



Welcome to Dawson
Parent's Night

Partner in your child's education

Welcome to Dawson College and thank you for accepting our invitation to talk about the next few years in your child's life.

We are especially grateful for the confidence you have shown in our ability to provide your child with an education that will prepare him or her for the future.

New students soon learn that CEGEP is not high school.

We expect that young people entering this new phase of their lives take responsibility for their time, their choices and their education.

Rest assured, however, that at every step of the way, there are hundreds of people employed by the College who are here to make this transition a successful one.

You also have an important part to play through your encouragement and guidance at home. You may choose to engage in the life of the College by attending plays in the Theatre, taking in sporting events in the Tony Proudfoot Gym, visiting the Warren G. Flowers Gallery, or participating in special events.

Whatever you choose to do, you have now become our partner in your child's education.

Our services for students are listed in this handout, but you can also visit our website any time for more information dawsoncollege.qc.ca.



Richard Filion
Director General, Dawson College



Everything you wanted to know about...

Academic Advising

Dawson's academic advisers answer all kinds of questions every day. Will I find CEGEP difficult? Do I need Math for CEGEP? If I am in a technical program, can I still go to university? What do I need to register for next semester? Can I take university pre-requisites while in a technical program?

There are three ways to meet with an adviser:

- Individual appointments
- Drop-in hours (for quick questions)
- Advising workshops

Academic Skills Centre

The Academic Skills Centre can assist students in improving learning, reading and writing skills. Students can meet with staff on an individual basis, or in small groups and workshops to help identify their needs to improve their academic performance.

Athletics and Recreation

Dawson College has one of the largest inter-collegiate programs in Canada. A large number of recreational and intramural programs are also offered to the student population. For more information, students can consult the website at dawsoncollege.qc.ca.

Awards and Scholarships

Dawson College recognizes and promotes excellence, leadership and community involvement through its scholarship and awards program. Students should take advantage of the many opportunities offered through the program and so, we suggest you encourage your child to explore these opportunities by consulting the website.

Bookstore

The Bookstore is open daily, with extended hours during the opening weeks of each semester to accommodate the increased traffic. It provides students, faculty and staff with books and supplies at competitive prices.

Campus Life & Leadership

The staff of Campus Life & Leadership provides advice and support to students, and designs activities that enrich academic and extracurricular life at Dawson College. The philosophy of Campus Life & Leadership is to focus on student development beyond the classroom through activities that offer educational, recreational and leadership opportunities.

For more information please visit
dawsoncollege.qc.ca

Career and Counselling

Counsellors are available to help students with social, academic and career development, and can provide support for students with personal problems. In the Career Resource Centre, students may consult college, trade school and university directories and calendars, career planning, job hunting, resumé writing and interview materials, career videos and job market documents.

Education for Adults

Dawson College offers a wide range of credit and non-credit courses, seminars and programs for adults. Most activities take place in the evening or on weekends. Consult the Dawson website at **dawsoncollege.qc.ca** for more information. Click on Centre for Training and Development under the Continuing Education menu tab.

Financial Aid

The Financial Aid Department provides financial assistance services to students who are enrolled full-time in a program at Dawson College. Loans and bursaries help students who wish to study full-time, but who do not have the financial means to do so. Students registered on a full-time basis in a program (minimum of 180 hours per semester) may apply to the Quebec Loans and Bursaries Program. Forms, deadline dates, information, and assistance can be obtained through the Financial Aid Office or by telephone at **(514) 931-8731, ext. 1186**.

Food Services

The Atrium snack bar on the 2nd floor features hot and cold meals and snacks. Food services are supplemented by vending machines located throughout the building dispensing cold drinks and snacks.

Housing

Dawson College has no on-campus residences, but Campus Life & Leadership does provide limited assistance to students seeking housing.

Library

Originally the chapel of the religious order that occupied this building, it has cathedral ceilings, ornate lighting fixtures, stained glass and even organ pipes. It is, however, completely wired for the latest in library technology.

Locker/Lock Rentals

Small, large and portfolio lockers are available to students at a nominal fee with the rental of locks.

Ombuds Services

Ombuds Services provide an independent and confidential service to ensure that every member of the Dawson College community receives fair and equitable treatment. Qualified Ombuds staff investigate complaints, facilitate or negotiate resolutions, advise students and teachers on College policies, and assist students in meeting their obligations while ensuring that their rights are respected.

Peer Tutoring

Dawson's peer tutoring program can pair a student with a tutor to help him/her succeed in a wide range of subjects. Applications are available through the Academic Skills Centre.

Student AccessAbility Centre

Students with special needs registered for either full- or part-time studies are eligible for assistance. Arrangements for hearing, visual or motor/ coordination impairment, documented learning disability or chronic medical condition, as well as students who have temporary special needs resulting from accidents or illness may use the service. Students who require special assistance should inform the College before registration.

Student Employment

The Student Employment Centre assists students in finding employment, either for part-time work on and off campus, or for permanent positions, particularly for graduates in the career programs.

Student Government

The Dawson Student Union (DSU) represents students at the College, with elected members working on their behalf. The student union has representation on the Board of Governors, Senate, Campus Council, among others, giving students a voice in school policy-making.

Student Health Services

A nurse staffs a drop-in centre which students can visit when not feeling well or for any health questions or concerns. The nurse is available for consultation on health counselling and education programs for individuals or groups. Referral to other agencies or appropriate medical specialists can be arranged.

The Mentor Program

Dawson's mentor program pairs new students with a teacher or staff member who has volunteered to help them through the transitional first semester.

First Year Students' Office

We know the transition from high school to CEGEP can be overwhelming. Dawson has a space dedicated to helping students navigate their first year here: the First Year Students' Office.

Friendly Environment

The First Year Students' Office is a two-member team service who are there to help new students with any personal or school-related matter. We offer them a place to be heard that is welcoming, where any question can be asked.

No Appointment Necessary

Students can drop by the central location in 2D.0 at any time during regular office hours.

One-Stop Shop

While Dawson has a multitude of support services in place, accessing them is not always at the top of students' minds. When students leave 2D.0, we make sure they have an action plan to deal with whatever problem they came in with, big or small. The First Year Students' Office supports them in making their transition to college by simplifying access to resources and services.

Judgement-Free Zone

No matter the question, our staff can give new students the answers they need or direct them to the appropriate service in the College.

Welcoming Lounge

If they're just looking to hang out and meet other students, the space also has a student lounge complete with comfortable seating, relaxation activities and computers.

Dawson College

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