

EMPLOYMENT ONTARIO

**Introduction to the
Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP)
and Ontario's Apprenticeship System**

WHAT IS OYAP?

- OYAP is a school work transition program approved by the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities.
- OYAP students receive co-operative education credits for work experience in an apprenticeship occupation
- The student's learning plan must be based on the on-the-job training requirements for the trade

OBJECTIVES OF OYAP

- Increase the number of youth participating in apprenticeship.
- Address skills shortages.
- Support secondary school reform.
- Promote completion of high school diploma requirements.

WHO IS AN OYAP STUDENT?

- **OYAP is for Grade 11 & 12 students who:**
 - Have completed at least 16 credits;
 - **Must** complete all compulsory credits for the Ontario Secondary School Diploma;
 - Are 16 years of age;
 - Are enrolled in school full-time;
 - Are interested in exploring career options in the skilled trades.

WHY OYAP FOR STUDENTS?

- Introduces students to careers in skilled occupations
- Helps students get an early start on apprenticeship training thereby increasing earning potential at an early age
- Helps students connect with potential employers

WHY OYAP FOR STUDENTS?

- More than 50 percent of secondary school students do not go immediately to college or university destinations.
- Skilled trades offer another avenue for learning in a hands-on environment as a viable way of training and education for post-secondary youth.
- Participants accumulate hours towards an apprenticeship program while earning co-op credits in school

OYAP PARTICIPATION

- OYAP is delivered through the school boards in partnership with local ministry offices.
- Boards submit a Business Plan that is reviewed by MTCU Regional Program Managers and EDU Education Officers

OYAP PARTICIPATION

- In 2008-2009 approximately 25,000 students from more than 750 secondary schools at 70 District School Boards and 1 School Authority participated in OYAP.
- More than 20,000 employers offered OYAP placements.
- Program budget in 2009-2010 is \$8.25M.

OYAP COMPONENTS

- The student may formally register as an apprentice while in secondary school;
- Students **may** complete their Basic Level One of apprenticeship in-school theory, or a component of it.
- A school board, community college or other deliverer may offer the apprenticeship in-school curriculum, although it is not mandatory.

OYAP COMPONENTS (cont.)

- Co-operative component must meet Ministry of Education policies and procedures.
- Employers offering the on-the-job training must be qualified to do so and must participate in the design and implementation of the work-based component, the Work Education Agreement.