



Alberta Advanced Education

Bridging global opportunities and inspiring students to shape a vibrant future.



Welcome to Alberta

Alberta offers one of the most exciting educational destinations in the world. People from around the world are drawn by the centres of excellence and innovative research institutes that define our academic landscape. Coupled with advanced technological capabilities, including the sectors in agriculture, energy and clean technology, aerospace and aviation, FinTech, life sciences, and infrastructure development, these elements contribute to a dynamic economy, fortifying Alberta's strength and resilience in an evolving global context.

Located in Western Canada, Alberta is celebrated for its natural beauty and pioneering spirit. Blessed with picturesque mountains, pristine freshwater lakes, and vast prairies, our province offers an ideal environment for success. These natural assets not only enrich our research and educational endeavours but also provide a playground for exploration and innovation.

Our communities are the heart of Alberta's spirit—safe, welcoming, and united by a deep sense of belonging. Supported by an excellent healthcare system and a vibrant, multicultural populace, Alberta is a place where everyone can feel at home. Beyond academics, the province thrives with opportunities for arts, culture, sports, recreation, shopping, and dining, enhancing the quality of life for all residents.

Make Alberta your place for study, work, and play. Known for its flourishing economy and abundance of opportunities, Alberta inspires success and promises a future where both personal and professional aspirations can be realized. Embrace a life full of potential in Alberta, where education and lifestyle blend to create an unmatched experience.

Affordability

Enjoy more “bang for your buck” in Alberta, where tuition fees are notably lower than in the United States. Your dollar stretches further here, offering more value in comparison to similar expenses in the United States. Despite a high standard of living, Alberta remains one of the most cost-effective places to live in North America, boasting the lowest personal tax rate in Canada and being the only province without a provincial sales tax.

A Magnet for Talent and Innovation

Alberta is a powerhouse of talent and innovation, drawing some of the brightest minds from across the globe. The province’s cutting-edge research facilities, abundant employment opportunities, and proactive commercialization initiatives make it an attractive destination for innovative thinkers and leaders.

Work and Immigration Opportunities

Alberta provides extensive work and immigration opportunities, enabling students to acquire valuable work experience during their studies and offering clear pathways to citizenship following graduation. These opportunities are structured to support career development and integration into the Canadian landscape, positioning Alberta as an ideal location for education and long-term settlement.

Guaranteed Quality Programming

In Alberta, every academic program adheres to the most rigorous international standards for quality. Educational institutions accepting international students undergo strict oversight and are held to stringent quality requirements. This commitment ensures that each student receives a top-tier educational experience, distinguished by excellence and global recognition.

Life Changing & Life Saving Research

Home to some of the world’s most pivotal discoveries, Alberta’s research institutions have a storied history of life-changing and life-saving innovations. These contributions underscore the province’s role as a leader in global research and development.



In Alberta, English is taught with a “neutral accent,”

which is commonly understood and recognized across North America. Alberta’s English borrows elements from both British and American conventions in spelling, vocabulary, and grammar, offering a unique blend that is both versatile and globally comprehensible. This linguistic adaptability makes Alberta an excellent environment for international students to develop English language skills.





Alberta provides a good opportunity to develop your skills. There is

this mix of industries and schools that is really helpful. You get a lot of

experience while you study.

Daniel, A Mexican student's experience studying Technology Management in Alberta

Post-Secondary Education in Alberta

Alberta's higher education system is internationally recognized for its exceptional universities, colleges, technical institutes, and innovative research facilities. This robust system includes a diverse array of institutions, each contributing uniquely to the fabric of education in the province.

Alberta's higher education institutions offer a wide variety of programs that vary in length and credential type, each designed to build distinct sets of skills. Choosing the right program can be a thoughtful process, given the extensive range of options available across various universities and colleges throughout the province.

Our institutions continue to see growing demand, attributed to their affordability and the extensive range of BHASE and STEM programs available. This diversity allows international students to select credentials and programs that align with their timelines and career pathways, facilitating a smoother transition from education to professional environments.

To learn more about Alberta and explore our post-secondary institutions, visit <https://study.alberta.ca/>

Universities

Alberta's universities are at the forefront of higher education, offering extensive learning and research opportunities up to the post-doctoral level. These institutions provide **undergraduate and graduate degree programs** designed to prepare individuals for theoretically oriented professions in fields such as business, law, and medicine.

Polytechnics

Alberta's technical institutes are pivotal in providing career-oriented and technical programming. These institutes offer a range of qualifications including certificates, diplomas, applied degrees, apprenticeship programs, and continuing education opportunities, catering to a wide variety of professional and technical career paths.

Public Colleges

Alberta's public colleges offer preparatory, career, and academic programming. They provide certificates, diplomas, apprenticeship programs, applied degrees, and opportunities for undergraduate degree completion through partnerships with public universities. This broad spectrum of programs helps students build specific skill sets tailored to their career goals.

Alberta University of the Arts

 University  Calgary

Alberta's only dedicated art, craft, and design university, fostering creative innovation and expression.

<https://www.auarts.ca/>

Ambrose University

 University  Calgary

A community of transformative Christian higher education with a vision for the welfare of Calgary and the world.

<https://ambrose.edu/>

Athabasca University

 University  Athabasca

Canada's Open University, offering online courses and distance programs across a range of arts, science, and professional disciplines.

<http://www.athabascau.ca/>

Bow Valley College

 College  Calgary

Delivers innovative certificate and diploma programs that cultivate new and creative ways of thinking for fulfilling employment.

<http://bowvalleycollege.ca/>

Burman University

 University  Lacombe

Integrates arts, science, business, and education degree programs with opportunities for spiritual growth in a Christian community.

<https://www.burmanu.ca/>

Concordia University of Edmonton

 University  Edmonton

Offers a strong sense of community and a big heart through its arts, science, and management programs.

<https://concordia.ab.ca/>

Keyano College

 College  Fort McMurray

Prides itself on supporting students in their pursuit of excellence in academics, athletics, and community leadership.

<http://www.keyano.ca/>

Lakeland College

 College  Lloydminster

Provides unique educational experiences, offering personal attention that might not be found in larger centres.

<http://www.lakelandcollege.ca/>

Lethbridge College

 College  Lethbridge

Offers certificates, diplomas, and applied degrees supporting the needs of industry, agriculture, business, and health.

<http://www.lethbridgecollege.ca/>

MacEwan University

 University  Edmonton

Creativity thrives through research and innovation that engages students and the community in an international, cross-cultural environment.

<http://www.macewan.ca/>

Medicine Hat College

 College  Medicine Hat

Provides diploma, certificate, and university transfer programs, serving students since 1965 in Canada's sunniest city.

<https://www.mhc.ab.ca/>

Mount Royal University

 University  Calgary

Known for smaller class sizes, caring professors, a student-first community, and a tradition of innovative undergraduate programs.

<http://www.mtroyal.ca/>

NorQuest College

 College  Edmonton

Inclusive and diverse, giving students the skills and confidence to further their studies, begin new careers, and improve their lives.

<https://www.norquest.ca/>

Northern Alberta Institute of Technology

 Polytechnic  Edmonton

Strives to be the most responsive to evolving needs of industry, creating opportunities through practical knowledge and skills.

<http://www.nait.ca/>

Northern Lakes College

 College  Grouard

Committed to innovative training and a diverse range of partnerships, delivering relevant, high-quality learning opportunities.

<https://www.northernlakescollege.ca/>

Northwestern Polytechnic

 Polytechnic  Grande Prairie

Offers programs in areas ranging from Liberal Arts to Environmental Sciences, providing comprehensive education and technical training.

<https://www.nwpolytech.ca/>

Olds College

 College  Olds

Emphasizes hands-on training, applied research, and innovative learning, resulting in graduates who are in-demand and well-prepared.

<https://www.oldscollege.ca/>

Portage College

 College  Lac La Biche

A public board-governed college that has been serving the region for more than 50 years, boasting strategic campus locations.

<http://www.portagecollege.ca/>

Red Deer Polytechnic

 Polytechnic  Red Deer

Delivers a practical education through expert instructors in exceptional spaces that prepare students for successful life and career.

<https://rdpolytech.ca/>

Southern Alberta Institute of Technology

 Polytechnic  Calgary

Built on passion shared by students, faculty, and staff, shaping new worlds as entrepreneurs, leaders, and community builders.

<http://www.sait.ca/>

St. Mary's University

 University  Calgary

Inspiring students to combine academics with a passionate commitment to ethics, social justice, and respect for diversity.

<http://www.stmu.ca/>

The Banff Centre

 Arts Centre  Banff

Advances creativity and knowledge through arts and culture with programs, residencies, workshops, and practicum programs.

<https://www.banffcentre.ca/>

The King's University

 University  Edmonton

Offers fully accredited bachelor degrees in the arts, humanities, music, social sciences, natural sciences, and commerce/management.

<https://www.kingsu.ca/>

University of Alberta

 University  Edmonton

Among Canada's top five universities, offering programs across 18 faculties, including a Francophone campus.

<https://ualberta.ca/>

University of Calgary

 University  Calgary

A research-intensive university among the world's next generation of elite institutions, offering more than 200 professional degree programs.

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/>

University of Lethbridge

 University  Lethbridge

Fostering an environment that meets educational and personal needs through excellent teaching, exposure to research, and student support.

<http://www.uleth.ca/>

Grouard

The county features the largest road-accessible lake in Alberta, providing abundant year-round outdoor recreation. The local economy thrives on the province's energy sector and other resource-based industries including forestry, agriculture, and coal.

- Northern Lakes College

Grande Prairie

Considered the hub of the Peace region, Grande Prairie is a vibrant community with a median age of 30 years, making it the youngest community in Canada. The city offers urban recreation opportunities from shopping and entertainment to world-class recreation facilities, alongside endless opportunities for year-round adventure in a diverse landscape.

- Northwestern Polytechnic

Athabasca

Athabasca boasts more than 750 campgrounds, ample golfing, and fishing opportunities, making it a prime spot for those seeking a blend of urban and outdoor living experiences. The town is known for its vibrant community and welcoming atmosphere.

- Athabasca University

Edmonton

Edmonton, Alberta's capital city, offers a high standard of education and a dynamic quality of life, underscored by entrepreneurial and collaborative community values. The city features a beautiful river valley with 150 km of multi-use trails, more urban parkland than anywhere else in North America.

- Concordia University of Edmonton, ● MacEwan University, ● NorQuest College, ● Northern Alberta Institute of Technology, ● The King's University, ● University of Alberta

Lacombe

Lacombe County is a balanced, prosperous, and progressive community known for its variety of natural and recreational attractions including lakes, beaches, rivers, farms, parks, ski resorts, and golf courses, attracting visitors year-round.

- Burman University

Olds

Olds is a healthy, active, and safe place to raise a family, known for its global focus and a community that prides itself on being welcoming. The town offers diversity training for employers and workshops sharing important life skills, like dressing for winter.

- Olds College

Banff

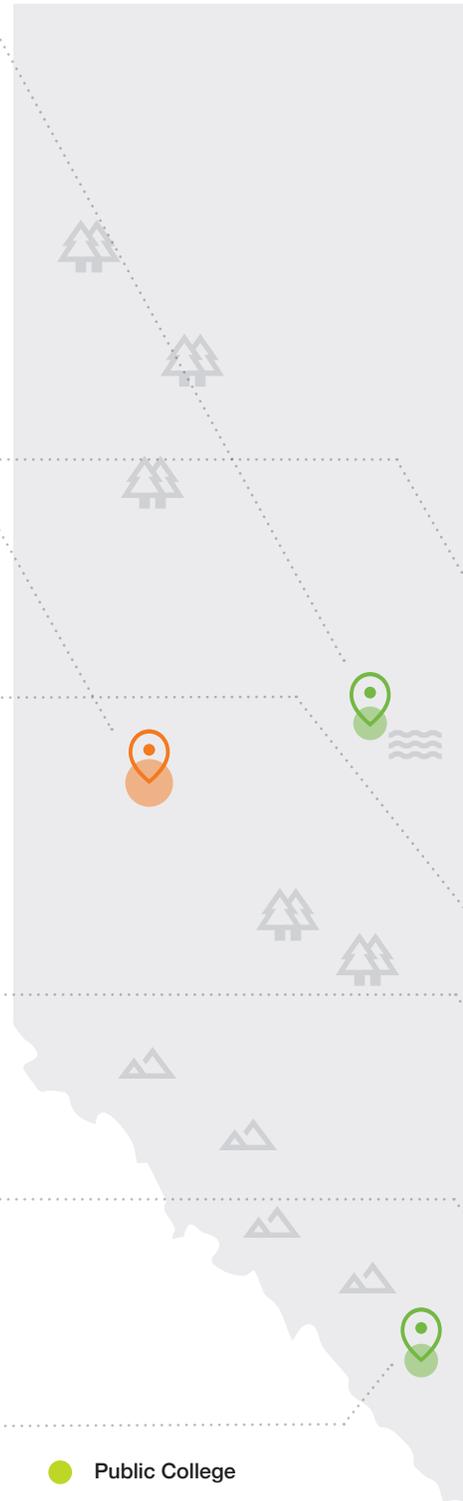
Banff, a resort town, offers a perfect setting for a vibrant community of artists, athletes, families, and outdoor enthusiasts, drawn to a place that celebrates its heritage and lives and breathes mountain culture.

- The Banff Centre

Lethbridge

Lethbridge enjoys more than 320 days of sunshine each year, which residents can enjoy in more than 70 parks, 140 km of walking and running trails, and numerous playgrounds and sports fields throughout the city.

- Lethbridge College, ● University of Lethbridge



- Public College
- Polytechnic
- University



Fort McMurray

At the junction of four rivers and surrounded by boreal forest, Fort McMurray boasts more than 130 km of maintained trails, the Athabasca and Clearwater rivers, sand dunes, and excellent opportunities for skating, skiing, and golfing. It's also renowned as one of the best places on earth to experience the northern lights.

- Keyano College

Slave Lake

Characterized as "The Jewel of the North," Slave Lake is a progressive, dynamic community located near Alberta's 6th largest Provincial Park, Canada's northernmost bird observatory, Alberta's easternmost foothills, and the most beautiful stretch of white sand beaches in the province.

- Northern Lakes College

Lac La Biche

Residents of Lac La Biche celebrate cultural diversity through various activities and festivals throughout the year, blending the old and new. The region offers clean air, unobstructed views, and a welcoming community atmosphere.

- Portage College

Vermilion

Nestled next to a stunning provincial park, Vermilion offers 23 km of hiking trails in the summer and cross-country skiing routes in the winter, making it a hub for outdoor enthusiasts.

- Lakeland College

Lloydminster

Canada's only "border city" with the Alberta/Saskatchewan border running through its centre, Lloydminster combines a short commute time with great dining options, dancing, live music, and theatre, providing an ideal mix of small-town feel and urban amenities.

- Lakeland College

Red Deer

Alberta's third-largest city, Red Deer teems with nature, culture, and outdoor adventure, featuring more than 100 km of trails connecting park users to beautiful green areas and local attractions. The city is easy to navigate and offers many amenities typical of larger Canadian cities.

- Red Deer Polytechnic

Calgary

Calgary, next door to the Canadian Rockies, provides a world-class urban experience with easy access to mountain adventures. The city boasts a variety of world-class cuisine and entertainment options, ideal for balancing study and leisure.

- Alberta University of the Arts, ● Ambrose University,
- Bow Valley College, ● Mount Royal University,
- Southern Alberta Institute of Technology,
- St. Mary's University, ● University of Calgary

Medicine Hat

Medicine Hat, the sunniest city in Canada, features a unique landscape of valley and waterways, rich in local history and attractions, including a 20-storey teepee and the world-famous Dinosaur Provincial Park.

- Medicine Hat College



Study Abroad

We're dedicated to cultivating global talent through our dynamic international education programs. We recognize the immense value of global exposure, and the impact of international learning experiences. Our Study Abroad initiatives enhance accessibility and also ease the financial load for students eager to explore study abroad international opportunities with us.

Students dive into diverse cultures and gain invaluable global insights through study and work abroad programs offered by many of Alberta's universities, colleges, and polytechnic institutions. These programs are designed to arm students with essential international skills and competencies, preparing them to excel in the global marketplace.

Showcasing Global Opportunities

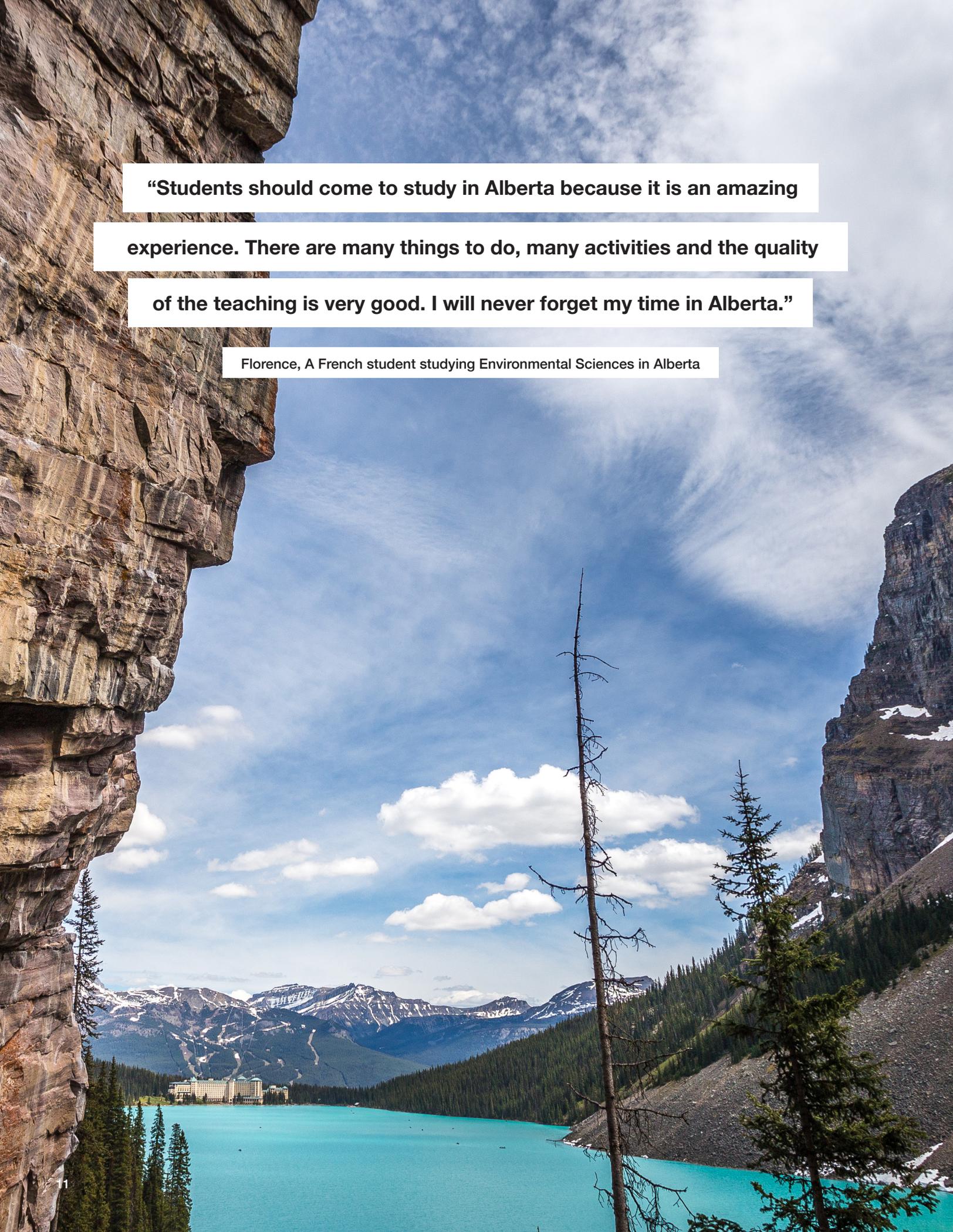
Alberta passionately promotes the rich array of international learning opportunities available both at home and abroad. We're here to spark curiosity and drive participation, transforming how students see and engage with the world.

Cultivating Partnerships

We champion collaboration among educational institutions to broaden the reach of study abroad programs. This collective effort not only amplifies the impact of existing programs but also opens doors to new, enriching international experiences for all students.

Strategic Global Engagement

Alberta strategically harnesses international learning to bolster provincial initiatives in research, economic growth, and diplomatic relations. These efforts not only enrich students' educational journeys but also position them to make impactful contributions on a global stage.



“Students should come to study in Alberta because it is an amazing experience. There are many things to do, many activities and the quality of the teaching is very good. I will never forget my time in Alberta.”

Florence, A French student studying Environmental Sciences in Alberta

Work-Integrated Learning

In Alberta, students unlock the potential of real-world experience with Alberta Advanced Education's Work-Integrated Learning initiative. We've set an ambitious goal as part of our Alberta 2030: Building Skills for Jobs strategy — to become the first province in Canada where every undergraduate student has access to Work-Integrated Learning opportunities. This bold vision positions Alberta at the forefront of blending academic expertise with practical workplace experience.

At the heart of our efforts is a strong commitment to fostering deep connections between post-secondary institutions and leading industry players. By investing in programs that enhance these partnerships, we ensure that students not only access but actively participate in Work-Integrated-Learning experiences. These opportunities are tailored to equip learners with the critical skills demanded by today's employers and vital to the industries they will enter.

Building Bridges with Industry

Alberta is committed to strengthening the ties between educational institutions and industries. Nurturing robust partnerships, we facilitate a seamless transition of students from classrooms to real-world applications — ensuring they are job-ready and industry-relevant.

Expanding Access and Participation

We are dedicated to making work-integrated learning accessible to every undergraduate student. This expansion allows students to immerse themselves in professional environments, gaining hands-on experience that is invaluable in today's competitive job market.

Skill Development for Tomorrow's Needs

With a keen eye on the evolving market demands, our programs are designed to arm students with the skills necessary to excel. From critical thinking and problem-solving to leadership and technical skills, we prepare students to meet and exceed employer needs.

“Unlock the potential of real-world experience as Alberta aims to become the **first province in Canada where every undergraduate student has access to work-integrated learning opportunities.**”

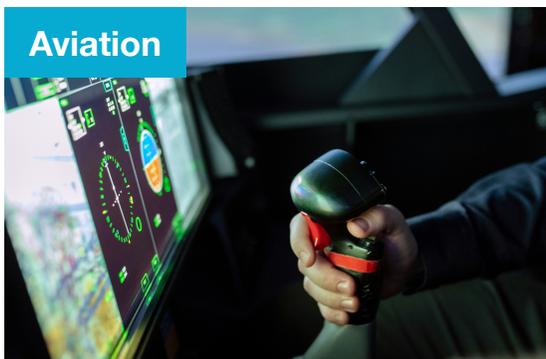
Priority Sectors in Alberta

Alberta is a dynamic hub of industry and innovation, leading the way in several key sectors that drive both the provincial and national economy. From agriculture and aviation to energy and tech, Alberta is a launchpad for educational and professional opportunities in a diversity of industries. These sectors also represent

areas where we are making significant strides, ensuring that Alberta remains at the cutting edge of global trends and market needs. By investing in these priority sectors, Alberta drives innovation, sustainability, and economic diversification, preparing a workforce equipped to handle the challenges of tomorrow.



Alberta's rich agricultural heritage continues to thrive with **advancements in agritech and sustainable farming practices**, making it a leader in the agri-food sector.



With a robust aviation sector, Alberta is soaring to new heights in **aerospace development and aviation training**, providing vast opportunities for technological and operational innovation.



At the forefront of the energy transition, Alberta is shaping the future with investments in both **traditional energy resources and renewable energy technologies**, fostering a sustainable environment.

Financial Services



Alberta's financial sector is a cornerstone of stability and innovation, offering **advanced services that underpin economic growth and support fiscal management** across industries.

Life Sciences



In the life sciences sector, Alberta is pioneering significant **advancements in health technologies and biomedical research**, improving health outcomes and enhancing quality of life.

Petrochemicals



Alberta is a powerhouse in the petrochemical industry, **driving developments in chemical manufacturing and refining** that contribute to global supply chains.

Tech & Innovation



Alberta's vibrant tech scene is booming, with a focus on **digital transformation, AI, and machine learning**, positioning the province as a leader in technological advancement.

Opportunities for International Collaboration

Alberta's commitment to fostering international relations is about creating a global network that enriches both our province's academic programs and the international partners we engage with. We provide a variety of opportunities for collaboration that extend

across various domains of education and research, fostering mutual growth and innovation. Each of these collaborative efforts is a step towards making a more dynamic and interconnected global academic community.

Student Exchanges

Alberta's post-secondary institutions offer extensive exchange programs that allow students to immerse themselves in different cultures and academic environments around the world. These exchanges enrich the educational experience by providing diverse perspectives and expertise.

Research Partnerships

We actively encourage and support partnerships between our institutions and international bodies to drive forward joint research initiatives. These collaborations help in tackling global challenges and advancing scientific and technological frontiers.

Joint Programs

Alberta embraces joint academic programs with international universities, allowing students to earn dual qualifications and benefit from the expertise of two distinct educational environments. These programs are designed to enhance the students' academic and professional profiles on a global scale.

Research and Innovation in Alberta

Alberta's provincial government is proud of its first-rate research and innovation landscape. One of the priorities of the Ministry of Advanced Education is to enhance innovation and commercialization. This effort aims to create new knowledge, develop future skills, and diversify the economy. The Ministries of Advanced Education and Jobs, Economy and Innovation (recently renamed Technology and Innovation) brought together key stakeholders in the innovation ecosystem from academia, industry and government to help shape strategic directions for Alberta's post-secondary innovation landscape. The resulting report from this group of stakeholders outlined four key research priority areas to leverage Alberta's economic strengths and research expertise:

- Health Sciences and Life Technologies
- Smart Agriculture
- Sustainable Energy, and
- Emerging and Enabling Technologies

Supporting these research priority areas through well-crafted policies has the intent of positioning Alberta as a strategic national and international leader in post-secondary research.

Alberta's research does not occur in an academic bubble; we have numerous exciting research and innovation networks operating with the goal of connecting academia and industry to help better develop new technologies, processes, and products that will better serve the needs of Albertans. A prime example is Quantum City, hosted by the University of Calgary, which seeks to build an ecosystem for quantum science and technology by bringing together

researchers and developers, industry, and adopters of quantum technology and services. Quantum City was formed through a strategic partnership with the Government of Alberta and Mphasis, and its mandate is to establish quantum-focused fabrication infrastructure, new talent development programs, and adoption pathways to support the development of a vibrant economic and scientific hub in Alberta.

Alberta is also home to many venture mentorship programs, research innovation support networks, business support organizations, and industry partners such as amii (Alberta Machine Intelligence Institute). With support on all levels, from government to post-secondary institutions, to the business community, Alberta is a great place to turn your next idea into impact.



“I truly believe that Alberta is one of the best places to build a deeptech startup

because of the uniquely supportive granting environment, untapped talent pool for scientists, and amazing grassroots startup ecosystem.”

– Matt, CEO of Future Fields



Alberta is a destination of choice for many students

looking for a high-quality education in a beautiful part of the world.

Life in Alberta

Alberta isn't just a place to study; it's a destination brimming with opportunities and a vibrant lifestyle that enhances the educational experience. The province is home to a diverse array of post-secondary institutions, offering everything from practical diploma courses to extensive doctoral research, ensuring that every student can find their perfect academic path. These opportunities seamlessly translate into promising career paths, making education in Alberta both fulfilling and practical.

Living in Alberta means enjoying a high-quality lifestyle that balances affordability with rich experiences. Whether it's managing everyday expenses or indulging in recreational activities, Alberta offers an exceptional setting where personal growth and academic pursuits go hand in hand. The province is celebrated for its value-driven approach to living, ensuring that every dollar stretches further, enriching your life with memorable experiences.

Affordability

Alberta's cost of living is notably low, enabling students to extend their budgets further than in many other regions. The province stands out for its economic advantages, such as no provincial sales tax (PST), minimal payroll taxes, and competitive housing prices, which together contribute to a lower overall cost of living and a higher disposable income.

Careers

Alberta's educational framework is designed not just for academic achievement but for robust career preparation. The province excels in seamlessly converting academic learning into substantial career opportunities across a spectrum of industries. With high average wages, plentiful job opportunities, and a young workforce, Alberta provides a strong foundation for both new graduates and seasoned professionals to thrive.

Lifestyle

Alberta offers vibrant city life with ready access to nature's playground, boasting 91 provincial parks and plenty of outdoor activities. Summers are filled with water sports such as paddleboarding and kayaking, while winters offer world-class skiing in the Canadian Rockies, ensuring year-round enjoyment and a balanced lifestyle.

Where personal
growth and
academic pursuits
go hand in hand.

Open Doors to Global Possibilities

Fostering a vibrant future for our students and the world they will help shape.

Alberta Ministry of Advanced Education

✉ International.Ed@gov.ab.ca

🌐 <https://study.alberta.ca>

Alberta 
Canada 