



CANTEACH – Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Why do Teachers College abroad?

- 1-year Teachers College programs valid in Ontario (ON)/Canada rather than 2-year Teachers College programs in Ontario. All CANTEACH students will obtain their full certification in ON upon completion of their 1-year program abroad.
- 277 students have been certified in ON after completing a 1-year Teachers College program abroad “After” ON changed to a 2-year program in 2015 (as of March 2019).
- By completing Teachers College abroad students save 1-year of their lives where they can work & gain teaching experience. 1-year abroad also allows you to spend less money than 2-years in ON.
- Studying abroad has immense experiences to offer: travel, culture, new curriculum, and world-class teacher training programs.

What is the role of CANTEACH?

- Mike Johnson, Director of CANTEACH has been taking care of Canadian students abroad for 19 years.
- Mike is familiar with every step of the process and assists students throughout the entire experience, including: applying, attaining a student visa, accepting your offer, assisting with student loans, accommodation options, **Certification back in Ontario** (#1 question to be answered).
- As an international student, working with CANTEACH allows for a smooth process during each step of getting all in place for your year abroad.
- CANTEACH (along with the Universities) will get you there and get you certified back in Canada.

What are the entrance requirements?

- In order to attend Teachers Colleges abroad, students need a minimum 3-year degree.
- Acceptance is based on 4 criteria: interview (via skype/zoom), references, grades (~70% or better) and working/volunteer experience with children and adolescents.
- High school/Secondary teachers require two teachables. Students typically need to have completed a minimum of 8 University courses in their 1st teachable (ie. English) and 4 University courses in their 2nd teachable (ie. French) for New Zealand. Approx. 1/3 of your degree in your 1st teachable for the UK. Primary Program applicants have no teachable requirements.

What are these programs called?

- University of Canterbury, New Zealand: Graduate Diploma in Teaching and Learning (Grad Dip)
- University of the West of Scotland, Scotland: Post Graduate Diploma in Education (PGDE)
- Cardiff Metropolitan University, Wales: Post Graduate Certification in Education (PGCE)
- These programs sit between a Bachelor’s and a Master’s degree as they are a 5th year level of study. When returning to Canada, students with an honours degree start at the A3 level on the Ontario pay scale, which is a higher level than those graduating from the BEd in Ontario.

How do I get started and find out more information?

- There are many resources to find useful information, including the website www.canteach.net, reviewing the CANTEACH brochure, these CANTEACH FAQs, University brochures/websites, Presentations in ON and/or contacting Mike Johnson (mike@canteach.net) for any questions.
- The CANTEACH website has an “Inquire” button, where students can send Mike a message with your basic contact information be in contact with you/arrange a time for a phone call.
- CANTEACH encourages all prospective students to attend information session/pre-departure meetings to find out further information and meet the representatives from both CANTEACH and the Universities. These next Information Sessions in Toronto are going to be held March 24th and October 27th, 2019.

Costs and Student Budget: 1-year Teachers College abroad

Tuition costs

University of Canterbury, New Zealand – **Primary/Secondary:** \$25,500/24,500 NZD (\$22,900/22,000 CDN)

University of the West of Scotland – **Primary & Secondary:** £9,100 (\$17,300 CAD)

Cardiff Metropolitan University, Wales – **Primary & Secondary:** £10,000 (\$17,100 CAD)

**The tuition payment abroad is tax deductible in that students get a tax deduction for the tuition amount paid abroad in their Canadian tax filing via the TL11a form filled out by the University they attend.

Living Costs

General Living expenses in New Zealand or the UK, the approximate spending is \$1200 - \$1400 CAD per month. This cost is inclusive of **accommodation/rent** and **food**, basic living expense. In total, using the higher amount of \$14,000 CAD for the year (10-month program x \$1400 per month).

New Zealand: Waimairi or Hayashi Residences at UC, New Zealand costs \$10,500-11,500 NZD (depending on your choice of options) NZD for one full year (50-week contract). Off campus accommodation is similarly priced after purchasing furniture, appliances, heating bill, data etc.

Scotland: At UWS, students are highly recommended to stay **on campus**. The residence is 109GBP/wk (Approx. 190.00 CDN/wk) or \$800 CDN/month, approx. \$8K for 10.5 months.

Wales: CMU students are highly recommended to stay **off campus**. Cost is around \$600/month for student accommodation, and around \$900/month for private accommodation. Total: \$7,000-\$10,000 but may vary depending on your choice of accommodation.

Food/Meals: A good budget from the rest of your \$1200-\$1400/month will be spent on food. This “food” being basic living expenses, not \$100 at the bar on Friday nights☺

Flights and spending money

- For New Zealand, average flights costs are under \$2,000 CAD. Again, these depend on many variables including when it is booked, route, etc. For the UK, flights are around ~\$600-\$1000 CAD, again variable on when booked, route, etc.
- When considering spending money/travel money – Students choose to spend money on travel, experiences, food, drinks, etc. Average spending money would be \$2,000 – 3,000 CAD.
- Approx. \$1000 CDN can be designated for Police check, Transcripts, student visa & certification application costs.

Suggested Budgets: UC/NZD~ 42/43K CDN; UWS/Scotland~36K CDN; Cardiff Met/Wales~36K CDN

This is a suggested budget or guideline. Students will be saving a year’s living expense as compared to completing Teachers College over 2 years in Ontario. Opportunity costs will allow students to be earning money during the ½/1 year of your life not being in Teachers College in ON. See the CANTEACH comparison chart for Teachers College Abroad (1-year) v Teachers College in Ontario (ON) (2-years).

Comparing Teachers College Abroad and Ontario

	Teachers College Abroad	Teachers College in Ontario
Tuition	17K CDN (in the UK) – 22/22.9K CDN (in NZD)	18 - 20K CDN (2 years)
Length	1 year program	2 year program
Basic Living Expenses	1 year	2 years
Suggested Budget	36K CDN (in the UK) – 42/43K CDN (in NZD)*	42 - 46K CDN
Opportunity Cost	Immeasurable/+1 yr Salary/+1 yr Exp.	-1 yr Salary/-1 yr Exp.

*includes flight and basic travel money

How students finance their year abroad?

- There are multiple funding sources/pathways that CANTEACH students use to undertake their studies:
- OSAP:** OSAP is available for all students as it is a 5th year of study. Most students get ~\$9,600.
- Student line of credit:** Canadian banks (ie. RBC) offer student lines of credit at low interest rates. Loans can range from \$15,000 - \$25,0000.
- Personal savings:** students use money from their personal savings towards their year abroad.
- Potentially some help from **parents/family**.

Application FAQs

How do I apply to Teachers College Abroad?

- The application process begins by getting in touch with Mike Johnson (mike@canteach.net). By either sending an email, or inquiring on the website, Mike will be in contact with you to discuss your Teacher's College options abroad and will then send you the application information.

When is the application deadline?

- There is no deadline to apply. Each application is assessed and processed on a case by case basis.
- You are advised to apply at least 4 months before (preferably earlier) you plan on attending Teachers College abroad. This way you can all in place before attending (i.e. visa, accommodation, etc.)

What is involved in the application?

A typical application includes the following:

1. CANTEACH Application form
2. University Application form (on-line/paper)
3. Reference letters
4. Canadian Police Check
5. Resume & Personal statement
6. Photocopy of your passport
7. University Transcripts
8. High School Transcripts (UK only)

When you have applied your application will be sent to the Universities to schedule an interview.

Does it cost anything to apply?

- There is a \$50 application fee that can be paid to CANTEACH via E-Transfer to mike@canteach.net when you submit your application. The application fee total is \$50 and is a 'gate keeping fee' to ensure applicants are seriously considering their application/attending abroad. No password needed/automatically done.

What happens next after I apply?

- Ideally students want to get their application in and get their interview and acceptance in place before the meetings in ON.
- Meeting CANTEACH and University Representatives at Universities across ON and/or at the Pre-departure Meetings in Toronto. Students will have a completely different mindset at the meetings after receiving their acceptance and are more focused for the information on 'how to attend'. This strategy works very well as student questions will be numerous once an acceptance is in place. By having an acceptance in place, the personal meetings and presentations are more productive with the focus on 'attending'.
- Once students submit all of their application information, the University will be in contact with students via email in order to set up an interview (skype).
- Interviewing can also take place in person at Universities in ON or at the Pre-Departure Meeting/Information Sessions in Toronto in October and March.

Pre-departure and Information Sessions you (and Parents/support)

- Every year in March and October there are Pre-departure Meetings/Information Sessions in Toronto at the Marriott Eaton Centre. These meetings are for students (and parents) choosing to undertake their study at a CANTEACH University for Teachers College abroad ie. March 24th & October 27th, 2019 at the Toronto Marriott Eaton Centre.



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