

## Getting help – Student services and programs

Canadian universities are much more than academic institutions. They also provide support and opportunities for their students through a wide range of services and resources. University life extends beyond the lecture hall or lab to include student exchanges, first-year student support programs, academic advising and campus services. Students also have access to career and personal counsellors and assistance with medical concerns or housing issues. Many universities also have services for students with specific needs, such as single parents, or those with physical, sensory or learning disabilities.

### **A CANADIAN UNIVERSITY DEGREE IS HIGH QUALITY**

The provinces and territories are responsible for all levels of education in Canada, including universities. There's no federal ministry of education or formal national accreditation system. Instead, membership in the AUCC, coupled with the university's provincial government charter, is considered the equivalent. Canadian universities are largely publicly funded and of high quality. Canadian degrees are globally recognized and considered equivalent to those from the US, UK and other universities. Graduate programs have systematic periodic quality reviews, and professional programs such as law, nursing, medicine and engineering have rigorous accreditation procedures. In short, a Canadian degree is of high quality and can provide you with the qualifications that open doors for your future... imagine the possibilities.

### **UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES – FLEXIBILITY AND CHOICE**

Canada offers a wealth of higher education options and life-enriching opportunities. For example, you can study at a large, research-intensive campus with over 50,000 students in an urban centre, or you can enrol at a small liberal arts institution with just a few hundred students in a rural setting. Some universities specialize in certain areas such as business, engineering or arts, while others offer a full range of undergraduate, graduate and professional programs. Canada's institutions are diverse and can meet the varying needs of each student... you are sure to find the best place for you to succeed.

### **GRADUATE STUDIES – GET CONNECTED TO CANADA'S RESEARCH**

Canada is home to world famous and life-changing discoveries like insulin, the electron microscope, the pacemaker, and the Canada Arm used in space exploration. A combination of cutting edge labs, facilities and people make Canada a world leader in research and development. Over one-third of Canada's research capacity is found in our universities – a far higher proportion than most other countries.

Canadian universities have earned an international reputation for excellence, and play a significant role in regional clusters of research across the country that have helped Canada gain momentum in the highly competitive R&D sector. Canada's research clusters focus on a number of areas, such as life sciences, information technology, advanced manufacturing and environmental studies, to name a few. Universities conduct both independent and sponsored research in collaboration with government, business, local communities as well as international partners.