

THE BC EDUCATION SYSTEM   
**BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA**



## About British Columbia

In Canada, education is a provincial rather than federal responsibility, and there is no national Ministry of Education. In British Columbia (BC), strong levels of government commitment combine with rigorous inspection and a transparent accreditation process to ensure high levels of quality throughout the entire education system. BC is Canada's westernmost province, and its vibrant economy, young and diverse population, close trade links with the world's major economies, and the warmest climate in Canada make it the destination of choice for international students studying in Canada. BC also ranks extremely high on international studies of liveability and student performance. Each year, over 94 000 international students from around the world choose BC for their education.

## Opportunities for Study

You are making a smart move by choosing to study in BC. According to magazines like The Economist and institutions like the United Nations, BC is one of the best places in the world to learn, live and play. BC is currently among the leading destinations for international students in Canada, with an estimated 94 000 short- and long-term international students studying in our province from across the globe.

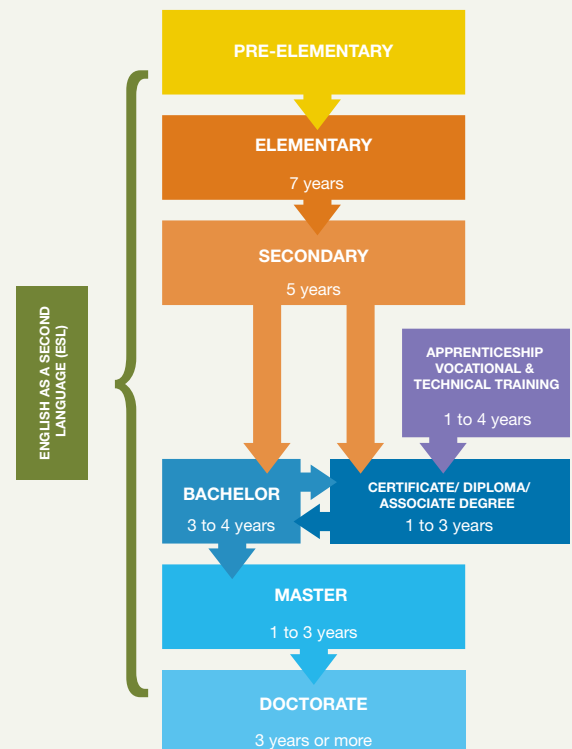
**K-12 Education** – Students in the elementary and secondary school system (K-12) choose BC for short-term language study, summer camps, semester (4-6 month) programs, a full year of study, or to achieve a BC high school (Dogwood) diploma. BC has an exceptional public education system and outstanding opportunities for study at independent day and boarding schools. More international students at the K-12 level choose to study in BC than any other destination in Canada.

**Language Study** – BC is the leading destination for English language learners in Canada. Students may choose a wide range of academic, travel and specialized language courses for any length of time. Language study options exist at both public K-12 and post-secondary institutions, and at a range of recognized private language providers. Look for the BC Education Quality Assurance (EQA) seal to find a program recognized by the BC government.

**Post-Secondary** – BC's colleges, institutes, universities and career colleges offer a program for every learner. The public post-secondary system is comprised of four major world-renowned research universities. A range of high quality teaching universities and community colleges are located throughout the province. Private career colleges offer specialized training and industry-focused programs. The Education Quality Assurance brand is accessible to all provincial post-secondary institutions, dependent on meeting eligibility requirements.

## BC Education System

The province of BC offers international students every chance to experience and benefit from a world-class education. High standards, exceptional student achievement, and the commitment to investing in quality education make BC a natural choice. Explore the variety of options you have for studying in BC.



## Education Quality Assurance - BC's Brand for Quality Education

Established by the province of British Columbia (BC) and administered by BCCIE, Education Quality Assurance (EQA) is BC's assured provincial brand of quality for all sectors of private and public post-secondary education.



### What is BC's EQA?

EQA is a provincial quality assurance designation that identifies all BC public and private post-secondary institutions that have met or exceeded provincial government recognized quality assurance standards and offer consumer protection.

### BC Leads the Way

- Canada's first and only provincial brand of quality for post-secondary education
- International leader in quality assurance as the brand is accessible to all provincial post-secondary institutions, dependent on meeting eligibility requirements.
- BC is the only province with a consolidated list of public and private institutions branded with a provincial government seal (as an assurance to deliver and issue top quality post-secondary education)
- The EQA Registry is published on the EQA and BCCIE websites and is updated daily to reflect any changes in an institution's EQA status

For further information about BC's EQA Designation and to find an EQA-designated post-secondary school, please visit our website at [www.bceqa.ca](http://www.bceqa.ca).

## BC Council for International Education (BCCIE)

The BC Council for International Education (BCCIE) is committed to advancing the international education interests of the province of British Columbia.

BCCIE is a leader in the successful development, promotion and maturation of international education in British Columbia. Through consultation and liaison with the provincial government, the direction of the Board, and broad engagement with the diversity of sectors representing international education, we support our mission through four key strategic goals: leadership, market support, communication and service to the sector, and internationalization.

## Useful Links

**BC Council for International Education (BCCIE)**  
[www.bccie.bc.ca](http://www.bccie.bc.ca)

**BC Education Quality Assurance (EQA)**  
[www.bceqa.ca](http://www.bceqa.ca)

**Study in BC**  
[www.studyinbc.com](http://www.studyinbc.com)

**Tourism BC**  
[www.hellobc.com](http://www.hellobc.com)

**WelcomeBC**  
[www.welcomebc.ca](http://www.welcomebc.ca)



**Name: Max Altnöder**

**Country: Germany**

**Studying at: L.V. Rogers Secondary School**

**City: Nelson**



### What were your first impressions of BC?

Nelson is a nice, friendly, little place where there are not many big chain stores like in most cities. The shops are small and specific, so it's very enjoyable to shop here. Everyone is totally open-minded to international students and wants to know more about us. The community is all so friendly to us.

### What do you do when you're not studying?

I really love the ski hill here called Whitewater. It is a great hill where the local people ski and it is more natural than in Germany. Best of all, there is a lot of powder skiing. There are not many skiers and the line-ups for the lift are always so short compared to Europe.

### What will you miss most about BC?

When I leave, I will miss the feeling of being in this relaxed town where people don't judge others and the wilderness is natural and untouched. I feel like I have been in a forest where no one may have been before me. There are also so many activities and specialty courses offered at LVR, such as mechanics and cooking. I would recommend Nelson to all of my friends because it is so unique, relaxed, local and friendly. Nelson is unlike other Canadian cities!



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