

## Ottawa-Carleton District School Board

### Ottawa International Student Program (OISP)

### Orientation (Hybrid)/ Online Assessment Process Updates

### September 2026 (High School)

Prior to your arrival in Ottawa, your English skills will be assessed online (assessment process is described below). Placement in academic courses at the secondary level will be based on the results of these assessments. **Only after you have completed the assessment process and are in Ottawa will you be given an appointment to meet with your guidance counsellor to register for school and discuss your course options.**

Additionally, you will participate in an orientation program before the start of the new semester in September. **This orientation will include a combination of online and in-person activities.**

It is important that you share your arrival information with us as soon as possible. **We must receive your arrival information in order to activate your insurance and to guarantee that somebody will meet you at the airport (only for students in the CHN Homestay program).**

**You are expected to arrive in time to participate in the Arrival Orientation**

**Homestay begins on August 25th, 2026 (only for students in the CHN Homestay program)**

- Arrival Orientation Dates (Hybrid of Online & In-Person):  
August 26th, 27th, 28th & August 31st, 2026 (4 Days).
- School Start Date:  
September 1st, 2026

**You MUST send the following items to your Admissions Coordinator before coming to Ottawa:**

- Most current school report card and its translation into English
- Immunization (vaccination) records if not previously sent to OISP

## **Student Placement Online Assessment Process**

1. After receiving your Offer of Admission, you will receive an email with a link for our Pre-Arrival Learning (P.A.L.) program. The P.A.L. starts with an online assessment to help us determine your English level and to ensure you receive the appropriate writing task (online) for the school placement assessment. **Please complete the PAL test as soon as possible if you have not done so yet.**
2. The school placement online assessment consists of two parts:
  - i. a writing task (**emailed to you in the last week of June 2026/ Condition - you must complete the PAL test first**)
  - ii. a 45-minute online oral assessment (**scheduled only after the writing task is completed**)
3. A detailed assessment report is sent to your school once you've completed all parts.
4. Once your guidance counselor has carefully reviewed your assessment report, you will be invited to go to your school to discuss your courses and/or receive your timetable.
5. When all of the above steps are completed, you will be ready to start school.