

From Ministry of Education memo in 2021

Definition of a Mature Student:

Beginning on February 1, 2022, the newly revised mandatory PLAR requirements set out in this memorandum will come into effect, and will apply to mature students as defined as:

- a mature student is a student who is at least 18 years of age on or after January 1 of the current school year and who is enrolled in a program for the purpose of obtaining an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD)

School boards must also ensure that the following groups of mature students are also granted equivalent credits (see [Appendix 1](#)) for:

- An [OSSD under Ontario Schools, Intermediate and Senior Divisions \(Grades 7-12/OACs\): Program and Diploma Requirements, 1989 \(OSIS\)](#) for students who entered the Ontario secondary school system in Grade 9 before September 1, 1999.
- A [Secondary School Graduation Diploma \(SSGD\) under Circular H.S. 1, \(1979-81\)](#) for students who entered the Ontario secondary school system in Grade 9 before September 1, 1984.

Principals are responsible for determining when the mature student was previously enrolled in the Ontario secondary school system on the basis of evidence (for example, the Ontario Student Transcript (OST), and/or the Ontario Provincial Report Card, Grades 9–12).

Mature students under OSIS or Circular H.S. 1, may choose to have their prior learning assessed either under OSIS or Circular H.S. 1, or through the PLAR process leading to an OSSD outlined in this memorandum.

This memorandum supersedes PLAR for Mature Students currently described under Ontario Schools