



Locally Developed Courses

What are Locally Developed Courses?

Locally Developed courses are intended for students who require a measure of flexibility and support to meet the compulsory credit requirements for the Ontario Secondary School Diploma.

In order to provide students with the opportunity to close gaps in learning, upgrade their knowledge and skills, and consolidate their learning, the Hamilton Wentworth District School Board offers locally developed courses in grade 9 and 10 compulsory courses which transition into workplace pathway courses for grades 11 and 12.

Who is the Locally Developed Program for?

Locally Developed courses are for students who ...

- Need explicit literacy and numeracy instruction to meet grade expectations
- Benefit from smaller class sizes and explicit instruction
- Want to pursue the workplace pathway
- Want to improve their literacy and numeracy skills so they can take 1W courses
- Want concrete learning
- May want the opportunity to try out increasingly complex tasks with assistance

Key Benefits and Opportunities for Students

Students in a Locally Developed course can:

- Work towards their Ontario Secondary School Diploma
- Develop literacy and numeracy skills through subject based learning
- Provide curriculum that is personalized for their personal growth
- Set and meet personal learning goals
- Improve their confidence and engagement in school
- Experience a smaller class size

How do students and families find out more information?

Elementary school teams will have conversations with families and students so they can make an



informed choice when selecting locally developed courses. Secondary school teams will share information about locally developed courses during school visits and through pathway presentations.

Document updated December 2024

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What destinations are available for students in Locally Developed Courses/Pathways?

- Students' progress from compulsory classes such as English and math into workplace destination courses in senior grades.
- In senior grades, students may apply to an Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program in their area of strength that will give them authentic work experience and training.
- Some colleges offer foundation programs that provide a student with the opportunity to upgrade their skills to enter a diploma program.

Do Locally Developed courses lead to admission to college or university?

- No, it does not directly lead to those destinations for a diploma or degree.
- Most college programs require grade 12 college English; the locally developed pathway leads to workplace English in senior grades.
- Some colleges offer foundation programs that provide a student with the opportunity to upgrade their skills to enter a diploma program.
- Individual academic counselling is available to students to explore high school and post-secondary opportunities.

Are students that take Locally Developed courses able to move to applied courses in grade 10?

- Not directly. A student who completes a 1L credit, must then complete a 1W credit to be eligible for applied courses in grade 10.
- Students who have completed a 1L credit are eligible for 2L credits in grade 10.



HWDSB
BE YOU. BE EXCELLENT.