

Top 10 Reasons to Choose Ontario's Colleges

1. Innovative and Groundbreaking Programs

Ontario's colleges are leaders in technology and workforce development, preparing students for success in not only the cutting-edge careers of today, but also those of tomorrow. Over 480 industry partners advise on curriculum, programs and courses that are continuously evolving to ensure students receive the most up-to-date training.

There are over 300 courses offering innovation and entrepreneurial components, students are reaping the benefits of participating in groundbreaking research and innovation projects!

2. Explorer-Friendly

Not sure what you want to do for the rest of your life? That's why Ontario's colleges offer programs specifically for explorers, helping you earn valuable credits while you figure out what your future holds.

Exploratory options can be broad, exposing you to a variety of areas of study in a single program. Or, they can focus on one specific area of study, giving you a foundation to build on when you move into a more specialized program. An explorer program will build your confidence and help you make informed decisions about your education and future.

3. Something for Everyone

5,000-plus programs across 200-plus areas of study! Whether you're business-minded or creative, good with numbers or good with your hands, like working with people or like working with technology, there's a college program that will help you turn the things you're good at into a successful career.

Not sure where your interests lie? Explore college programs using our program search engine.

40% of all new jobs created within the next decade will be in skilled trades and technology.

Source: Skills Canada



4. Choose Your Own Adventure

One-year certificate programs that help you build skills and get working faster.

Two & three-year diploma programs that prepare you for the career you've dreamed about.

Graduate certificate programs that build on the education you already have. Over 200 degree programs that give you credentials and valuable practical experience!

More than 800,000 transfer opportunities that recognize your existing credits – that can mean anywhere.

85% of recent college graduates found employment within six months of graduation.

Source: Colleges Ontario

5. It's Never Too Late

Difficulties finding time with job commitments, family at home, bills to pay and other responsibilities? They're full of individuals of different ages and phases in their lives, from workers looking to upgrade job skills, young parents and empty-nesters looking to re-enter the workforce, adults training for new careers and so many more.

6. Real-World Experience Prior to Graduation

College programs are famous for their unique blend of academic learning and practical skills training. Led by instructors with professional experience, you'll benefit from hands-on training and real-world projects right in the classroom, while co-op and work study options give you the chance to gain valuable experience in your chosen career before it's begun.

You'll also benefit from industry partnerships and professional relationships that will help you land co-op, internship and work placement opportunities but can also lead to jobs after graduation!

7. No Stereotypes, Just Acceptance and Support

There is no typical college student – and if you don't believe us, take a look at these numbers:

- 73% of college applicants don't come directly from high school.
- 6% of students have a university degree.
- 15% of students use special needs / disability services.
- 33% of students have parents who did not have postsecondary education.
- Over 38,000 college students are 25 years or older.
- More than 55,000 international students are studying at Ontario's colleges.
- More than 3,800 applicants indicate having Aboriginal ancestry.



With such a diverse student body, Ontario college campuses are dedicated to creating programs and environments that support every student throughout their college experience. For example;

- Academic and career counselling
- Mental health and wellness service
- Disability services
- Day care programs
- International student advising
- Aboriginal resources
- LGBTQ communities
- And much more!

The number of university grads enrolled in colleges has increased by more than 40% over five years.

Source: Globe & Mail

8. Classrooms that Connect

SMALL classes with sizes that average around 30 rather than 130 (or more) at universities! Your classes will offer you more face time with teachers and be full of spontaneity and energy, with instructors who challenge you to engage openly, ask questions, share ideas and work hands-on to get more out of each class than you ever thought possible

College instructors will have real-world experience to draw from and will be up to date with current trends and technologies. They keep classes connected with the world because many still actively work in the area they're teaching.

9. Locations That Work For You

Can't wait to ditch your hometown and start fresh somewhere new or do you want to stay close to home with family and friends? Ontario's colleges can accommodate whatever your preference is because there are over 100 campuses in small towns and big cities all over Ontario.

10. Graduate With Less Debt (Need We Say More?)

Worried about graduating with a mountain of debt? Ontario college programs have significantly lower tuition costs than other postsecondary options, without sacrificing on the quality of the education you receive. They also help get you into the workforce faster, so you can be earning money rather than spending it.

In addition to lower tuition fees, there are also thousands of dollars available to Ontario students each year through scholarships, bursaries and grants, which can help lessen the financial burden even further