

Alberta Postsecondary Options Project **Important information for teachers and school staff**

Congratulations! Your school is participating in the ***Alberta Postsecondary Options Project (APOP)*** in 2024-25, a project funded by the Government of Alberta.



For this school year, all the Grade 12 students at your school can try out a new intervention that supports their applications to postsecondary programs. They will have access to a website (maypop.ca) that helps guide students in selecting and applying for postsecondary education programs and student financial aid. The program aims to make the path to college or university an easier one for them to consider. The Alberta Postsecondary Options Project website has been developed by the Canadian non-profit research firm the Social Research and Demonstration Corporation (SRDC).

How will students benefit from the Alberta Postsecondary Options Project?

Many students face barriers to postsecondary education, including financial and academic barriers, lack of information, and challenges with decision-making. Alberta Postsecondary Options Project has been designed to address many of these barriers:

- it informs students about the costs and benefits of further education;
- it helps them choose programs based on their interests, courses and grades;
- It provides tools to help prepare an application for student financial aid.

For Grade 12 students who intend to go on to postsecondary, APOP provides support to follow through. Those who might not have decided to go on could be persuaded to do so by the arrival of an acceptance letter. Even those who might not have considered postsecondary options will have gained practical knowledge and skills about the application process that may benefit them in the future.

How can I support the project?

As a Grade 12 teacher, your support of the project is vital. To maximize the impact of the program it is important to maximize the number of students who get to try out the APOP website. You can help with this by conveying the message to students that it is okay if students don't know what they want to do next year; the APOP website is there to help them explore their options and help them decide. *The students least likely to use the APOP website are often the ones with the most potential to benefit.*

If you want to learn more about how APOP is being used at the school or provide feedback please reach out to school administrators.

Link to APOP information page <https://www.srdc.org/apop/>

Link to APOP start page for students (need MyPass account) <https://www.myapop.ca/>