

Final 17 Tips for Grade 11 Career Guidance

As we are approaching the end of the school year, there are a few things to consider as you are beginning to make choices for after the summer break and you return for grade 12.

Here are some tips to help you begin planning a successful transition from grade 11, leading up to graduation and beyond:

- Become familiar** with the [PSSD Career Planning Resources](#) that are available to you. Each school year, this section will be updated to assist you in your career planning decisions.
- Read** the PSSD [Student Career News](#) every month. This is one of the best ways you will get news about a large number of career and post-secondary events, scholarships, updates, etc.
- Apply** for every [scholarship](#) you can! Continue to research and look for new scholarships. The more scholarships you apply for, the more chances of being granted free money! Make sure to check the PSSD [Student Career News](#) for scholarships being offered outside of our division. **PSSD Scholarships open up in March of each year** (if you have a device, put it in your calendar as a reminder). You can use [PSSD's Scholarship Organizer](#) to assist keeping track of the scholarships you are applying for.
- Apply** for a [social insurance number](#) if you don't have one. **It is required for many scholarships.** Check with your parents/guardians first, as they may be holding on to them for you.
- Update** your [Career Cruising](#) and [TypeFocus](#) results. This is particularly important to do if you aren't sure what you want to do after grade 12. You will get some ideas for occupations that match your interests and personality. If you need help accessing these programs consult your principal or Mr. Young (young.brett@prairiesouth.ca)
- [Relevance Magazine](#) is a fantastic resource to discover careers being offered in Saskatchewan. Please see link for digital copies.
- At the beginning of September, Mr. Young will send out instructions on how to sign up for **PSSD's Career Text Reminders**. Reminders will be sent to your phone (through texts) about upcoming PSSD events, post-secondary opportunities, and scholarship info.

- **Interested in the trades?** Consider taking advantage of [PSSD's Apprenticeship Credit](#). Please consult with your school principal for more information on this opportunity. It will be up to the **student** to find the journey person, that will work with them during the hours required.
- [Special Project Credits](#) are granted through Prairie South School Division for approved out-of-school initiatives and recognizes student achievement in areas outside of the classroom. **It encourages students to become involved in the selection, planning and organization of their own programs.** To apply, please discuss with your school principal.
- **KNOW YOUR DEADLINES AHEAD OF TIME!** You can usually start applying for post-secondary schools as early as October of your grade 12 year. Usually around Christmas is a good time to apply for university, but there are some programs that require earlier applications. Check the post-secondary school's website for admissions and deadlines. You may also need to call or email their admission's office for more information.

Here are some links to some post-secondary admission's offices:

[University of Regina](#)

[Saskatchewan Polytechnic](#)

[University of Saskatchewan](#)

- **Planning to go to school in the United States?** You may have to write standardized exams called ACT or [SATs](#). Make arrangements to do this, and you can write them more than once if necessary. Check with the school you are applying for, for specifics.
- **Complete** your post-secondary application, and submit. Make a request to the Ministry of Education to have your [transcript](#) sent directly to the post-secondary institution you choose. **Remember, you can send up to 5 transcripts to different schools for \$20,** when you are ordering. This includes sending one to your home. It's a good idea to know the institutions you are sending to prior to ordering so that it won't cost you an additional \$20 each time you sit down to order. Please note that the cost goes up if you are sending to certain provinces, the USA, or international.

Transcripts can be purchased online using Visa, Mastercard or Debit. This is the fastest way for the ministry to receive your payment and begin the process. They will also accept cheques/bank drafts/money orders through the mail; however the process of sending the transcripts will not begin until they receive the money. This will mean a longer wait time.

- **Start thinking about your living situation.** Apply for [residence](#) as soon as the opportunity to apply occurs. You can always change your mind if you choose not to live in residence, but usually once they are full, you will not be able to get a spot. Make sure to check the post-secondary institution's website for information on living in residence.
- Whether you are going on to post-secondary or into a job, create a [budget](#) for the year after grade 12. Find out the cost of tuition, books, living and all other associated costs.
- **Apply** for [student loans](#) in the first or second week of June in your grade 12 year. **You can't apply earlier, but you can learn how to complete the application ahead of time.**
- **If you are going into the workforce,** find out the type of [resume](#) that is required. Update or create your resume. You can find sample resumes and cover letters, and examples of transferable skills in the link included. It would be a good idea to ask your principal or teacher about taking a Career and Work Experience program (CWEX) course so that you can gain some experience in the workforce that could lead to being hired or discovery of career you have interest in. Knowledge is power and the more experience you gain, the more employable you will be.
- **If you are going into the workforce,** research how to have a [successful in a job interview](#). This job interview will likely be a little more intensive than one you may have done for a part time job in high school. Look into the kind of [questions](#) that are often asked at that kind of interview or that kind of job.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to make contact!

Please email young.brett@prairieosuth.ca