



School-College-Work Initiative

Centre for Success

The Centre for Success is supported by the Ontario Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities' School College Work Initiative. It offers students at risk of leaving secondary school an opportunity to complete their education on the Durham College campus.

The program is designed to decrease dropout rates by engaging students in a college environment and demonstrating the many pathways available to post-secondary education. As students complete their Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD), they find out why the student experience comes first at Durham College including having access to support systems and amenities, small classes and hands-on teaching.

While attending courses on the college campus, a secondary school teacher from the students' school district provides support and instruction as students earn secondary school credits or complete courses through credit recovery or credit continuation.

Additionally, students enroll in a college-level course taught by college faculty and receive dual credit for successful completion of the course work. This credit counts towards their OSSD and will be recognized by any college they choose to attend if it matches a program for which the course is a requirement.

Since launching as a pilot project in 2006 the Centre for Success program has grown exponentially, more than quadrupling its original enrolment and expanding to include 11 classes of secondary school students from four school districts located at the college's Oshawa and Whitby campuses each semester. Since its inception, more than 1500 students have completed the program.

Graduates are honoured bi-annually at the Centre for Success Celebration Ceremonies held at Durham College's Oshawa campus in front of their classmates, family, friends and representatives from the Ministry of Education and the following partnering district school boards:

- Durham District School Board
- Durham Catholic District School Board
- Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board
- Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington Catholic District School Board

For more information about the student selection process for participation in the Centre for Success program, please contact your local school district's School-College-Work Initiative representative. For general information about the Centre for Success program at Durham College, contact 905-721-2000, Ext. 2020.