

and provincial governments. Last year the Canadian government announced the creation of a National Centres of Excellence Network. Fifteen research networks, each involving anywhere from 5 to 20 universities, research institutes, companies and governments share \$240 million in federal funding. The more than 500 researchers linked through the networks work at the forefront of their fields, breaking down barriers between disciplines, ideas and institutions in their push for excellence.

The networks build on Canada's world class standing in a number of research areas. One network, for example, will look for breakthroughs in fighting genetic diseases such as cystic fibrosis and muscular dystrophy. It was in Toronto, Ontario that Canadian scientists, working with colleagues from the United States, announced last winter that they had discovered the fatal gene defect that causes cystic fibrosis.

The research being conducted by the networks will bring Canada industrial, social and economic benefits. For example, one group of researchers working in the Atlantic provinces brings together biologists and oceanographers in a highly integrated research program to benefit our fisheries industry. Another network, based in

Quebec, will focus on improving concrete. Anticipated research benefits include more durable highways and bridges and the safer use of concrete in offshore platforms and skyscrapers. Another network will work toward developing new, environmentally acceptable methods of insect pest control.

Not all research brings immediate benefits. Canadian university researchers are also active in long-term basic research projects. For example, construction has recently begun on a laboratory deep in an underground mineshaft in Sudbury, Ontario, which will put Canada at the forefront of particle physics research. The Neutrino Observatory being built two kilometres underground will allow scientists from around the world to observe neutrinos – a small particle that may some day provide answers to questions about the origin of our universe.

The neutrino researchers will work together with scientists from the United States and Britain – just one of the many joint international projects Canadian universities are currently undertaking.

In addition to activity within its borders, Canada – and particularly its university network – is conscious of rapid changes around the world

What are the costs of study in Canada?

Students contemplating a university education in Canada may spend from \$7500–\$17 500 (including tuition fees) per year. At present the exchange rate is approximately \$2 to £1 sterling.

Eight provinces in Canada charge higher fees for international students than for Canadian students. Manitoba and Newfoundland charge the same fees for international students as they do for Canadian students. The international student tuition fees in effect for the 1990–1991 academic year for an arts and science program are shown below:

	undergraduate Can \$	graduate Can \$
British Columbia	2475–5040	1664–2070 *
Alberta	1752–3745	2316–4485
Saskatchewan	1478–2680 **	1606–1624 *
Manitoba	1362–1698 *	1490–2007 *
Ontario	4018–6186	4013–10311
Quebec	4350–5900	5800–8775
New Brunswick	3410–3825	2000–4295
Nova Scotia	3470–4157	2508–4708
Prince Edward Is.	3540	3938
Newfoundland	1344 *	872–1082 *

* Fees are the same as for Canadian students.

** Only the University of Regina charges a 50% surcharge fee for undergraduate programs.

Other student expenses include books, supplies and instruments, student activity fees, accommodation, food, laundry, transportation, health care, clothing and entertainment.

Do I need health insurance?

Most universities require international students to subscribe to a Canadian health insurance plan. The institution you attend can tell you how to go about buying enough medical and hospital insurance to cover you and any dependants accompanying you.

How do I obtain a student authorization?

Students from abroad must apply to the immigration office at the nearest Canadian Embassy, High Commission or Consulate in their home country for a student authorization. The immigration office will tell you which documents you will need.

In Britain, general information on university studies can be obtained by writing to

Canada House,
Trafalgar Square,
London SW1Y 5BJ.

For a student authorization or visa contact,

Immigration Section,
Canadian High Commission,
38 Grosvenor Street,
London W1X 0AA.

