

Canada - Northwest Territories

STRUCTURE OF HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM

Description:

The Department of Education, Culture and Employment is responsible for postsecondary education in the Northwest Territories. It does not have its own university, though the Department contributes financially to students from the Territory pursuing university studies elsewhere in Canada. Aurora College provides postsecondary education and offers academic (including university transfer courses), business, trades (pre-employment and apprenticeship), career development, technical and vocational training programmes usually leading to a Certificate or Diploma. The College can grant degrees but has not to date. It has full autonomy on admissions and all other academic matters. The Boards of Governors are appointed by the Department of Education, Culture and Employment.

Stages of studies:

University level first stage:

Many of the courses in the College Diploma programmes are eligible for transfer credit with universities and professional associations across Canada. The College also offers selected university credit courses through its campuses. Aurora College offers a Bachelor in Science of Nursing in partnership with the University of Victoria. In addition, it offers a Licensed Practical Nurse programme that prepares students for the Canadian Practical Nurse Registration Examinations and a Community Health Representative programme.

Distance higher education:

The colleges are offering courses about technology-based education to prepare teachers as digital communications technology is introduced across the NWT. They are also offering a variety of courses through technology-based distance education, including courses in the Certificate in Adult Education Programme.

ADMISSION TO HIGHER EDUCATION

Admission to non university higher education studies:

Alternatives to credentials: No entry requirements are set for students enrolled in adult basic education. (ABE) and pre-trades programmes (generally from Grade 10 to 12). Equivalent credentials for Diploma programmes including completion of college ABE Program or GED.

Foreign students admission:

Definition of foreign student: Foreign (International) Students are students who are neither Canadian citizens nor permanent residents of Canada and are enrolled full-time in a recognized academic, professional or vocational training course at a university, college or other educational institution in Canada.

Admission requirements: Generally, as for domestic students, a high school diploma or equivalent will be required. A lack of proficiency in English or French will be taken into account by the Canadian Immigration Office in the evaluation of the application.

Entry regulations: Before you come to study in Canada, you will need: a "Study Permit" if the programme of study you will be admitted to is longer than six months in duration, regardless of the length of your stay in Canada; a letter of acceptance from the school of your choice; proof that you have enough money to pay school fees and living expenses; to establish that you will return home at the end of your studies; to pass a medical exam if required; and to qualify as a temporary resident in Canada, including holding a temporary resident visa (required for citizens of many countries). A small number of students do not require a Study Permit by virtue of their status in Canada (e.g. diplomats and their children).

Health requirements: Most education institutions require international students to buy health insurance in addition to their tuition fees; those that do not will require proof of independent health insurance coverage.

Medical examinations are not required by institutions but are required by Citizenship and Immigration Canada for students from many countries.

RECOGNITION OF STUDIES

Special provisions for recognition:

Recognition for non-university level studies: In general, there are no additional requirements for international students besides the entry requirements published in the college calendars.

PROVINCIAL BODIES

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Role of national body: To coordinate the development and delivery of career programmes and services for adult education and training and postsecondary education.

Data for academic year: 2005-2006

Source: IAU from Canadian Information Centre for International Credentials (CICIC), Council of Ministers of Education of Canada (CMEC), 2006 (Bodies, 2008)