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There are over 100 community colleges, and these exist in an array of forms throughout Canada and within the provinces. Some are comprehensive, offering both university-parallel programs and technological training. Others offer programs in one category or the other.

About 65 provincial institutes of technology offer programs lasting from one to four years. Nursing education, which was once offered only in hospitals, is now given mainly at university but is also available at community and regional colleges. Courses at the master's level are offered at several universities.

There is an Association of Canadian Community Colleges, an agency useful to all levels of college organization across the country. Its board consists of directors, students, local-college board members, faculty, administrators and others interested in a national perspective.

University education Most students entering a university do so after completing 11 to 13 years of elementary and secondary schooling. In from three to five years, courses of instruction lead to bachelors' degrees in arts, pure science and such professional fields as engineering, business administration, agriculture and education. Courses in law, theology, dentistry, medicine and some other subjects are longer, usually requiring for admission part or all of a first-degree course in arts or science. For those pursuing graduate studies and research, the second degree is the master's or *licence*, at least one year beyond the first degree. The third is the doctorate, normally requiring at least two more years after the second degree.

Adult continuing education Many opportunities are provided for further academic, vocational and cultural experience beyond the regular full-time classes in secondary schools; numerous adults return to regular full-time classes in secondary schools, special schools and post-secondary schools to upgrade and advance their education. Each province has developed its own programs, operated by local school-boards, provincial community colleges and institutes, universities, and voluntary and private organizations at the national, provincial and local levels.

Approximately 176,000 adults are taking part-time credit courses of study in school-board programs that lead to secondary-school graduation. An additional 274,000 adults attend other credit and non-credit general courses. Universities have become increasingly involved with provision of credit and non-credit courses to adults on a part-time basis. Interest in part-time education is so great that part-time enrolments are increasing at a faster rate than full-time.

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