

SWIFT EDUCATION  
CONSULTANTS  
EDUCATION. VISA. TOURISM

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# Canada

Information Guide



# About Canada

## Background

Canada a country in the northern part of North America, is the world's second-largest country by total area. Canada's southern border with the United States is the world's longest bi-national land border. Its capital is [Ottawa](#), and its three largest metropolitan areas are [Toronto](#), [Montreal](#), and [Vancouver](#).

As a whole, Canada is sparsely populated, the majority of its land area being dominated by forest and tundra. Over 80% of its inhabitants are concentrated in large and medium-sized cities, many near the southern border. Canada's climate varies widely across its vast area, ranging from arctic weather in the north, to hot summers in the southern regions, with four distinct seasons.



# About Canada

## Provinces & Territories

The provinces and territories of Canada are the sub-national governments within the geographical areas of Canada under the authority of the Canadian Constitution.

The major difference between a Canadian province and a territory is that provinces receive their power and authority from the Constitution Act, 1867, whereas territorial governments have powers delegated to them by the Parliament of Canada.



# About Canada

## Territories

There are 3 territories in Canada. These territories have no inherent sovereignty and have only those powers delegated to them by the federal government. They include all of mainland Canada north of latitude 60° north and west of Hudson Bay, as well as most islands north of the Canadian mainland.

| Region | Territory               | Capital     | Largest City |
|--------|-------------------------|-------------|--------------|
| North  | 1 Northwest Territories | Yellowknife | Yellowknife  |
|        | 2 Yukon                 | Whitehorse  | Whitehorse   |
|        | 3 Nunavut               | Iqaluit     | Iqaluit      |



# About Canada

## Provinces

| Region            | Province |                         | Capital       | Largest City  |
|-------------------|----------|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Central Canada    | 1        | Ontario                 | Toronto       | Toronto       |
|                   | 2        | Quebec                  | Quebec City   | Montreal      |
| Atlantic Region   | 3        | Nova Scotia             | Halifax       | Halifax       |
|                   | 4        | New Brunswick           | Fredericton   | Saint John    |
|                   | 5        | Prince Edward Island    | Charlottetown | Charlottetown |
|                   | 6        | Newfoundland & Labrador | St. John's    | St. John's    |
| West Coast        | 7        | British Columbia        | Victoria      | Vancouver     |
| Prairie Provinces | 8        | Manitoba                | Winnipeg      | Winnipeg      |
|                   | 9        | Saskatchewan            | Regina        | Saskatoon     |
|                   | 10       | Alberta                 | Edmonton      | Calgary       |





# Studying in Canada

# Reasons to consider studying in Canada

- » Qualification values all over the world
- » Affordable education with possibility of paid internships while studying
- » Great placement and job opportunities
- » Healthy & safe environment with exposure to cultures of numerous countries and traditions
- » Possibility of permanent residency

# Education system

Education in Canada is generally funded, provided and managed by Provincial Government of Canada

There are 2 types of education institutions :

- » **Universities** – There are total of 98 universities with 4 within the top 100 global universities:
  - University of Toronto
  - McGill University
  - University of British Columbia
  - University of Alberta
- » Mainly universities offer Bachelors, Masters and PhD programs, Masters and PhD Programs are available at Universities only.
- » **Community Colleges** – There are 150 community colleges across the country with which offer UG Diplomas, Bachelors Degrees, University Transfer Programs and PG Diplomas.



# Degree categories

## DOCTORAL OR PHD

After masters, a minimum of 2-5 years of full-time study for a doctoral program is required.

## MASTERS

Masters degrees comprise of at least 2 years of full-time studies including a thesis (along essay based on original research), practicum (Co-op) or a research paper.

## PG DIPLOMA / GRADUATE CERTIFICATE

Generally are of 1 year duration and exceptionally of 2 years as well.

## UNDERGRADUATE

Bachelors degree consists of 4 years of full-time study.

## UG DIPLOMA (Post Secondary Diploma)

A UG Diploma generally comprises of 2 or 3 years of full time study.

2 year program is a Diploma and 3 year program is **an Advance Diploma.**

# Application

The season for admissions are mainly September and January, with limited seats in May as well.

## PNP–Provincial Nominee Program

- » Most Provinces and Territories in Canada have an agreement with the Canadian government that allows them to nominate immigrants who wish to settle in that province. PNP is an important fast-track option for Canadian Permanent Residency.
- » For e.g. if a student studies a course from any institution from Saskatchewan, then he can apply for PR after completion of the course under PNP if the province is participating at that point of time.
- » Ontario, Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Northwest Territories, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Saskatchewan and Yukon are the provinces which periodically participate in the PNP. It accelerates the Permanent Resident application process for skilled and/or experienced workers, experienced business persons and their family members who want to settle in these provinces permanently.
- » Parents can be sponsored to permanently reside in Canada. Besides a separate category of visa “Super Visa” is there for visiting parents and grandparents of permanent residents or citizens of Canada which is valid for up to 10 years and allows parents or grandparents to remain in Canada for up to 24 months at a time without the need for renewal of their status.

- » 12 years of full time school education.
- » Grades minimum 50 - 55% in Std. 12<sup>th</sup> for UG Diplomas.
- » Bachelors Degree requires above 60%, however high ranked universities requires 70% and above.
- » Specific subject requirements like Mathematics in Std.12<sup>th</sup> may also exist for some programs.

### Masters

- » Minimum 65% required in Bachelors where as most of the high ranked universities require 70% and above.
- » 16 years of full time education required for Masters in technical streams like engineering, pharmacy, computer science etc.
- » 15 years of full time education acceptable for MBA in some of the universities we represent.

### PG Diplomas

- » Minimum 50-55% in Bachelors.
- » 15 years of education accepted for all PG Diplomas in community colleges.
- » Specific subject requirements like Mathematics may also exist for some programs.

- » For **UG Diploma Programs**, **IELTS 6.0** with no band less than 6.0 is required for majority of the programs and some colleges do accept one band 5.5.
- » For **Bachelors Degree**, minimum score of **79 in TOEFL iBT\* or IELTS 6.5** with no band less than 6.0 is required.
- » For **PG Diploma Programs**, minimum score of **88 in TOEFL iBT\* or IELTS 6.5** with no band less than 6.0 is required.  
(Some universities may require higher scores)
- » For **Masters Programs**, minimum score of **88 in TOEFL iBT\* or IELTS 6.5** with no band less than 6.0 is required.  
(Some universities may require higher scores)
- » However by and large IELTS is compulsory for all the colleges.

\* Only accepted by Universities



# Work Permit for students

Students are eligible to work part time on or off campus from day one.

- » Study permits will automatically authorize the holder to work on/off-campus for up to 20 hours per week during the academic session and full-time (i.e. 40 hours per week) during scheduled breaks without the need to apply for a separate work permit.
- » The study permit holder should be pursuing academic, vocational or professional training of 6 months or more that leads to a degree, diploma or certificate at a Designated Learning Institution.

## Co-op & Internship Programs:

- » Many of the programs have in built internships of one or two semesters which provides an opportunity for the student to get first hand exposure and experience in Industry relating to his or her area of study.
- » Internships are for lesser time period i.e.15 days to 30 days and may or may not be paid.
- » Co-ops are for a semester or more and are mostly paid.

## Post study work visa

- » All international students who have graduated from a Canadian post-secondary institution are eligible for Post Study Work Visa to gain valuable Canadian work experience.
- » To be eligible for a Post Study Work Visa, international students
- » Should have **studied full-time for at least 8 months** preceding the completion of their program and have graduated from a Designated Learning Institution.
- » Must have completed and **passed the program of study** and received written notification that they are eligible to obtain their degree, diploma, or certificate.
- » **Must apply for a post study work permit within 90 days** of receiving written confirmation from their academic institution that they have met the requirements of their program.
- » Must have a valid study permit when applying for the post study work permit.
- » The Post Study Work Visa provides no restrictions on the type of employment and requirement of a job offer.
- » **1 year Study –1 year of Post Study Work Visa**
- » **2 years Study –upto 3 years of Post Study Work Visa**

# Study Direct Stream- SDS

- » Canada has launched the Study Direct Stream (SDS) program on 7th June 2018 which streamlines the process for Indian students to study at Universities and Colleges in Canada.

## SDS Program Requirements:

- » Students applying for a program under SDS must meet the following eligibility criteria:
- » Admission to a full-time program at a University, College, Institute or CEGEP which is a Designated Learning Institution.
- » An IELTS score of 6 overall with a minimum band of 6 for each ability (Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking) as well, taken within past two years.
- » Purchase of a special Guaranteed Investment Certificate (GIC) of CAD\$10,000 to cover living expenses for the first year of stay in Canada.
- » Proof of payment of the tuition fee for one (1) year.
- » Upfront medical examination at least one week before submission of the visa application.

## Study Direct Stream- SDS

- » **Major advantages of applying under SDS:**
- » Streamlined visa process for all SDS eligible institutions.
- » Minimal financial documentation.
- » Faster visa processing time.
  
- » **\*Students not meeting the requirements of SDS can file their visa under General Category.**
- » **Processing time for General category visas will be 6-8 weeks.**