



香港輔導教師協會有限公司

Hong Kong Association of Careers Masters and Guidance Masters Limited

Correspondence Address c/o Kowloon Regional Education Office, Room EP05, Podium, East Block,

EDB Kowloon Tong Education Services Centre, 19 Suffolk Road, Kowloon Tong, Kowloon.

Tel: 2671 1722 Fax: 2671 0703 Website: <http://www.hkacmgm.org> E-mail: hkacmgm@gmail.com

多元出路講座系列：加拿大中學及大學升學講座

Theme	Content
Basic Info	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Most popular destinations: Toronto and Vancouver▪ Time difference: 16 hours slower than HK (Winter time)▪ Attraction: Low living cost and tuition fee; A multicultural nation with people with different backgrounds; Safe▪ Study permit required for students going to Canada to study▪ Very similar education system compared with HK (Primary: 6 years, Secondary: 6 years, Tertiary: 4 years)
General information about Education System and School Application	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Apply for school places from School Board of the district(not directly to individual schools)▪ 12-year compulsory education▪ Public schools + private schools▪ Tuition: Citizen and PR – free; International students: CAD16,000 to 20,000 → up to HKD 120,000▪ Fall term and Spring Term▪ Students below 18: Guardian needed (usually by education boards)
Primary	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Documents needed for application: HK Report cards (3 yrs)
Secondary	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Documents needed: HK Report cards (3 yrs)▪ Don't go only for Year 12 – will need to apply for university very soon (in that case they better complete HKDSE first)▪ A slightly different system and different subjects offered – High School Diploma▪ e.g. in BC, 48 credits are required upon graduation (e.g. Life Planning – basic skills in finance, Social Studies – Canadian history, Volunteer work) – May need to spend 1.5 years to complete these requirements



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Living Cost	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary and Secondary: • Homestay: School Boards offer Homestay Agents and help students look for host families. • Cost: CAD1000-1200/month, incl. 3 meals (Excl. Transport: bus – they will usually arrange host families closer to the schools) • Should there be problems, contact the school and provide details. Schools will handle accordingly (e.g. switching host families) • Requirements of homestay families: Register with schools + visits from school representatives + non-criminal record + experience of hosting international students • Some students these days may not be very self-disciplined, and host families can help regulate students' resting hours • Weaker internet connection in Canada than in HK, so students may find it hard to play as much online games • Universities: dormitory + optional meal plan for the first year. From 2nd year: most students rent their own houses • Cooking their own food doesn't cost much (CAD300-400 per month would be enough) • CAD10,000 per year (Sem ends in Apr, and students can then take summer school / take up summer jobs) • Intl students: 20 hours working during term time. 40 hours during holidays
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Q&A

Application	
University application procedures and schedules?	Available on universities' websites. Most end by January. Some ends later
Do international students apply through the same admission system with local students?	Same admission system but different tuition fees. local students: CAD6,000 per year; International students: CAD18,000+ Some quota are reserved for international students
What are some more popular courses / majors in Canada	IT, animation, games; Nursing; Early Childhood Education



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How do universities consider students' application before HKDSE results are released in July?	Predicted Score to be submitted to universities prior to HKDSE results release, then universities offer conditional offers accordingly
Will HK students be disadvantaged if they are not taking 'all' science subjects in HKDSE?	Universities may require students to take some specific subjects in high schools / colleges after they are admitted
Are there any special requirements from universities about students taking HKDSE?	Emphasizing English; Excluding Chinese. Different schools have different requirements. Should check accordingly
Will art students going to study in Canada be disadvantaged?	No difference – just students need to take one science subject before graduating from secondary school
Which way is better for my child (now in F.5): go earlier (for Grade 12) or complete HKDSE first? / Should students go after S4?	If students plan to study secondary school in Canada, better go easier and study Grade 11 first as they will need to study some subjects to fulfill the graduation requirements in Canada (e.g. 1 science subject, Life Planning, and Social Studies). Grade 12 is a graduating class and university application starts soon. So, it's better if students can spend 1.5 years building a foundation + getting ready for university application.
Can students who are doing Grade 9 in HK take Grade 10 in Canada next year?	Age is the most important consideration. If they are below a certain required age for that grade, they will still have to sit the same grade. (If students are gifted / elite in specific subjects, they can be accelerated (for some subjects in secondary school) / graduate earlier (from university))
What are the subjects that students have to take prior to graduating from secondary school?	2 Subjects not offered in HK (and students have to complete upon secondary school graduation): Life Planning + Social Studies / Social Science
Should students apply through agents or directly?	No difference in terms of results – just not many HK agents for Canada because of lower commission for agencies



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English Requirement	
Can students from EMI Schools be exempted from taking IELTS?	IELTS is required for university admission. Students from International schools will usually be exempted
Which one is better: IELTS or TOEFL?	Both accepted, but IELTS is easier for getting high marks Also good IELTS results demonstrate good speaking and listening skills.
Do student transferring from the US to Canada have to take IELTS?	Usually no
Credit Transfer	
Any grade requirements for credit transfer?	Generally B grades (C+ above) with no failing grades
Can students transfer credits from HK universities to Canada?	Yes – can apply for credit transfer at Registry. Course Outlines of previous courses studied will be required
Can Hi Dip graduates apply for credit transfer?	credit transfer based on courses taken
Will students be disadvantaged when applying for jobs if they have applied for credit transfer?	No - unless specific subjects which require internship / co-op which are linked up with companies (as the companies may sometimes hire students who have completed internships with them)
Tuition Fee and Wage	
How much is university tuition fee?	Most schools cost around CAD18,000. Some more popular schools cost around CAD30,000
Do students with Canada citizenship enjoy free tuition?	If the student is studying with his/her parent(s), they can enjoy free tuition. If not with parent (e.g. relatives / grandparents), they need to pay international fee.
What is the minimum wage in Canada?	Varies from state to state. Check online for the most updated information.



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Legal Age, Host Families and Student Support	
What is the legal age in Canada? Do university students need Guardians if they are below legal age?	Legal age: 19. No guardian needed for university students
How are homestay families arranged?	Assigned by School Board. Can change should there be a need. A portfolio of the host family given for reference. NOT able to request specific ethnic background (as this is discriminatory)
How should the Notarised Custodian Declaration and Custodianship Declaration for minor children be handled?	Relatives who will help take care of the child in Canada signs the form, then the form should be sent to the parent in HK. Parent can then go to Home Affairs District Offices to administer declarations
Can parents' friends be the host families?	Yes. Host families can be arranged on their own.
Are there supports for SEN students?	Special care and support from schools if schools know such situations
Further Enquiries	
Call (852) 37430850 and provide 3 years Report Cards + Passport Page. Staff will handle requests regarding Secondary School / University applications Also available: Working Visa requirements and flowchart available on Association's website: www.cccea.org.hk → 'more'	