

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT)

All students must successfully complete the provincial secondary school literacy test in order to earn a secondary school diploma. The test is based on Ontario curriculum expectations for language and communication, particularly reading and writing, up to and including grade 9.

The test will determine who has attained the provincial expectations for literacy. It will identify areas for remediation for students who are unsuccessful in completing the test. School boards are required to provide remedial assistance for students who are unsuccessful in completing the test. Students are permitted to write the test a second time if they are unsuccessful on the first attempt.

OLC40 – Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course, Gr. 12 Open

This course is designed to help students acquire and demonstrate the cross-curricular literacy skills that are evaluated by the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test. Students who complete the course successfully will meet the provincial literacy requirement for graduation. Students will read a variety of informational, narrative, and graphic texts and will produce a variety of forms of writing, including summaries, information paragraphs, opinion pieces, and news reports. Students will also maintain and manage a literacy portfolio containing a record of their reading experiences and samples of their writing.

Eligibility

Students, who have been eligible to write the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) at least once, and have been unsuccessful at least once, are eligible to take this course to achieve both a Grade 12 credit and their literacy credential for graduation. This course does not replace the required ENG4C course required for students applying to college.



Accommodations

Students who are receiving special education programs and services and who have an Individual Education Plan will receive the same accommodations that are set out in the students IEP and/or that are available to the student during the literacy test.

Deferrals

Students who might benefit from a deferral of the test may include students who have been identified as exceptional and students registered in English as a second language/English literacy development courses who have not yet acquired the level of proficiency in English required for successfully completing the test. The principal determines if a deferral should be granted and the time period for the deferral.

Exemptions

Students whose IEP indicates that the student is not working towards the attainment of a secondary school diploma may, with parental consent and approval of the principal, be exempted from participating in the literacy test.