

# Post-Graduate Programs

## What are Post-Graduate programs?

- ✓ Post-Graduate (post-grad) certificates and diplomas are another type of further education, different from graduate studies (academic) or professional school (e.g., medicine, architecture).
- ✓ These programs are 1-2 years of full-time study, often can be completed part-time in a longer timeframe, and offer **intensive training and practical skills in specific career areas**.
- ✓ Some of the training could be practical (e.g., field placements or co-op).
- ✓ A combination of skills training and experiential learning can help you become more competitive in the labour market.

## Evaluating and Choosing Programs

As with graduate and professional programs, you should consider:

- ✓ What is your goal in attending the program?
- ✓ How does this program fit with your career goals?
- ✓ What are the admission requirements? Do you have the core qualifications or do you need to pursue further courses and gain experience before applying?
- ✓ Have you heard what people in your network and other professionals say about the institution's reputation, strengths and weaknesses?
- ✓ Are the campus and location right for you? Is the program online?
- ✓ Do they offer the kind of learning experience you are seeking?

## What are common admission requirements for these programs?

- ✓ Completion of a degree or diploma.
  - ✓ Prerequisite courses in specific fields of study related to the program.
  - ✓ Related experience, which may have been volunteer experience.
- Requirements for post-grad programs vary considerably. Review specific program websites for full details.

## Need More Information?

### Part-Time Post-Graduate Studies Sample Providers

University of Toronto School of Continuing Studies

- [learn.utoronto.ca](http://learn.utoronto.ca)
- Ask them about the tuition credit for U of T graduates.

Ryerson University Chang School of Continuing Education

- [ce-online.ryerson.ca/ce](http://ce-online.ryerson.ca/ce)

Ontario Learn (part-time programs in-person and online through colleges)

- [www.ontariolearn.com](http://www.ontariolearn.com)

### Full-Time Post-Graduate Studies

Ontario Colleges

- [www.ontariocolleges.ca](http://www.ontariocolleges.ca)

## The AA&CC can help!

Attend the Graduate & Professional Schools Fair (Early Fall), go to a *Preparing for Professional & Graduate School* workshop, meet professionals through In the Field workplace visits, Extern Job Shadowing, or speak with a Career Strategist to learn how to get relevant experience!

## How and When Do I Apply?

- ✓ Application requirements and process vary considerably by program.
- ✓ Colleges often offer a January or May start in addition to a September start.
- ✓ Continuing Education departments often offer shorter courses (i.e., 6 weeks) and more frequent start dates.