

Planning your Career Pathway

For more information, visit:

careeroptions.ednet.ns.ca

nsc.ca

Hair Stylist, Hotel Manager,

International Broker,

Investment Manager,

Lawyer, Librarian, Marine

Engineer, Metal Fabricator,

Actuary, Web Developer,

Recording Engineer, Set

Designer, Social Worker,

Physicist, Physiotherapy

Statistician, Systems

Developer, Teacher,

Aircraft Maintenance

Electrician, Film & Video

Producer, Engineer,

Event Planner, Fashion

How to use this guide.

1. Find the pathway that best matches your interests and abilities.

- Applied Arts & Media
- Business & Information Technology
- Health Sciences & Human Services
- Trades, Technology & Environment

2. Explore the Occupations listed under the College, Apprenticeship and University headings.

Every pathway provides a broad range of careers. To work in some you may require a college credential. Others may require university or higher levels of education. If you have a specific interest, explore related programs available at colleges and universities and learn what you need to apply.

3. Plan your high school courses.

Select the high school courses the best match your interests and career pathway. In addition to your courses, remember to also consider the learning you can get from extra-curricular activities in music, arts, drama, sports, programs such as 4-H, Scouts & Guides, and community and volunteer experience.

Don't forget the essentials. We all need to be able to write and speak clearly, work well with others, understand what is written and spoken and use math. Don't underestimate the value of the information and skills you learn in high school. You'll use these skills throughout your lifetime.

Still not sure what is best for you? Don't sweat it. You don't need to rush your life's work. NSCC offers Academic & Career Connections, a program available to high school graduates to obtain additional credits, improve marks, and explore career options.

The High 5

By finding work you love, you can start to build the life you want. Where do you start? Here are 5 simple messages.

1. Change is constant.

Occupations come, go, and change. You will change too. Be prepared to change as you learn more about yourself and the options that are open to you.

2. Follow your heart.

Career decisions start with your heart – the interests, abilities, and personality traits that make you uniquely you. The practical aspects of getting an education and finding jobs are essential. Following your heart helps you choose the education and jobs that are right for you.

3. Focus on the journey.

Locking in on one occupation as your only choice means you could be excluding all the exciting possibilities that might come later, down the road. Tune into what's happening around you. Seek out new experiences. Be ready to take advantage of unexpected events that come along by chance.

4. Stay learning.

Learning doesn't stop when you graduate from school. Technology constantly advances and the workplace keeps changing. Every new skill you master opens up fresh opportunities to explore. Think of learning as lifelong and there's no end to what's possible.

5. Access your allies.

You don't have to do it all by yourself. We all have allies – friends, family, teachers, and others – who can help us. Talk to people to get information and advice about your ideas. Share your plans with those who support and encourage you.

Options and Opportunities (O2)

Options and Opportunities (O2) is a high school program which offers hands-on learning experiences with a career focus. It's designed to prepare students for successful transitions from high school to work, a career path, or a post-secondary program. To find out if O2 is an option for you, talk to your teachers and guidance counsellors.

What do I need to get my high school graduation diploma?

To make the most of your high school experience, students are encouraged to take 21-24 credits. To graduate, students need at least 18 credits – 13 compulsory credits plus a minimum of 5 electives.

- No more than 7 of the 18 credits can be Grade 10-level courses.
- At least 5 credits must be Grade 12-level courses.

Required credits effective June 2012:

- 3 English Language Arts (one at each grade level) or French (CSAP)
- 2 other Math, Science and/or Technology
- 1 Fine Arts
- 1 Physical Education
- 2 Math
- 1 Canadian History
- 2 Science
- 1 Global Studies

My Pathway

Before you select your high school courses, review the admission requirements for specific college and university programs that interest you.

3 English Language Arts / French (CSAP):

Grade 10 _____

Grade 11 _____

Grade 12 _____

1 Fine Arts: _____

2 Math: _____

2 Science: _____

2 Other Math, Science: _____

and/or Technology: _____

1 Physical Education: _____

1 Canadian History: _____

1 Global Studies: _____

5-11 Electives: _____

Still not sure what pathway interests you?

Ask your friends and family for help and talk to your guidance counsellor and teachers. Tell them about your ideas and interests so they can help chart the pathway that is best for you.

I am interested in Applied Arts & Media

In this pathway you draw on your creativity and communication skills. You may like to sketch, draw, paint, play musical instruments, write stories, sing, dance, act, take photos or use computers and videos to create art.

Occupations and where you might prepare for them

University

- Actors
- Artisan
- Choreographer, Dancer
- Conductor, Composer, Arranger
- Curator, Archivist
- Director/Producer
- Editor
- Fashion Designer
- Journalist
- Musician/Singer
- Sculptor
- Theatre-Actor, Director
- Translator, Interpreter
- Writer, Editor, Journalist

College & Apprenticeship (A)

- Actors, Media Announcers
- Animator
- Archives & Museum Technicians
- Copywriters
- Film & Video Producer, Actor & Editor
- Graphic Designer
- Interactive/Multimedia Designer
- Music Video Creator
- Musician / Singer
- Painters (A)
- Photographer
- Radio & Television Announcer/ Producer/Camera Operator
- Set Designer
- Sign Language Interpreter
- Sound Recording Technician
- Studio Technician
- Technical Artist

High School Courses

- Audio Recording & Production (12)
- Canadian Literature (12)
- Career Development (10)
- Dance (11)
- Drama (10, 11, 12)
- Communications Technology (11, 12)
- Computer Programming (12)
- Co-op (10, 11, 12)
- Cultural Industries (11)
- Design (11)
- English (10, 11, 12)
- English/Communications (11, 12)

- English 12: African Heritage
- Exploring Technology (10)
- Film & Video Production (12)
- Food Preparation Service (10)
- Food Science (12)
- Food Technology (10)
- International Foods (10)
- Languages (10, 11, 12)
- Mathematics
- Multimedia (12)
- Music (10, 11, 12)
- Textile Production (10)

I am interested in Business & Information Technology

Careers in this pathway are all about the world of business and how information, data and organizations are managed. In these careers you may influence, persuade, and sell things or ideas to people; or focus on administration, data, and the use of technology in an organization.

Occupations and where you might prepare for them

University

- Actuary
- Accountant
- Computer & Information Systems Professional
- Community Developer
- Conference & Event Planner
- Economist
- Financial Auditor
- Human Resources Manager & Recruitment
- Investment Manager
- IT Architect
- Librarian/Conservator
- Market Researcher
- Marketing Specialist
- Policy Researcher
- Public Relations Consultant
- Recreation Facilities Manager
- Statistician
- Systems Developer

College & Apprenticeship (A)

- Administrative / Office Assistant / Receptionist
- Banking, Finance Officer, Bookkeeper, Payroll Clerk
- Computer Programmer
- Conference & Event Planner
- Customer Service Rep
- Database Programmer
- Financial Planner
- Front Office Clerk
- Human Resource Officer/ Consultant
- International Buyer, Consultant, Broker
- Library & Information Technician
- Medical Transcriptionist
- Network Administrator/ Operator
- Paralegal
- Public Relations Officer
- Restaurant / Hotel Manager
- Retail / Technical Sales Rep
- Supply Chain Management
- Web Developer / Technical Support

High School Courses

- Accounting (11, 12)
- Business Management (12)
- Business Personnel Development (12)
- Business Technology (11)
- Communications Technology (11, 12)
- Computer Programming (12)
- Core French (10, 11, 12)
- Cultural Industries (11)
- Co-op (10, 11, 12)
- Economics (11, 12)
- English
- Entrepreneurship (12)

- Law (12)
- Mathematics
- Multimedia (12)
- Technical Reading & Writing (11)
- Tourism (11, 12)

I am interested in Health Sciences & Human Services

This pathway is for individuals who are motivated by helping people and serving the social and health needs of a community. You may focus on improving the quality of other people's lives or using your interest in science and health to research and develop solutions to support community needs.

Occupations and where you might prepare for them

University

- Audiologist
- Chiropractor
- Counsellor, Clergy
- Dietician, Nutritionist
- Educational Administrator
- Educational Counsellor
- Lawyer
- Medical Doctor
- Naturopath/Homeopath
- Nurse Supervisor and Registered Nurse
- Occupational Therapist
- Optometrist
- Pharmacist
- Physiotherapist
- Policy Research Consultant
- Probation Officer
- Psychologist
- Social Worker
- Teacher

College & Apprenticeship (A)

- Acute Care Assistant
- Addictions Community Outreach Worker
- Childhood Centre Director
- Continuing Care Assistant
- Corrections & Security Officer
- Culinary Arts-Chef, Cook (A), Baker, Caterer
- Daycare Worker
- Dental Assistant
- Disability Support Worker
- Early Childhood Worker
- Educational Assistant
- Esthetician
- Funeral Director & Embalmer
- Hairstylist (A)
- Lab Technician
- Non-profit Manager/Director
- Occupational Therapy Assistant
- Pharmacy Technician
- Physiotherapy Assistant
- Practical Nurse
- Recreation Coordinator
- Residential Vocational Counselor
- Teacher's Aide
- Therapeutic Recreation Coordinator

High School Courses

- Biology (11, 12)
- Chemistry (11, 12)
- Canadian Families (12)
- Child Studies (11)
- Communications Technology (11, 12)
- Computer Programming (12)
- Co-op (10, 11, 12)
- English
- Fitness Leadership (11)
- Food for Healthy Living (10)
- Food Nutrition & Design (12)
- Food Preparation & Service (10)

- Food Science (12)
- Food Studies / Hospitality (12)
- Food Technology (10)
- Health & Human Services (12)
- Housing (12)
- International Foods (10)
- Law (12)
- Mathematics
- Physical Education (10, 11, 12)
- Physically Active Living (11)
- Physics (11, 12)
- Sociology (12)
- Workplace Health & Safety (11)

I am interested in Trades, Technology & Environment

In this pathway, you like to build things, work with technology, solve problems and work in the environment. This field includes jobs that require you to be detail-oriented, technical and highly skilled. It also includes jobs that can be physically demanding and require you to work with equipment and machines.

Occupations and where you might prepare for them

University

- Air Quality Engineer
- Architect
- Astronomer
- Biologist, Forester, Agriculturist
- Chemist
- Engineer-Aerospace, Chemical, Civil, Computer, Electrical, Industrial, Metallurgical
- Environmental Planner
- Geologist
- Landscape Architect
- Logistics Manager
- Meteorologist
- Oil & Gas Engineer
- Physicist
- Plant Manager
- Urban Planner
- Wildlife Biologist

College & Apprenticeship (A)

- Aircraft Maintenance Engineer
- Architectural Engineering Tech, Drafting Technician
- Civil Engineering Tech
- Construction Trades-Bricklayer (A), Cabinetmaker (A), Carpenter (A), Contractors/Managers
- Electrician-Industrial/ Construction (A)
- Electrical Engineering Technician/Technologist
- Electronic Engineering Technician/Technologist, Computer Electronics Technician
- Energy & Technology-Sustainable Energy Tech, HVAC Technician (A), Power Engineer Tech (A)
- Industrial Mechanic/ Millwright (A), Instrumentation & Control Technician (A), Land Survey Technician, GIS Tech, Cartographer
- Landscaper & Horticulture Technician
- Machinist (A)
- Mechanical Engineering Tech, Industrial Engineering Tech.
- Marine Officer-Navigation, Engineering
- Natural Resources-Forestry Technician/ Technologist/Supervisor
- Plumbers (A), Steamfitters/Pipefitters (A), Gas Technician (A)
- Powerline Technician (A)
- Transportation-Automotive Service Tech (A), Motorcycle Repair (A), Heavy Duty Equipment Tech (A), Truck & Transport Mechanic (A), Motor Vehicle Body Repairer / Painter (A)
- Welder, Metal Fabricator (A)
- Water Resource Technologist

High School Courses

- Agriculture/Agrifood (11)
- Biology (11, 12)
- Chemistry (11, 12)
- Computer Programming (12)
- Construction Technology (10)
- Construction Trades (11)
- Co-op (10, 11, 12)
- Cultural Industries (11)
- Economics (11, 12)
- Electrotechnologies (11)
- Energy, Power & Transportation (11)
- English
- Exploring Technology (10)
- Geography (12)
- Geomatics (12)
- Mathematics
- Oceans (11)
- Physics (11, 12)
- Production Technology (11, 12)
- Skilled Trades (10)
- Technical Reading & Writing (11)
- Textile Production (10)
- Textile Technology (12)
- Visual Arts (10, 11, 12)
- Workplace Health & Safety (11)