

## Kitsilano Parents Night, Weds Sept 23, 2020

### Zoom Chat Questions & Answer

(Questions below were sent in by parents in the chat throughout the session, we've collated the questions and answers here below.)

**1. Will there be any stigma attached to online high school courses, especially in core subjects?**

Online delivery is a common delivery method that has been used by schools for a very long time and for many reasons, well before COVID-19. With this in mind, online courses are not seen as any different to in-class courses. All universities, colleges and institutes are working hard to ensure that all students are supported and that students are not disadvantaged due to COVID-19.

**2. What is difference between undergraduate and graduate?**

Undergraduate credentials are those that a student can study after completing high school, like Certificate, Diploma, Associate and Bachelor programs.

Graduate credentials/programs are higher degrees like Master's and PhD, that are completed after a Bachelor's degree. Graduate credentials are focused on a specialized area of study/research. A PhD/Doctorate requires the completion of a Master's degree.

**3. Is having an online course treated differently?**

No, online courses are designed using the same method as in-class courses. We encourage you to reach out to the institutions that your student wants to apply to and discuss with them directly.

**4. What do university class schedules look like?**

It depends on the institution as well as the student. The great thing about post-secondary is that students are responsible for planning their own schedule. They could have classes that start at 9am or classes that start at 12pm.

If students are working, they can build their schedule around their shifts; or if they play sports or engaged in other extracurriculars, there is the flexibility to customize their schedule.

A standard semester load can be between 3 – 5 courses per term for full-time students and 1 - 2 courses for part-time students, however, choosing the number of courses to take is up to a student and how they are able to manage their load. We recommend meeting an academic advisor to discuss this further.

**5. When to apply for grants?**

Check out our scholarship and bursaries page on our [website](#) for some info on scholarships, bursaries and grants.

Each institution also has their Financial Aid and Awards Office that offers many different types of financial assistance. You may access all the website links for the public post-secondary institution through our [Help section](#), and once on the institutions' websites, search for Financial Aid & Awards.

- 6. Are certain classes mandatory no matter what program you're in (i.e. math, language arts, etc.)? Are there additional necessary courses like there are in high school? Such as how math, language arts, etc. is mandatory in high school.**

Each institution has their own set of admission requirements and pre-requisites for admissions, for example: admission to sciences may require students to complete science courses in high school.

We highly recommend Grade 10-12 students meet with their high school counsellors to determine courses and grades that need to be taken to meet the admission requirements for programs.

Pre-requisites and admission requirements can be found in the [Admissions Info](#) tab of our program search database.

- 7. Admission requirement is English 12 but i am not taking it till Quarter 4, how will that affect application process?**

While we cannot speak on behalf of institutions, we are aware many institutions have announced that the quarter system will not impact the application process, and if courses are taken in the later quarter, it will not impact admissions. However, we strongly recommend that you and your student reach out to the institution directly to determine the requirements, deadlines and options.

Institutions are aware of the changes in the school system and are working hard to ensure no student is disadvantaged.

- 8. Is the application process different if you take a gap year?**

The application process should not change for students taking a gap year. If your student is looking to take a gap year, we strongly encourage your student check with the institutions to see if there are any updated admission requirements.

- 9. My son is now in grade 11 and I am concerned about how COVID-19 and the educational changes will affect the transition to post-secondary. How do we evaluate this?**

These are uncertain times. All post-secondary institutions are doing their best to ensure no student is disadvantaged. We encourage parents and students to have conversations with high school counsellors as well as recruitment advisors at post-secondary institutions to learn more about the support services available to assist you and your student in helping with a smooth transition.

- 10. What's the main difference between public and private institution?**

The differentiating factor between the two is how these institutions are funded. Public institutions are funded by the government, whereas private institutions are funded with their own funds and rely on student tuition to operate.

Please read more about the different types of post-secondary institutions in BC on the [Ministry of Education website](#).

**11. How will kids in Grade 12, 11 and 10 be affected by the admission this year as so many kids have delayed their entrance to university or college.**

All institutions have indicated that they want to make sure students are not disadvantaged. We encourage you to connect with the admissions office at the institution your student is interested in so that they can advise on which courses and grades are needed to assess applications.

**12. Our students have had schedules change and may not have been able to take the high-school classes that were desired such as physics and/or AP classes. Additionally, I understand that a pass/fail vs grades may be put in place. This will affect the GPA calculations... are the higher institutions going to adjust to this?**

Each institution has their own admission policies, and while we cannot speak on behalf of any institution, we are aware that all institutions are working hard to ensure no student is disadvantaged as a result of the changes in the school system due to the pandemic. We encourage you to reach out to the recruitment office if you require further information and support in the application process.