

OpenCurse

Twelfth Edition

Handbook *for Grade 9 Students and Parents*



Introduction

To ensure graduation from high school it is essential that students and parents understand the Newfoundland and Labrador senior high school credit system. Students should take the most appropriate and challenging program of interest to them. At the same time, they must also ensure that they meet all the minimum requirements to graduate from high school and they are able to pursue the post-secondary option of their choice.

In high school, students will have a number of opportunities to explore courses and career options. The educational choices in high school can greatly influence post-secondary options. Students post-secondary education choices in Newfoundland and Labrador include attending College of the North Atlantic (CNA), Memorial University (MUN) or private training institutes.

CNA operates a multi-site network, with 17 campuses in total that reaches all regions of the province. In addition to the in-classroom learning environment, CNA's Connected Learning Network offers online, blended (on-campus and online), as well as inter-campus learning opportunities. Annual enrolment at CNA is approximately 8,500 students in more than 100+ full-time programs. Graduates can earn a certificate, diploma, post-diploma or advanced diploma standing, with opportunities for degree studies at partnering institutions. Students can also avail of other study options, such as part-time, continuous learning or contract training. CNA's international development projects and education partnerships currently span several global regions: China; South America; South East Asia, Africa and the Middle East. CNA also partners with six universities in China where over 340 students are enrolled in CNA programs. (www.cna.nl.ca)

At MUN more than 18,000 students from over 100 countries come together to discover one of the largest universities in Atlantic Canada, offering more than 100 degree programs from the classics to advanced technology. MUN offers certificate, diploma, undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate programs across four campuses and online. MUN is an inclusive community dedicated to innovation and excellence in teaching and learning, research, scholarship, creative activity, service and public engagement. MUN welcomes and supports students from all over the world and offers accessible and flexible learning opportunities. (www.mun.ca)

There are a number of private training institutions offering a wide variety of programs on a user-pay and sponsored basis. Programs offered by private institutions are approved by the Department of Advanced Education, Skills and Labour and an updated list can be found at: <https://www.aesl.gov.nl.ca/postsecondary/privatedir.html>.



Information on the High School System

The Credit System

The Senior High School Program is structured on a course credit basis. Students accumulate credits during this time under specific categories resulting in high school graduation.

What is a Credit?

A credit is awarded when a student attains a passing grade in senior high school courses.

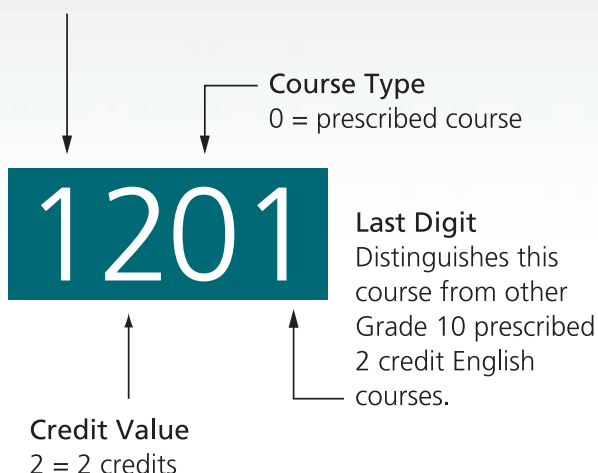
- High school courses are typically either 1 or 2 credits.
- Passing grade is 50%.
- 1 credit is awarded for successful completion of a course designed for a minimum of 55 hours of instruction.
- 2 credits are awarded for successful completion of a course designed for a minimum of 110 hours of instruction.

What do Course Numbers Mean?

At the Senior High level, courses are identified by name and a four digit code. (Example: English 1201)

Course Grade

Usually indicates the year in which the course is normally taken. (**1** = Grade 10, **2** = Grade 11, **3** = Grade 12 and **4** is an advanced course)



Course Type Summary (5th digit)

	English	French
Prescribed	0	3
Pilot Prescribed	1	4
Local	2	5

Other Codes: 6 = Modified;
7 = Alternate Individualized;
8 = International Baccalaureate;
9 = Transfer credit from outside the Newfoundland and Labrador school system.

Graduation Requirements

Students require 36 credits to graduate from the Newfoundland and Labrador high school system. Credits must be completed to fulfill each of the subject area credit requirements below.

Graduation Requirements		Required # of Credits
Subject Area		
Language Arts	English Language Arts	6
	Optional Language Arts	2
	Mathematics*	4
	Science	4
	Social Studies	4
Other Required Credits	Career Education**	2
	Fine Arts	2
	Physical Education	2
	Economic Education, French, Religious Education, Technology Education, Family Studies***	4
	Any Subject Areas	6
	Total	36

Please Note:
Satisfying Minimum Graduation Requirements does not necessarily satisfy entrance requirements for many post-secondary schools. Please refer to the entrance requirements for the respective school and program.

* 4 credits in math and social studies must be obtained from two different grade levels.

** This requirement includes a mandatory community contribution component.

*** Students must complete courses from any **two** of the categories. However, students may use 4 French credits to fulfill this requirement.

Notes:

1. At least 20 of the total credits must be obtained beyond Grade 10, and
2. At least 9 of the total credits must be beyond Grade 11. At least 5 of these credits must be attained in the Newfoundland and Labrador Senior High School Program.
3. A student cannot use more than 4 local course credits (including alternate courses) to contribute to the 36 credits to graduate.
4. To graduate with honours/academic status, at least 10 of the total credits must be beyond Grade 11.

High School Transcripts

Students are sent a transcript from the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development in July of each year in high school. This transcript will show the progress of students by listing their courses and marks. Below are some of the terms which appear on the transcript with a brief description of what they mean.

Graduation status is summarized on the transcript using one of the following designations:

FIRST YEAR INCOMPLETE

Has achieved fewer than 12 credits

FIRST YEAR COMPLETED

Has achieved 12-21 credits

SECOND YEAR COMPLETED

Has achieved 22 or more credits but not graduated

GRADUATED

Has satisfied minimum graduation requirements.

Graduated with HONOURS Status

Students must complete graduation requirements for high school as set by the Department of Education and Early

Childhood Development. Each student must receive credit for Science 1206 and obtain at least ten credits in the following subject areas, from the courses listed, with an overall average of at least 80%:

- English: English 3201
- Mathematics: Mathematics 3200, or 3201, or 3208
- Science: Biology 3201, or Chemistry 3202, or Physics 3204, or Earth Systems 3209
- Social Studies (or French): World Geography 3202, or World History 3201, or Social Studies 3201, or Sciences humaines 3231, or Histoire mondiale 3231, or French 3201, or Accelerated French 3203, or Français 3202
- Electives: 2 credits chosen from the subjects above or from additional 3000 or 4000 level courses approved by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development for certification purposes. (English 3202, Mathematics 3202, Science 3200, and World Geography 3200 cannot be used as elective credits for the purpose of calculating an average for Academic or Honours status).

Note: For the purpose of achieving the 80% average, each 2 credit course will be entered twice and each 1 credit course will be entered once. The total marks will then be divided by 10. See example on next page.

Example - A student has the following courses and marks for determining Honours Status:

Course	Mark	Calculation
English 3201	78	$78 \times 2 = 156$
Mathematics 3201	82	$82 \times 2 = 164$
Chemistry 3202	75	$75 \times 2 = 150$
World History 3201	78	$78 \times 2 = 156$
World Religions 3101	88	$88 \times 1 = 88$
Communications Technology 3104	90	$90 \times 1 = 90$
	Average	$804 \div 10 = \mathbf{80}$

Graduated with ACADEMIC Status

A student has met the same subject area/course criteria as Honours status but with an overall average of less than 80%.

Note: All other students who meet the minimum graduation requirements, but do not meet the additional requirements for ACADEMIC or HONOURS will be awarded GRADUATED status.

FRENCH IMMERSION Designation

Students enrolled in the French Immersion program must meet minimum graduation requirements and attain 6 credits in Français courses as well as 6 other credits in courses studied in French. Successful completion will be indicated on the transcript and diploma as "French Immersion Designation".

Awarding Credits for External Courses

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development does recognize credentials obtained by students from some national organizations outside the regular school system for the purpose of awarding credit in the senior high school program.

For details e-mail: education@gov.nl.ca

High School Programs

The following sections provide information on the various course offerings in the high school system. This is not a complete list as many schools and school districts offer district/local courses. Information on these courses can be obtained from the school or school district.

English Language Arts

The high school English Language Arts program offers a choice to students of either the academic or general level.

The academic level is intended for the majority of students particularly those who intend on pursuing a post-secondary (i.e., university or college) education.

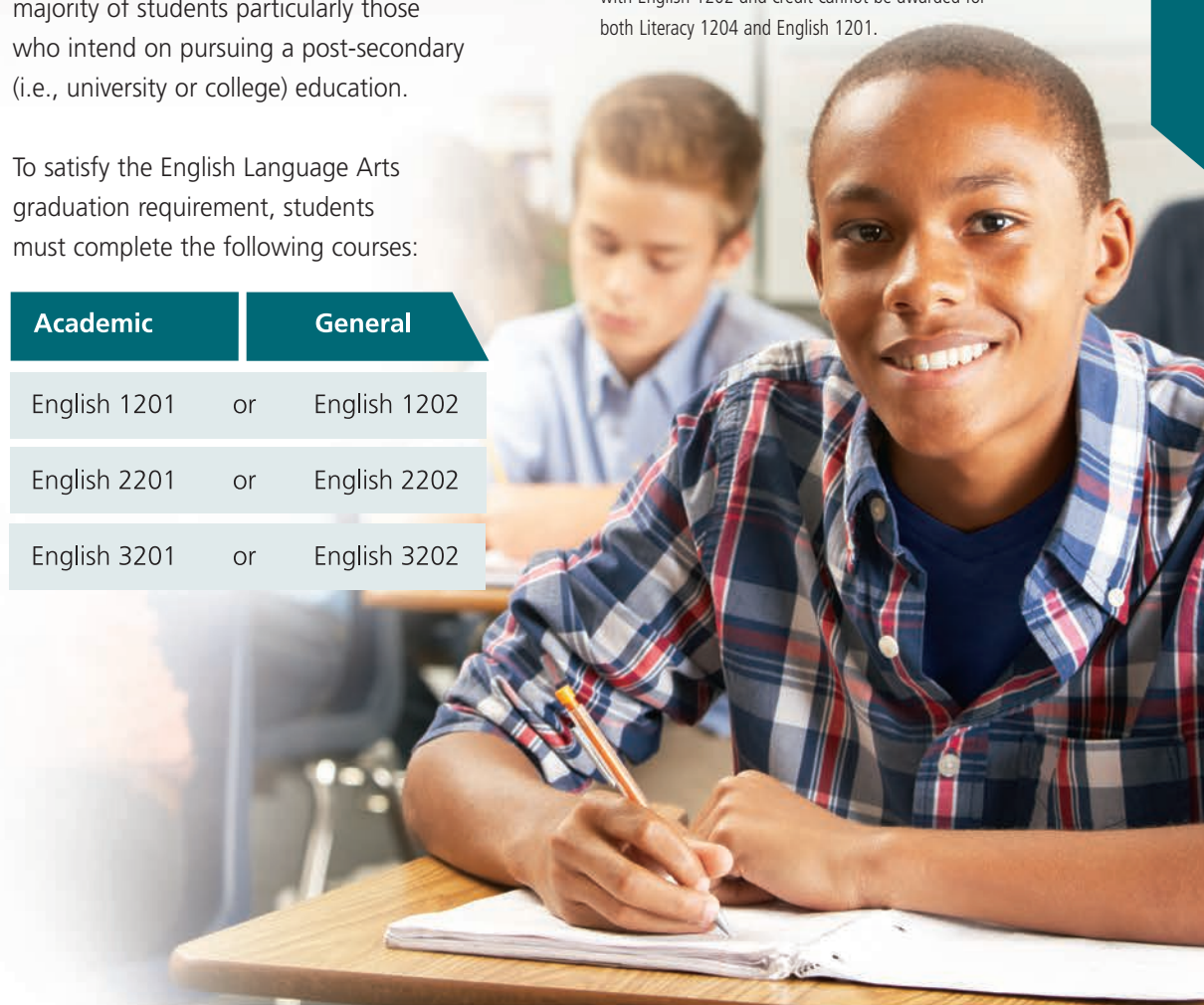
To satisfy the English Language Arts graduation requirement, students must complete the following courses:

Academic		General	
English 1201	or	English 1202	
English 2201	or	English 2202	
English 3201	or	English 3202	

To satisfy the **Optional Language Arts** graduation requirements, students can complete any of the following courses:

- Literacy 1204*
- Writing 2203
- Drama 2206
- World Literature 3207 or any high school French course

* Literacy 1204 is intended for those students registered in English 1202. It provides students with significant instruction and practice in literacy skills that will help them in all courses at the senior high level. If selected, this course must be completed before or concurrently with English 1202 and credit cannot be awarded for both Literacy 1204 and English 1201.



Mathematics

High school mathematics offers three programs of choice to students: **advanced, academic and applied.**

The **advanced mathematics** program is designed to provide students with the mathematical understanding and critical thinking skills identified for entry into many university and post-secondary programs which require the study of theoretical calculus.

The **academic mathematics** program is designed to provide students with the mathematical understanding and critical thinking skills identified for entry into many university and post-secondary programs which do not require the study of theoretical calculus.

The **applied mathematics** program is designed to provide students with the mathematical understanding and critical-thinking skills identified for entry into the majority of trades and for direct entry into the workforce.

It is highly recommended that students interested in post-secondary programs requiring calculus choose the advanced mathematics program in high school. It is possible, however, for students who graduate with the academic mathematics program to later pursue post-secondary options requiring calculus. Many institutions will require these students to successfully complete additional pre-calculus mathematics courses upon entry.

Students who take advanced Mathematics 3200 will automatically have a Mathematics 3203 Scholarship Score placed on their transcripts. It has no credit value, however, it is used by MUN for the entrance mathematics average but not placement into MUN mathematics courses. This scholarship score also ensures consistency with academic Mathematics 3201 students in the calculation to determine provincial scholarships.

Advanced	Academic	Applied
Mathematics 1201	Mathematics 1201	Mathematics 1202
Mathematics 2200	Mathematics 2201	Mathematics 2202
Mathematics 3200	Mathematics 3201	Mathematics 3202
Mathematics 3208		

- Notes:
- Mathematics 1202 is a pre-requisite to Mathematics 2202 and Mathematics 3202
 - Mathematics 1201 is a pre-requisite to Mathematics 2200, 2201, 2202 and Mathematics 3200, 3201 and 3202
 - Mathematics 2200 is a pre-requisite to Mathematics 3200 and Mathematics 3201
 - Mathematics 2201 is a pre-requisite to Mathematics 3201
 - Mathematics 3208 is an introduction to Calculus and can be taken concurrently with Mathematics 3200
 - 4 credits in Mathematics must be obtained from two different grade levels



Science

The high school science program offers a choice to students at the academic and general level. If a student wishes to pursue an academic science program they will usually take Science 1206 in Grade 10, and in subsequent years choose from Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and/or Earth Systems. The academic level is intended for the majority of students particularly those who intend on pursuing a post-secondary (i.e., university or college) education. In Grade 10, a student who starts on a general program will usually take Science 2200.

General	Academic
Science 2200	Science 1206*
Science 3200	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biology 2201/3201 Chemistry 2202/3202 Earth Systems 3209 Physics 2204/3204
Other Science	
Environmental Science 3205	

* Successful completion of Science 1206 is required for academic and honours graduation.

Social Studies

In September 2018, the process of implementing new social studies curricula began at the high school level. The program offers an academic and general level at each high school grade. The academic level is intended for the majority of students particularly those who intend on pursuing a post-secondary (i.e., university or college) education. The general level will cover the same topics as the academic with reduced depth of treatment. A total of 4 credits must be obtained from two different grade levels for graduation.

Academic	French Immersion (Academic)
Social Studies 1201	Sciences humaines 1231
Social Studies 2201	Sciences humaines 2231
Social Studies 3201	Sciences humaines 3231
Newfoundland and Labrador Studies 2205	
	General
	Social Studies 1202
	Social Studies 2202
	Social Studies 3202

* Social Studies 1201/1202/1231 may be counted as Economic Education under "Other Required Credits"

* Social Studies 2201/2231 is a pre-requisite for Social Studies 3201/3231

* Social Studies 2202 is not a pre-requisite for Social Studies 3202. However, completion of either Social Studies 1202 or 2202 is recommended before attempting Social Studies 3202.

* Social Studies 3201 is required by ALL students in the 'English Program' for an Honours or Academic Diploma

* Completion of Newfoundland and Labrador Studies 2205 and Social Studies 2202 will meet minimum general graduation requirements.

Notes: This is the intended path for implementation for September 2019 and September 2020 which is pending final approval and funding.

Career Education

Students will satisfy the Career Education requirement by completing Career Development 2201. This course will include a community contribution component. Guidelines can be accessed at:

<http://www.ed.gov.nl.ca/edu/k12/curriculum/documents/careered/index.html>

Although some students will not take this course until Grade 11, they should be advised early in their Grade 10 year about the community contribution component. This will allow them the opportunity to start fulfilling this requirement early in their high school career.

Fine Arts

The Fine Arts requirement can be satisfied by completing 2 credits from the following courses:

Art	Music
Visual Art 1202	Ensemble Performance 1105
Art and Design 2200	Ensemble Performance 2105
Art and Design 3200	Ensemble Performance 3105
Other	Experiencing Music 2200
Clothing 1101	Applied Music 2206
Textiles 3101	Applied Music 3206
Newfoundland and Labrador Studies 2205	Theatre
	Drama 2206

Physical Education

The Physical Education requirement can be satisfied by completing 2 credits from the following courses:

- Healthy Living 1200
- Physical Education 2100
- Physical Education 2101
- Physical Education 3100
- Physical Education 3101



Other Required Credits

Students must obtain at least 4 credits from this category and in doing so must obtain these credits from at least two different disciplines. However, students do not need to satisfy the two different disciplines if the 4 credits for this requirement are satisfied using 4 credits in French.

Economic Education

Business Enterprise 1100
Consumer Studies 1202
Entrepreneurship 3209
Affaires et entrepreneuriat 1130
Social Studies 1201/1202
Sciences humaines 1231

French

French 1200
French 2200 (core)
French 3200 (core)

French 3201 (core)
French 2203 (expanded core)
French 3203 (expanded core)
Français 1202 (immersion)
Français 2202 (immersion)
Français 3202 (immersion)

Religious Education

Ethics and Philosophy 2101
Ethics and Social Justice 2106
World Religions 3101
World Religions 3106
Questions morales 1134
Enseignement religieux 3131
Enseignement religieux 3136

Technology Education/Skilled Trades

Skilled Trades 1201
Design and Fabrication 1202
Computer Science 1204
Communication Technology 2104
Residential Construction
Technologies 2201
Design and Fabrication 2202
Communication Technology 3104
Power and Energy 3201
Robotics Systems Technology 3205
Occupational Health & Safety 3203

Family Studies

Clothing 1101
Healthy Living 1200
Human Dynamics 2201
Nutrition 2102
Nutrition 3102
Textiles 3101



For a more detailed description of the high school program, as well as short course descriptions, please refer to the *Program of Studies* published annually by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development. This can be found at each school or online at: <http://www.ed.gov.nl.ca/edu/k12/curriculum/guides/>

Please note:

In some cases a particular course may be listed as satisfying more than one of the graduation requirements. If credit is received for this particular course, it can be used to satisfy either of the two graduation requirements, but not both.

Example;

Drama 2206 may satisfy either the Optional Language Arts or Fine Arts requirement. A student who has credit for Drama 2206 may use these 2 credits to satisfy **EITHER** the Optional Language Arts **OR** Fine Arts requirements, but **NOT** both.

Other courses which may be used to satisfy more than one requirement include:

French courses

Optional Language Arts and
Other Required Credits (French)

Healthy Living 1200

Physical Education and
Other Required Credits (Family Studies)

**Newfoundland and Labrador
Studies 2205**

Canadian Studies and Fine Arts

Clothing 1101

Fine Arts and Other Required Credits (Family Studies)

Textiles 3101

Fine Arts and Other Required Credits (Family Studies)

Social Studies 1201/1202 or

Sciences humaines 1231

Canadian Studies and
Other Required Credits (Enterprise Education)



Information for Parents & Students

Preparing for Post-Secondary Education

As you progress through high school, you will become more aware of career and educational choices that you will be making at the end of Grade 12. It is necessary for you to know the credits and marks needed to gain entry into the post-secondary institution of your choice. Some specialized programs have specific admission requirements other than the courses required to graduate high school. You should check the specific entrance requirements to the particular program you plan to pursue and make sure you take the proper program and courses in high school to maximize your chances of being accepted into the post-secondary program of your choice. It is also important to note that students with higher marks often receive preference in registration, placement, scheduling, and of course, scholarships.



Tips for Applying to

Post-secondary Institutions

- Research the various fields of study that interest you.
- Determine what institutions offer the program.
- Contact the Admissions Office/Academic Advising Office for each institution if you require more information.
- When possible visit the institution to make sure the program and institution is right for you.
- Ensure you have met the entrance requirements before you apply.
- Know the application deadline (different institutions/programs have different deadlines).
- Review the application in advance of the deadline (in case you have any questions).
- Ensure you have included in your application package everything required for the application such as application fee, transcript, references, etc.

Post-Secondary Institutions

Throughout the province and country, there are many post-secondary institutions. It is important to research where you can obtain the program of study for the career you choose. Below you will find a list of the public post-secondary institutions in the province. As well, a link is provided to direct you to a list of private training institutions.

Memorial University

<https://www.mun.ca/main/become.php>

Marine Institute

<https://www.mi.mun.ca/>

College of the North Atlantic

<https://www.cna.nl.ca/admissions/>

Private Training Institutions

<https://www.aesl.gov.nl.ca/postsecondary/privatedir.html>

Student Aid

The Government of Canada and the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador work together to provide student financial assistance. Both loans (repayable) and grants (non-repayable) are available to help you access and pay for post-secondary education. With one application you will be assessed for both federal and provincial financial assistance. For full details, see your guidance counselor or visit:

<https://www.aesl.gov.nl.ca/studentaid/index.html>

and

<https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/education/grants.html> .

Scholarships

Good marks can translate into scholarships for your post-secondary education. There are many scholarships offered in Newfoundland and Labrador as well as across Canada. Below are lists of some scholarships available to you. Many scholarships are available to students of particular schools or students enrolling in particular programs. You should check with your guidance counsellor for information on other scholarships which may be available to you.

Provincial Government Scholarships

Through the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador awards 201 scholarships each year to high school students in Newfoundland and Labrador. The scholarships range in value from \$1,000 to \$2,500 and are merit based in that student performance is compared in relation to the performance of others. Public exam marks are used to determine a provincial scholarship score for each eligible student within each of the following four categories:

- English 3201
- Math 3200 or 3201
- Biology 3201, Chemistry 3202, Physics 3204, Earth Systems 3209; and
- World Geography 3202, World History 3201 or Histoire mondiale 3231, Français 3202, Social Studies 3201, Sciences humaines 3231.

Note:

Failure to do a course in any one of these categories disqualifies a student from receiving a Provincial Government Scholarship.

The Junior Jubilee Scholarship (\$2,500) is awarded to the student who achieves the highest scholarship score.

The Constable W.C. Moss Scholarship (\$1,000) is awarded to the son or daughter of a member of the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary or the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (active, retired or deceased) who achieves the highest scholarship score.

The Electoral District Scholarships (\$1,000 each) are awarded to the three high school graduates in each provincial electoral district who achieve the highest scholarship score.

Centenary of Responsible Government Scholarships (Seventy-nine available at \$1,000 each) are awarded to the students who achieve the highest scholarship scores, excluding those students awarded any of the above scholarships.

Other Provincial Government Scholarships

Lester B. Pearson Scholarship

Each year a Level II student is selected to attend Pearson College, a United World College, in Victoria, BC. The value of the scholarship is approximately \$50,000 and covers the cost of attending the college to complete the two-year International Baccalaureate (IB) Program. The deadline to apply is November 15th. Please see your guidance counsellor for details.

Holy Heart IB Diploma Scholarship

Each year two Level I students outside the St. John's metro area are selected to attend Holy Heart High School in St. John's to complete the two- year International Baccalaureate (IB) Program. The value of the scholarship is \$5,000 per year to cover living expenses while in St. John's. There is also \$1,000 per year available to offset travel expenses.

The IB Diploma, an internationally recognized university preparation program, educates students through a comprehensive curriculum to become creative, critical thinkers, effective communicators, and globally-aware citizens.

Memorial University

Entrance Scholarships

High school applicants from the Newfoundland and Labrador high school system are automatically considered for many of Memorial University's entrance scholarships. The majority of these are offered automatically to eligible students on the basis of academic merit. Early offers are made, normally in late winter, on the basis of grades available at that time. Applicants are considered again for entrance scholarship eligibility once final high school results are released in July. A limited number of renewable entrance scholarships are available each year through a separate application process and these are awarded on the basis of academic merit and other selection criteria.

The value and number of entrance scholarships that are offered each year may vary as the entrance scholarship program is reviewed annually. Information on entrance scholarships that are available to applicants for admission for the upcoming fall semester may be found online at <https://www.mun.ca/scholarships>.

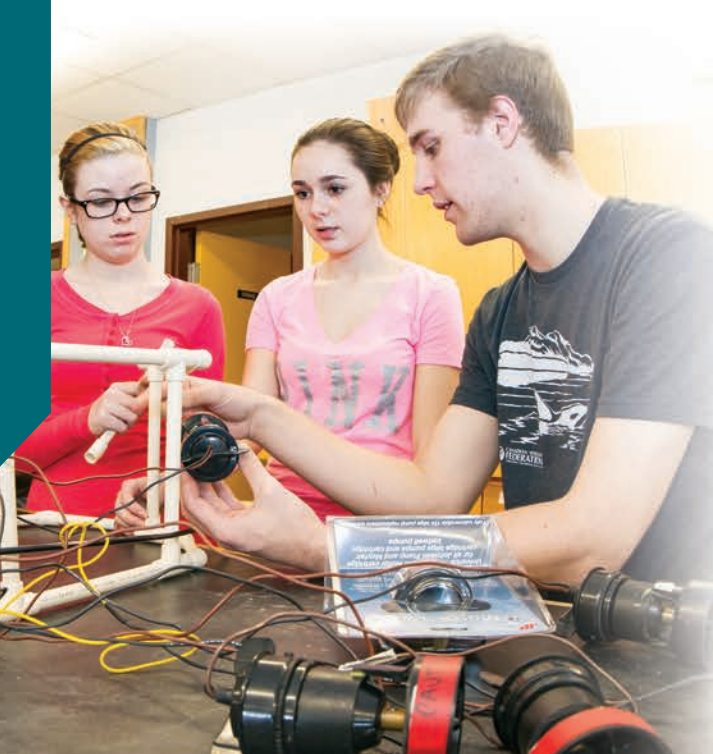
Marine Institute

Students applying to the Marine Institute (MI) are eligible for all Memorial University Entrance Scholarships. In addition to those scholarships, there are a limited number of \$1,000 scholarships for any student who is applying to MI Diploma of Technology or Joint Diploma of Technology/Bachelor of Technology programs with over an 80% entrance average. As well, MI offers a number of entrance scholarships that are program specific and based on solid academic performance and community involvement. For further information on these opportunities please visit <https://www.mi.mun.ca/>.

College of the North Atlantic

Applicants to the College of the North Atlantic are provided an opportunity to compete for a variety of awards, scholarships, bursaries and prizes in many programs.

An awards handbook, outlining all awards available as well as the specific criteria, is available on the College website <http://www.cna.nl.ca/awards>.



Good Study Skills

The most important aspect of being a good student is that you become committed to doing well in school. How you do in the three years of high school can have a significant effect on what options will be available to you at the end of high school.

Two ingredients to becoming an effective student are organization and time management. These important ingredients can be learned by any student. You should learn to plan and organize your time and homework tasks in a way that is efficient and productive. Good organizational skills and time management skills include:

- having well organized notes
- planning ahead
- staying conscious of timetables and schedules
- organizing your school subjects
- keeping a list of upcoming tests and assignments
- committing time to your studies
- asking questions in class
- completing homework assignments on time
- setting goals
- learning to prioritize

Homework - Hints for Students

Useful tips include:

- If possible study in the same place at all times. This should be a quiet place away from distractions.
- You should study sitting up and not lying across a bed or on the floor.
- Have proper lighting and seating.
- Avoid distractions.
Turn off stereos and personal listening devices. If listening to music is a must, keep it low and in the background.
- Have homework materials ready.
For easy access, keep all your homework supplies in the same place. This avoids wasting time looking for required materials.
- Reward yourself with a break after certain periods of time.
(e.g. 10 minutes every 50 minutes).
- Focus on the harder homework first.
You are fresher at the start and the more difficult material generally takes more of an effort. After the more difficult material is conquered, there is also a sense of relief and you are better able to tackle the remaining homework.
- Review regularly.
- Make a quick schedule for homework time each time you sit down to do homework.
This ensures you have a clear picture as to what exactly it is you wish to accomplish in the homework session.

Three Year Planner

Graduation Requirements		Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Total Credits
Subject Area		Course(s)	# credits	Course(s)	# credits	Course(s)	# credits	
Language Arts	English Language Arts (6 credits required)							6 credits required
	Optional Language Arts (2 credits required)							2 credits required
Mathematics (4 credits required)								4 credits required
Science (4 credits required)								4 credits required
Social Studies (4 credits required)								4 credits required
Career Education (2 credits required)								2 credits required
Physical Education (2 credits required)								2 credits required
Fine Arts (2 credits required)								2 credits required
Other Required Credits (4 credits required)								4 credits required
Any Subject Area (6 credits required)								6 credits required
Total (36 credits required)								

Must have: at least 20 credits beyond Grade 10 ☐ at least 9 credits beyond Grade 11 ☐ not more than 4 local or alternate credits ☐ at least 2 categories from other required credits (unless using 4 credits in French) ☐ Please refer to page 3 for additional information on graduation requirements.



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