Canadian Research System
Research Methodology

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1. Introduction
2. Finding a PhD
3. PhD Funding
4. After a PhD
5. Useful Links
Introduction to Canada

- Located in the northern part of North America.
- World’s second-largest country by total area.
- Capital is Ottawa, and largest metropolitan areas are Toronto, Montreal, and Vancouver.
- A developed country; its economy is the tenth-largest in the world (IMF, 2019).

Figure 1: Canada’s flag.
Why choose Canada to study?

• 2nd in the world based on quality of life. (US News Best Countries, 2020).
• Among the safest countries for international students. (StudyLink)
• The opportunity to work with leading experts and take advantage of modern technologically advanced universities such as University of Toronto.
• Diverse and multicultural country.
Research facts

- There are around **100 research universities**: public and private universities.
- **9 institutions** from the top 200 ranked universities (Times Higher Education, 2019).
- **Highly qualified** professors and researchers.
- One of the **highest rates** of universities doing research in the world.
- Research can be done in English, French or both.
Canada’s Education System

Source: National Center on Education and the Economy

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International Students

Figure 3: Source countries for international students in Canada in 2016.

Figure 4: Top Canadian provinces with international students.

Source: CIC News
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Section</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Finding a PhD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>PhD Funding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>After a PhD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Useful Links</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# PhD in Canadian Universities

A table titled "PhD Study in Canada - Key Details" summarizes important statistics:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Universities</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nobel Prizes</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oldest University</td>
<td>Université Laval (1663)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Students</td>
<td>209,979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PhD Length</td>
<td>3-6 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representative Fees</td>
<td>CAD $10,000-20,500 (USD $7,655-15,695)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic Year</td>
<td>September to April</td>
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Source: FindAPhD.
Steps to apply to a PhD

1. **Find a PhD program** you are interested in, in a *Designated Learning Institution* (cf. Government Website).

2. **Find an accredited supervisor** and a research subject (on the university’s website).

3. Gather all the **required documents**. (cf. next slide)

4. Start the **application for a student visa** (and health insurance).
Requirements

• **Grade Point Average (GPA):** 3.0 or higher for admission to a Canadian PhD program.

• **Graduate admissions tests:** Graduate Records Examination (GRE) or Graduate Management Admissions Test (GMAT).

• **Language requirements:** Two possibilities, French or English, depending on the province.

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Choosing your province

Figure 5: Sample of Canadian universities by province.

Source: International Cooperation for Research

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"Most newcomers to Canada settle in one of the country’s three largest cities: Toronto, Montreal, and Vancouver" (according to the government).

Table 1: Top 5 Canadian Universities in 2021.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>THE 2021</th>
<th>% International Students in each university</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University of Toronto</td>
<td>Toronto</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of British Columbia</td>
<td>Vancouver</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McGill University</td>
<td>Montreal</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McMaster University</td>
<td>Hamilton</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Montreal</td>
<td>Montreal</td>
<td>=73</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Times Higher Education, 2021

Choosing university

Elements that will influence your choice:

- **Education & research field.**
- **Language preference:** French or English.
- **The city:** small vs. big town, climate, culture.
- **Facilities:** schools, labs, etc.
- **Cost of living** (taxes, rents) & **tuition fees**.
Emigrate to Canada

When?

ASAP - to fulfill all the administrative tasks.

Emigration Process:

- **Acceptance letter** from a Designated Learning Institution.
- **A valid passport**: for the duration of your PhD.
- **Enough money**: to pay for tuition fees and living expenses.
- **No criminal record**.
How much does a PhD cost?

• **Tuition fees**: province / university / field of study / citizenship.
  
e.g. PhDs at the University of Toronto.
  
  – For *all international students*: about **CA$ 6,200** (4 000 €) per year.

e.g. PhDs at the University of Montreal.
  
  – For *French or Belgian students*, about **CA$ 3,600** (2 300 €) per year.
  – For *international students*, about **CA$ 17,200** (11 000 €) per year.

• **Living expenses**: province / city / type of housing / ...
  
  – At least **CA$ 1,000** (700 €) per month.

• Fees associated with **student visa application**.
  
  – A student visa costs about **CA$ 230** (170 €).
Canadian universities can be public or private.

- Public universities (the great majority) are financially supported by their local province or territory.
  
  List of best 10 public universities: https://www.immilawglobal.com/blog/top-10-universities-in-canada-for-international-students/

- Private universities are funded by third-party sources.

  List of private universities: https://studyabroad365.com/full-list-of-private-universities-in-canada/
Government and University Funding

• **Canadian government scholarships**: provides funding for international student depending on their nationalities.

• **Funding from Canadian universities**: most Canadian institutions provide some form of support for international PhD students.

• **Working as a Teaching or Research Assistant**: see specific requirements on the website of your university.
Scholarships and other funding opportunities

Canada provides a wide range of scholarships and other funding opportunities for PhD study at its universities.

- **Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Scholarships**: 3000 scholarship by 2020. (Link)

- **IDRC Doctoral Research Awards**: Provides up to CAD $20,000 (12,885 €) over 3-12 months for students from developing countries. (Link)

- **IDRC Research Awards**: Offers a salary of at least CAD $40,000 (25,770 €) for PhD students from developing countries. (Link)

- **Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarships**: Provide international students with CAD $50,000 (32,237 €) per year. (Link)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Section</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Finding a PhD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>PhD Funding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>After a PhD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Useful Links</td>
</tr>
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If you wish to stay and work in Canada after your PhD, you need to get a work permit. There are three different ways:

- Post-graduation work permit.
- Express entry.
- Provincial nominee program.
Post-graduation work permit:

- Full-time enrolled in a study program that lasted at least 8 months.
- Application 180 days after graduation at most.
- Permit validity based on the length of your study program (between 8 months and 3 years)
- You don’t need to be employed in order to stay in Canada.
Express entry:

• For temporary foreign workers/students who want to apply for permanent residency.

• One year *at least* of qualified working experience in Canada (in the last 36 months).

• High language requirements (depending on the province, in English or in French).
Provincial nominee program:

- Each province has its own provincial nominee program.
- Provinces nominate people who will immigrate in Canada, following specific requirements.
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<td>After a PhD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Useful Links</td>
</tr>
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Useful Links

- **Government Website**: Study in Canada
  https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/study-canada.html

- **Education in Canada**

- **Guide for living in Canada**

- **List of Canadian universities**
  https://www.universitystudy.ca/

- **Scholarships** (depending on your citizenship, field, and level of study)
  https://scholarships.universitystudy.ca/?_ga=2.138314224.1586266278.1600205580-1726933459.1600205580

- **After your PhD**
Thank you!