing education classes are for students 21 years of age and older, wishing to complete their diploma or upgrade their skills for post-secondary opportunities or transition to work. For complete program offerings and admission requirements please contact the appropriate school directly.

Credit Recovery Courses

Students may enroll in a credit recovery program designed for a group of students if one is offered at his or her school through a referral from the Student Success Team. Credit Recovery provides opportunity to get a credit without repeating the entire course. **N.B.** Credit Rescue provides support to students by way of intervention to attempt to rescue the credit before the student fails. See your Guidance Department for details.

Prior Learning Assessment & Recognition (PLAR)

PLAR (Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition) Policy (OSS, sections 6.6 and 8.2) recognizes the knowledge and skills that students have acquired, in both formal and informal ways, outside secondary school evaluated against the expectations outlined in provincial curriculum policy documents for the purpose of granting credit. With regard to the “challenge” process, the PLAR policy states that:

- Students may challenge and earn a maximum of four credits for prior learning, including a maximum of two credits in any one discipline.
- The PLAR challenge process includes a formal test (70%) and other assessment strategies (30%).
- Students can only challenge for courses that are taught in TDSB schools.
- This process occurs annually each spring. For more information on the PLAR process or an application, see your school Guidance Department.

Continuing Education

www.tdsb.on.ca

[Quick Links > Continuing Education](#)



The Academic Credit Night School Program is offered 2 nights per week in two 15-week semesters to both Toronto District School Board day school students and non-Toronto District School Board adult and adolescent students who are working towards their secondary school diploma and who meet the criteria. University and college students requiring an upgrade, and who have the required prerequisites are also eligible. Priority for night school programs is given to adult students. The International Languages Credit Program is offered one night per week for 30 weeks from September to May. This program is for secondary students who are interested in studying an international language for credit towards their secondary school diploma.

For more information, see your Guidance Counsellor

Adult Day Schools	Phone	Quadrant	Address
Burnhamthorpe Adult Learning Centre	416-394-7130	NW	500 The East Mall
City Adult Learning Centre	416-393-9740	SW	1 Danforth Ave.
Emery Adult Learning Centre	416-395-3225	NW	3395 Weston Rd.
Scarborough Centre for Alternative Studies	416-396-6921	SE	939 Progress Ave.
Yorkdale Adult Learning Centre	416-395-3350	NW	38 Orfus Rd.



Alternative Learning Opportunities

e-Learning Expanding opportunities!



Five Year Option

Although OSS organizes courses into four grade categories, students may take longer than four years to complete their diploma without repercussions to their future educational plans. For students wanting to maintain strong academics and/or explore cooperative or technological education, the Arts, French Immersion, OYAP, etc., or to build their own leadership potential, a five-year option may be preferred.

Virtual Summer School

The Virtual School provides students with quality education in a flexible and collaborative environment, enhancing their ability to develop knowledge, skills and attitudes that are critical for success in our knowledge-based society.

The Virtual School's program gives students the opportunity to use the Internet for remedial and enrichment support, and access electronic resources at a time and place convenient to the learner during summer school. It provides:

- students with quality on-line education in a flexible and collaborative setting that strongly supports the development of independent learning and advanced information communication technology skills;
- teachers with access to Ministry of Education courses through e-learning Ontario.



For more information go to:

[www.tdsbvirtuallschool.com/
virtual_school](http://www.tdsbvirtuallschool.com/virtual_school)

e-Learning is quickly becoming an important part of all educational and career paths. The TDSB is preparing students for the future. Recognizing the needs of 21st century learners, e-Learning credit courses will be offered to students effective September 2009 as part of their day school program.

Online teachers look forward to working with you to provide innovative, relevant and engaging learning opportunities. Students participate both independently and collaboratively in an online classroom.

The courses and online classroom will be provided by the Ministry of Education through e-Learning Ontario. These on-line courses will:

- be taught by TDSB secondary school teachers
- be part of the student's timetable
- appear on the student's transcript upon completion
- be fully compliant with TDSB and Ministry expectations and policies

Benefits of e-Learning

- students have access to courses that may not be available at his/her home school
- enables students to learn in a more flexible engaging environment
- uses technology to provide students current, accurate information
- increases opportunity for students' first choice courses
- may help to resolve timetable conflicts

Is e-Learning for You?

Student who are successful in an online course are usually:

- self directed, self motivated and able to plan, organize time and complete assignments and activities
- comfortable with technology, i.e. email, attachments, internet research, word processing, etc.
- capable of working independently in a responsible and honest manner
- able to regularly use a computer with internet access

Students need to spend at least as much time with their online course work as they would in a face-to-face classroom course.

Interested?

- visit our website for a full list of courses offered
- select your course by registering online
- make an appointment with your school Guidance Counsellor to review your course selection and obtain approval

Some restrictions apply.

Please visit the website for further information and full details.

www.tdsb.on.ca/elearning