

CAMPUS TYPES: A survey of essay typing services

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Since most students were encouraged to stick to academic courses or the trades in high school basic clerical skills such as typing were mastered by few. The inability to type can create problems for students at the university level since most professors demand essays be typed before submission.

Faced with this problem, most students must turn to typing services or suffer academic penalties for not learning one's keyboard p's and q's. Fortunately there are many typing services in the Toronto area that offer acceptable typing to students in need.

In an attempt to find the best overall deal for students, Excalibur's Paul O'Donnell sent a five-page essay to four different agencies in and around the York campus. All advertise in Central Square and are fairly accessible to students.

The four typing services were:

- Dawn's CYSF Typing Service (a private venture no longer tied to CYSF)
- Budget Word Processing Services
- Carole's Typing
- Agnes' Typing

Allowing four days to complete their typing, all services were judged on their efficiency, professionalism, accuracy and cost.



Carole's Typing

The allure of Carole's Typing is the 85¢ per page cost. Located in Thornhill, it was not difficult to find via public transit and was close to campus. The typist, who operates out of her home, was fast, accurate and inexpensive. What more could one ask for?

This essay was completed overnight with only one minor mistake. The total cost was \$3.40 and the title page was free.

Unfortunately, transportation cost amounted to \$3.60, 20¢ more than the essay, so this seemingly good deal ended up costing \$7.00. Only Thornhill residents would find this service financially worthwhile.

Agnes' Typing

Agnes, who works at York, is friendly, helpful, and efficient. Overall I would rate this service the best available. Agnes took the essay after work and called me at home the same evening to tell me it was ready. There were two small mistakes: the word atom was spelled wrong twice, but she does allow students to return for corrections.

Her total cost was \$5.50, about average. Since she picked up and delivered the completed essay, she actually offers the best deal.

Budget Word Processing

Budget Word was the most efficient and business-like of the four services. Based in Mississauga, they offer pick-up and delivery of the completed essay.

The typist came to O'Donnell's apartment with a folder containing examples of different type-faces from which he could choose. She arranged to return the essay the next day, and upon delivery invited O'Donnell to phone her back if there were any problems or corrections that needed to be done. There were no mistakes and the quality was quite good. Unfortunately, the cost for typing this essay came to \$7.10, by far the most expensive of the four services approached.

Dawn's CYSF Typing Service

Situated in Central Square beside the south exit, Dawn's CYSF Typing Service is perhaps the most accessible of all the services. The typist who received our order was efficient though unfriendly. They took full advantage of the four-day limit and produced an essay with one minor mistake. The major problem with this typing service is that you are responsible for proofreading your essay in order to correct mistakes they made. The total cost for a five-page essay and title page was \$5.71.

That man is so bad he shouldn't be left alone in a room with a typewriter.

—Herman J. Mankiewicz

