



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/any province upon completion of their chosen 1-year program abroad in New Zealand, Scotland or Wales.
- I like to talk to each student individually (this discussion can also include parents) on the phone/whatsapp or messenger as they start looking into their Teachers College options abroad. This Individual appointment allows you to ask questions and go over your timeline and specific options according to interest, teachables, budget and Undergraduate program completion.
- 985 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 Aug 2025).
- Completing Teachers College abroad in 1 year allows students to save a year of their lives, live abroad and potentially be in the work force 1 year earlier. The opportunity cost of a 1-year program is a significant advantage for CANTEACH students.
- Studying abroad has immense experiences to offer ie. travel, seeing the world, enhance interpersonal skills, new culture and perspectives, new curriculum, impressive to employers and world-class teacher training programs.
- CANTEACH Zoom sessions are available monthly for students (and parents to attend) <https://www.canteach.net/info-sessions/>.

What is the role of CANTEACH?

- Mike Johnson, Director of CANTEACH has been working with and taking care of Canadian students abroad for over 33+ years (since September 1992). CANTEACH is just Mike with Alannah Sawatsky doing the social media (Cardiff Met September Grad 2015-2016).
- Mike is familiar with every step of the process after having been an International student, Professor, Senior Lecturer, Director of Student Teaching and Recruitment Coordinator for Canadians going abroad.
- In his role Mike will be to assist you from **1**, your initial inquiry/phone call to **getting you there** and **2**, **getting you certified** in ON/Canada.
- Mike’s assistance includes applying, final paperwork/accepting your offer, tuition payment/deposit, obtaining a student visa, advice on student loans/OSAP, accommodation options, Certification process via workshops for full certification back to ON/Canada (#1 question to be answered).
- As an international student, working with Mike allows for a smooth process during each step of getting all in place for your year abroad as well as undertaking the process with like-minded, supportive individuals.

What are the entrance requirements?

- In order to attend Teachers Colleges abroad, students need a minimum 3-year degree (for NZ and Scotland) as a 4-year degree is required for Cardiff Metropolitan University in Wales.
- Acceptance is based on 4 criteria: interview (ie. via Zoom/Microsoft pages), references, grades and working/volunteer experience with children and adolescents.

Secondary teachers typically require two teachable subjects for NZ. AUT & UC do have an option for Secondary for those applicants with one teachable. Cardiff Met & UWS (UK) train people for one teachable and one teachable only. Students typically need to have completed a minimum of 2 University courses in their 1st teachable at the 3rd year level/higher (ie. English) and a minimum of 2 University courses in their 2nd teachable (ie. French) for AUT & UC in New Zealand for Secondary. UC Secondary also has limited teachables with domestic students filling a few teaching areas (see the Teachable Table). Primary applicants have a 73% (B) average requirement and Secondary requires a minimum of 65% for AUT in New Zealand. Primary and Secondary applicants are required to have completed their degree for UC in New Zealand. Approx. 1/3 – 1/2 of your degree in your 1st teachable for the UK. Primary applicants have a 65% average requirement for Cardiff Met in Wales and 60% for UWS in Scotland.

What are these programs called?

- Auckland University of Technology (AUT), Auckland, New Zealand: Post Graduate Diploma in Teaching and Learning (Primary) and Graduate Diploma in Secondary Teaching (Grad Dip)
- University of Canterbury (UC), Christchurch, New Zealand: Graduate Diploma in Teaching and Learning (Primary or Secondary)
- University of the West of Scotland (UWS), Ayr, Scotland: Professional Graduate Diploma in Education (PGDE)
- Cardiff Metropolitan University (Cardiff Met), Cardiff, 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?

- Inquire to CANTEACH via the website or email Mike to set up an Individual appointment to discuss your options for Teachers College abroad and will allow you to ask any questions you may have.
- 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.
- I encourage all prospective students to attend information session on zoom or in Toronto at the Pre-departure meetings/Information sessions 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 October 19th, 2025 (Marriott Eaton Centre) and then March 29th, 2026 (Marriott Eaton Centre). Additional zoom, ON University Fairs and CANTEACH sessions are listed on the website (www.canteach.net).

Costs and Student Budget: 1-year Teachers College abroad

Tuition costs

Auckland University of Technology (AUT), Auckland, New Zealand – **Primary/Secondary:**

\$36,120/\$34,200 NZD 2025 (approx. \$28,100/\$29,700 CDN at time of publication). AUT in NZD also has approx. \$1200-1600 NZ for Student Levy (union) fees and mandatory International student insurance (\$855) additional to tuition.

University of Canterbury (UC), Christchurch, New Zealand – **Primary/Secondary:** \$34,625 NZD (approx. \$28,400 CDN at time of publication). UC in NZD also has approx. \$1458K NZ for Student Levy (union) fees additional to tuition and mandatory International student insurance (\$855) additional to tuition.

University of the West of Scotland (UWS), Ayr, Scotland – **Primary & Secondary:** £13,500 (approx. \$25,200 CDN at time of publication)

Cardiff Metropolitan University (Cardiff Met), Cardiff, Wales – **Primary & Secondary:** £14,000 (approx. \$26,200 CDN at time of publication)

**The tuition you pay 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 attended.

Living Costs

General Living expenses: In New Zealand or the UK, the approximate living expenses are \$1500-\$1800 CAD per month (\$175 CAD per week for food/\$275 CAD a week for rent). This cost is inclusive of **accommodation/rent & food** - basic living exp. total, approx. **\$21,600 CAD/year** (11 months) for a 10 month program. This does depend on your personal living expenses/housing contract etc.

AUT/UC New Zealand: On campus and off campus housing options will be available to attend, details to be discussed and include the above listed figures.

Scotland: At UWS, students are highly recommended to stay in **on campus Apartments**. The residence is 120 GBP/wk (Approx. 225.00 CDN/wk) or \$1000 CDN/month, approx. \$11K for 11 months.

Wales: Cardiff Met students are highly recommended to stay **off campus**. There are options for Student Accommodation and many private providers that will be suggested for students to be able to confirm their accommodation in Cardiff. Cost can range from \$1100-1200/month for student accommodation to or private accommodation. Total: \$13.2K for 11 months but may vary depending on your choice of accommodation/contract length ie. studio apartment, #roomates

Food/Meals: A suggested budget \$175/week will be spent on food. This “food” being basic living expenses, not \$100 at the bar on Friday nights☺

Flights, spending money, visa, flight, insurance and certification costs

- 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.
- For New Zealand budget \$2-3K+ CAD for your flight; UK can be \$600-1000 and can vary a lot based on when booked, route, etc. and increased fuel costs contribute significantly to this cost.
- AUT & UC International Insurance is 855 NZD.
- UK flights start at around \$600-1000 CDN and a suggested budget of \$2K CDN for Visa, Flight and insurance. UK Visa cost is approx. \$2500 CDN (includes Insurance for the year).
- When considering spending money/travel money needs to be included – Students choose to spend money on travel, experiences, food, drink, etc. \$3,000 CAD as a suggested travel budget.
- Teacher Certification application costs in Canada for ON students is \$1500.00 CDN.

Suggested Budget: ~54.3-56.3K CDN (UWS & Cardiff Met); ~60.5K CDN (UC) & ~60-61.8KCDN (AUT);

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 (see table below to compare) will allow students to be earning money during the ½/1 year compared to not being in Teachers College in ON for that second year. See the CANTEACH comparison table below 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 (in \$CDN)	25.2K (UWS); 26.2K (Cardiff Met); 28.5K (UC) & 28.1/29.7K (AUT)	18-22K (2 years)
Length	1 year program	2 year program
Approximate Budget (in \$CDN)	54.3-56.3K (UWS & Cardiff Met); 60.5K (UC) & 60-61.8K (AUT)*	52-54K
Opportunity Cost	Immeasurable/+1 yr Salary/+1 yr Exp.	-1 yr Salary/-1 yr Exp.

**Includes tuition, flight, basic food/rent, insurance, certification costs and 3K CDN travel money as a suggested budget*

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 from \$8K - \$11K from OSAP.
- **Student line of credit:** Canadian banks (ie. RBC) offer student lines of credit at low interest rates. Loans can range from \$15,000 - \$25,000.
- **Personal savings:** students will be using personal savings towards their year abroad.

- Potentially some help from **parents/family**.

Application FAQs

How do I apply to Teachers College Abroad?

- The investigation of 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 then be in contact with you to discuss your Teacher's College options abroad individually. Costs, Application, Accommodation and Certification will be discussed. After the phone call, Mike will then send you the application information for your chosen University(ies).

When is the application deadline?

- There is no deadline to apply except for the time required to apply for/obtain a student visa. Typically, students can apply a year or sometimes a bit more than a year (ie. New Zealand/AUT).
- Each application is assessed and processed on an individual case-by-case basis.
- Students are advised to apply well before 4 months before (preferably earlier) you plan on attending Teachers College abroad to get all in place before attending (ie. visa, accomm., etc.)

What is involved in the application?

An application includes the following items:

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| 1. CANTEACH Application form | 2. University Application form(s) done on-line |
| 3. Reference letters (e referee forms in NZ) | 4. Canadian Police Check |
| 5. Resume & Personal statement | 6. Photocopy of your passport (ID purposes) |
| 7. University Transcripts | 8. High School Transcripts (UK only) |

When you have applied, your application will be sent to the University(ies) you have applied to, so an interview(s) can be scheduled. Interview tips from Mike Johnson will be provided to fully prepare for your interview(s) when your interview is scheduled (you get an email advising you).

Does it cost anything to apply?

- There is a \$50 application fee is 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 is needed as the e transfer is automatically done.

What happens next after I apply?

- Once students have submitted all of their application information/supporting documents, Mike will do an initial assessment of your application and forward all the material to the University to ensure all is on file. Once the University receives all of the application material, students will be contacted via email in order to set up an e interview (Zoom/Microsoft pages). Sometimes in person interviews are conducted in Toronto in March and October.
- The University(ies) will then send you an email inviting you to an online interview.
- Mike Johnson will forward that email to you to make you have received it in your inbox and provide some **tips and preparation** for your successful interview.
- Preparing for the interview with these tips is key for a successful interview/application.
- Acceptances are issued within a week of the interview, usually a few days or day (with all the supporting documents in).
- Ideally students want to get their application in and get their interview and acceptance in place after talking to Mike on the phone so that the acceptance is in place before the Pre-departure Meetings/Information Sessions in ON or scheduled Pre-Departure Zoom sessions.
- This allows you to get all in place to give you time to make sure this is the right option for you and to get all in place to attend on your chosen timeline.
- Interviews can also possibly take place in person at the Pre-Departure Meeting/Information Sessions in Toronto in March and October.

- Meeting CANTEACH and University Representatives at Universities across ON and/or at the Pre-departure Meetings in Toronto, or via zoom is a great first step after applying/being accepted to investigate the program options at all Universities.
- October 19th, 2025/March 29th, 2026 are the next sessions @ the Marriot Eaton Centre, Toronto.
- Currently, students will have a completely different mindset at the meetings/zoom session after receiving their acceptance and are more focused for the information on 'how to attend'. This strategy works very well as usually student's heads will 'explode with questions' once an acceptance is in place. By having an acceptance in place, the personal meetings and presentations/zoom sessions are much more productive in terms of the information you can use to make a decision on pursuing Teacher's College abroad.

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

- Every year there are Pre-departure Meetings/Information Sessions in Toronto. These meetings are for students (and parents/supporters) choosing to undertake their study at a CANTEACH University for Teachers College abroad ie. March and October at the Toronto Marriott Eaton Centre. Additional Zoom sessions are also now in place to support you. Please consult <https://www.canteach.net/info-sessions/> for the up-to-date session listings.
- Make sure to attend these Events in Toronto and/or the event being held at your University via the CANTEACH Facebook event listed on the CANTEACH Facebook and Instagram pages linked below (pdfs do not bring up the hyperlink; students can also search for CANTEACH on the app):
[CANTEACH Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/CANTEACH-292564664097454/) <https://www.facebook.com/CANTEACH-292564664097454/>
[CANTEACH Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/can.teach/?hl=en) <https://www.instagram.com/can.teach/?hl=en>
- Mike Johnson and University Representatives attend Graduate Fairs across Ontario throughout October. CANTEACH presentations take place **monthly** on zoom now that zoom is in our lives and this is a very efficient, effective and flexible way to attend the CANTEACH presentation. Mike will be visiting Universities in ON Universities in the Fall of 2025 as planned to ON University Grad/Further Education, along with October 19th and the Marriott Eaton Centre in Toronto and again March 29th at the Toronto Marriott Eaton Centre.
- I look forward to coming to Canada to meet you in person. I typically come around to all/as many as I can get to Universities in Southern Ontario.

Zoom sessions

- During October and March I typically follow up CANTEACH ON University visits with a zoom session **each week** to make sure everything gets the full amount of information & parents can attend as well. This allows for better research and information transmission/gathering by students/parents as not all information can be relayed in a busy fair setting.
- Additionally, there are CANTEACH zoom sessions each **month** throughout the rest of the year so students and parents can discuss with Mike all that is involved in the process. There is plenty of time for questions at the end of each session.
- I look forward to meeting you or meeting you in person if you have already attended a zoom session and we have already talked on the phone.



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