

10

THINGS

To Look For In A

CAREER COLLEGE

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Introduction

For many people interested in higher education, a career college is definitely an option to consider. While universities and community colleges offer students a range of courses that leave them graduating with transferable skills and not much guidance for what they should do next, a career college is completely different.

A career college provides students with the specific knowledge and skills to get a job in the profession that they desire and provides support and guidance every step of the way. Students at career colleges can benefit from a career counselor, networking events specifically for your industry, invaluable resources required to get ahead in your career, and a team of knowledgeable professionals. But this all depends on your choice of career college.

It's incredibly important that you do your research before making a decision that will affect your career and life. You need to be sure that you are making the right decision for you and your future. Don't be afraid to ask tough questions when making this decision, and be wary of career colleges that are not the right fit for you.

Some career colleges do not have the interests of their students at heart, and are purely motivated by getting quick payments without providing the education that gets you hired at the end of the day. In this eBook you will learn the benefits of making the right choice when choosing a career college for your post-secondary education.

So, whether you are a high school graduate looking for their next step towards their future, or an experienced professional looking to get into the industry they've always been interested in. This is your first step to your future.

1 Online Learning Option

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There's no doubt that technology is steering the way the world goes around, and that fact doesn't need to be lost when it comes to education.

Online courses have become much more refined and respected over the last decade and if a college wants to move forward and stay in sync with their students, they need to offer online learning options.

Here are some benefits of online learning and why any reputable career college should offer it as an option...

Easier Discourse Between Instructors and Students

With online learning options, you as a student won't even need to step foot on campus to receive the full benefits of your course, and sometimes more. A study by Babson College showed that 77% of academic leaders believed that educational offerings for online courses were just as good, if not better than courses that primarily take place in a classroom. Plus, think of the money you could save on commuting to and from college.

Easier Discourse Between Instructors and Students

You may think that communication between instructors and students studying online would be more difficult and less frequent than the face-to-face discourse you would receive attending in-person classes, but that's not the case.

Online learners have more contact with their instructors and feedback is faster and more frequent. Online students are often asked to complete assessments and feedback forms so that their instructors can tailor their lessons for individuals and quickly address learning gaps that have appeared.

A Customized Learning Experience

Online courses could give you access to a lot of different resources that wouldn't usually be available with traditional learning experiences. Colleges that offer online programs provide videos, photos, eBooks, links to research and more resources to help their students understand and learn in other ways than just listening to a lecture.

The flexible schedule and location also helps you to customize your study environment in the best way for you – do you like to have soothing music playing in the background to relax you while you study, or do you need complete silence and all distractions to be locked away in a cupboard? It's up to you.

Prepares You for the Working World

Almost every company and career path now requires their employees to be somewhat tech-savvy, whether it's typing up invoices or editing graphics for websites. Workforces are also becoming more remote, with businesses hiring employees from different cities and even countries. Having an online study option at a college will help you to familiarize yourself with the technology and skills that you'll need in your chosen career.

Make Your Own Schedule

With more and more new studies showing that instructors, students, and learning institutions all recognize and rave about the benefits of online learning, career colleges are offering more flexibility in their courses.

You can set your own learning pace; if you're struggling with a certain unit or module in your course you can spend a little extra time doing some research, rereading your notes, or looking at other online resources provided by the college to get a better understanding, as opposed to a university lecturer talking at you for 3 hours and moving onto the next subject before you can come to terms with what is being said.



The average online student is 32 years old.

40%-60%

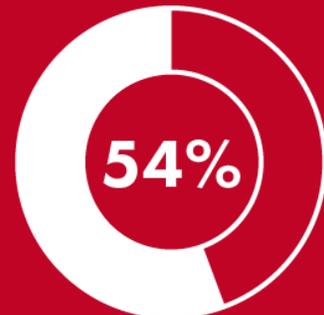
Online learning requires 40 to 60% less time than face-to-face learning.



97 percent of online institutions still maintain a 25:1 ratio of students to professors.



Online students learn 5 times more than classroom students, in the same amount of time.



54% of online students are part-time

What to Look Out For

The flexibility of online learning does come with some disadvantages if you and the college do not properly monitor them. The career college of your choice should have up-to-date technology that is carefully looked after by both the instructors themselves and the technical support team.

The instructors also need to be creative and experienced in virtual teaching styles in order to maintain the attention of the students and make sure their lessons are being learned.

You as the student also need to make sure your time management skills are up-to-point and that you are ready to take on the responsibility of managing your own educational schedule.

“Education is the
foundation upon which
we build our future”

- Christine Gregoire

2 Career Specific Training

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An obvious advantage and ploy of a career college is that it provides you with the education and skills you need for a certain career. This is different to what universities tend to do, which is provide their students with non-specific, transferable skills that can be applied to different jobs and lifestyles.

It's important to have decided what career or industry you are aiming to get into before looking for a career college that's right for you. That way you can be ready to research and find out what exactly you are looking for in your education.

A few benefits of choosing a college that specializes in your career are...

A Career Counselor

A good career college will provide you with a career counselor from the moment you show some interest in their institution, to the moment you start your first day at work and begin your new career. You are not only going to be paying for the education you want to receive, but also for the career counseling services and you will surely want to ensure that you are getting the maximum return on the investment you are about to make into your education and future career.

The counselor should show just as much interest in you and your chosen career as you do, and be there to guide you every step of the way, which is why, before you choose your course or college, you need to discuss with your career counselor about your career goals and your overall dreams for the future.

Practicum Experiences

Does this career college offer a practicum experience or internship as a part of their programme? They should. One of the biggest benefits of choosing a career college over a university is that they give you not only the education needed to succeed in your future, but the experience too. The experience could range from 2 weeks to a month-long work experience involving job shadowing or unpaid training and will provide you with working knowledge in an industry that values both qualifications and experience.

The career college you choose should have local connections with companies in your desired industry and the practicums should be located nearby the college or in a convenient location for you. A good quality practicum arrangement is the key to getting the best out of your studies and putting yourself in the best position to start your new career.

Networking Opportunities

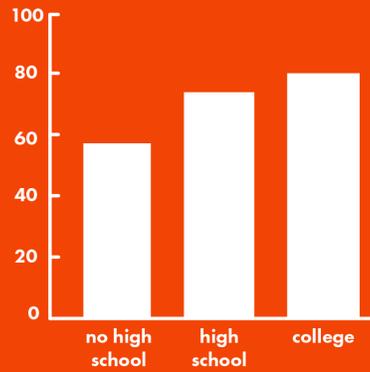
You've heard of the phrase "it's not what you know, it's who you know", and that should also be a factor taken into account when choosing a career college. Your coursemates and instructors are good networking connections to make while studying, but the college should also arrange events where you can meet others in your intended industry.

Most career colleges will host alumni events where you can meet your predecessors and learn tips and tricks that you would otherwise not know, while also having new contacts and opening up your employment options.

It's also a good idea to enquire about resources that can help you make other connections; use the college library or career services office to find out about statistics and salaries in your career, or use social media groups set up by the college to connect with professors, staff, research assistants and alumni.



70% of employees feel the need for specialized on-the-job trainings even with their degrees.



Employment rates increase according to level of education. 57% of those with no high school diploma are hired, 74% of high school graduates, and 80% of college graduates.

Employment

If you're looking into a career college, it's because you want education that gets you hired at the end of the day. A good career college will have up-to-date job postings and your career counselors and instructors should know exactly what you're looking for and be aware of jobs that will fit your needs. The college should have contacts with companies that aren't necessarily posting their job openings all over the internet for anyone to find, and they may even have an option for you to subscribe to job postings online.

Job Preparation

A career college should not only provide you with the experience, education and skills you will need to succeed in a new career, but they should also teach you how to get started in that career, too. A career counselor at a decent career college will give you job search training; showing you exactly what to look for in job postings, how to write a good resume and cover letter, help you to prepare your portfolio, and conduct mock job interviews with you. It's all part of the career college appeal.

What to Look Out For

Be careful if a career college is only interested in taking your money and providing you with lectures. Although the cost might be less than at university, the experience shouldn't be. The whole point of choosing a career college over university is the extra tools that they provide you with that a university wouldn't.

Many people who attend university are not quite sure of exactly what they want to do, and are choosing majors based on their transferable skills, whereas students looking for a career college should already know what they want and they need to make sure that their college provides it.

“Education is the only
currency which you can
spend in every country in
the world without losing
its value”

- Debasish Mridha

3 Affordable Pricing

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It's no secret that there is a huge price difference between colleges and universities, with students at universities having to take out multiple loans that they have to pay off for the rest of their lives.

A career college provides a shorter course at a more affordable cost while guaranteeing the same quality of education.

Here are the benefits of a career college at a lower cost...

Save Money

Saving money is something everyone wants to do, but an education and your investment into the future is not something that you should compromise in order to add to your vacation fund.

Luckily, a good career college will provide you with the tools you need to begin and succeed in a new career, without having to remortgage your home to afford the opportunity. In many cases, career colleges can cost as little as \$3,000 and you can come out with a new qualification and savings, instead of debt.

Life-Changing Opportunities

In most cases, when a person has invested in a university degree, spent more than 4 years of their life consistently studying, and paid over \$30,000, are left in debt, out of work, and lacking the career-specific skills to get into the industry they desire. They are also no longer in a position to change their mind and begin a whole new life path with a new career.

The goal of a career college is to put you in the best position to be earning the money you want in a career that you've chosen. A good career college offers the skills, education, and experience you need based on the pay grade, career, or training you are looking for.

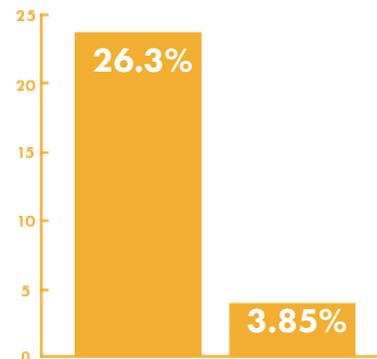


94.8% of people with student loan debt borrowed for an undergraduate education.



30% of borrowers have a student loan debt balance between \$20,000 and \$40,000. (USD)

43% of college attendees report they incurred some type of educational debt. Among today's college students, 65% graduate with student debt.



The annual growth rate of the total student loan debt balance is 26.3%, while the annual growth rate of the nation's gross domestic product is 3.85%.



88% of the executives and 85% of the hiring managers surveyed said they considered the money and time involved in getting a college degree to be worth it.

“An investment in
knowledge pays the best
interest”

- Benjamin Franklin



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While universities are renowned for being ranked based on their extremely high, and often unachievable, entry requirements, career colleges focus on what you want to achieve, rather than what you've achieved in the past.

You know yourself better than anyone and you know what position and time is right for you to begin your journey towards a new career. The best career colleges will help you along the way while setting achievable goals to help you reach your potential.

Attainable requirements in a career college are important...

Focus on Your Future

Choosing a career college is all about choosing the institution that can benefit you the most in the future and give you the greatest return on your investment. You will have already decided which industry or career you would like to be involved in and have your own life plan in place for the future, and the right career college is there to guide you along and soften any bumps in the road.

Not everyone performs well at first, and maybe you didn't manage to reach the high expectations placed upon you in the past, but now is a time to focus on your future and the education that will help you get there.

Less Pressure

Many young people were pressured to perform well in high school in order to get into a good university, while juggling multiple extracurricular activities, maintaining an active social life, keeping up with homework, earning money in a side-job, and doing household chores.

It's a lot of pressure for someone just starting to gain an ounce of independence and find their way in the world. Knowing that there are good career colleges that will support you no matter what you've achieved so far in life relieves some of the pressure put onto teenagers planning their future, and adults who struggled to cope as a youngster. Your future is in good hands when you choose the right career college.

Catered Courses

A good career college will make sure that you sign up for the course that's right for you. They will get to know your learning style, strengths and weaknesses, and will help you set realistic expectations for your future. Many career colleges offer various levels of courses for the same industry, and the best career colleges will not con you into paying more money for a qualification that they know you can't gain, they will instead do everything they can to provide you with the resources and education to get you the best return on your investment.

The instructors at your career college have fewer students and distractions than university professors and so will have the opportunity to get to know you personally and cater their course material and curriculum to your needs.

Any Time is Right

No matter how old you are or at what point you are in life, a good career college will cater to you. A survey by Youth in Transition in 2011 from Statistics Canada indicated that 14% of students dropped out of university within the first year due to academic pressures, trouble meeting deadlines, choosing the wrong program, and cost.

At the right career college, none of these pressures or bad decisions apply, you have your career counselor as well as friendly college staff and instructors with you every step of the way. Another study conducted in 2008 by Canadian Education Project stated that 38% of students will drop out or change majors over the course of their post-secondary career.

Mistakes like this can be avoided by having the guidance and understanding that a decent career college will provide you.

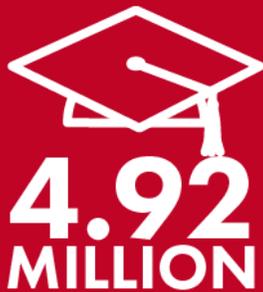
Different Levels

Many career colleges will offer various levels of courses to suit different students' needs. If you've already decided the industry you would like to work for and have an idea in mind of what position you would like to work in, the career counselor at your college should be able to match you up with the course that will benefit you the most.

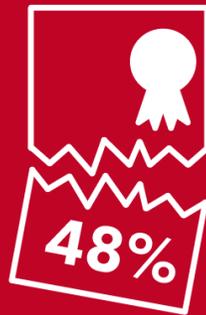
They will be able to help you find a program that will challenge your weaknesses and play to your strengths to put you in the best possible position for employment at the end of the certification.



92% of adults aged 25-64 have at least an upper secondary education.



There are 4.92 million primary and secondary students in Canada.



Nearly 48% of the people said their degrees were not relevant to their current jobs.



40 percent of students do not complete four-year programs in six years.

What To Look Out For

It's important to make sure that the career colleges you speak to are setting attainable requirements.

Not only should the programs be financially attainable and flexible for your own schedule, but the qualifications at the end of your studies should also be realistic for you.

Be careful when choosing a career college that the institution is making an effort to understand your individual needs and that they offer resources and opportunities to benefit you as an individual, not as a customer.

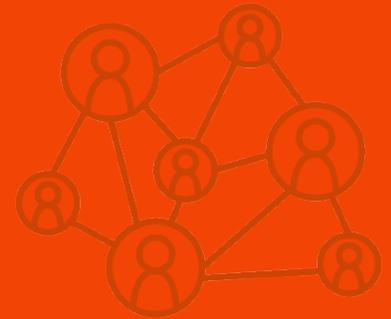
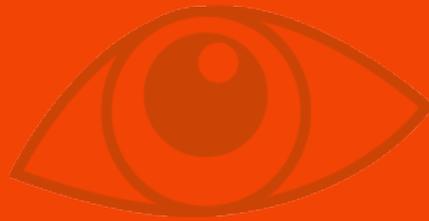
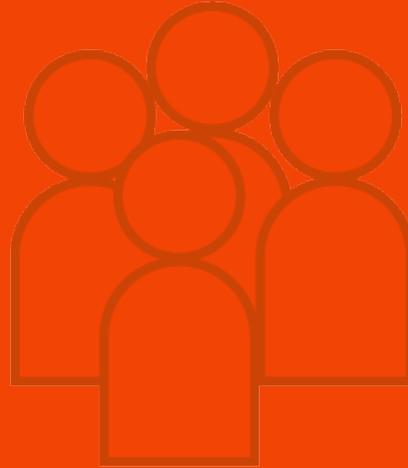
“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world”

- Nelson Mandela

5 Reasonable Class Sizes

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Reasonable Class Sizes



Class size is one of the biggest factors that differentiates the university education to the college experience. While university lecture halls are regularly full to the brim with up to 700 students interested in the most popular classes, career colleges do not tend to have more than 35 students per class.

The limited number of students in a college classroom can have many benefits to the students and the instructors, as long as the career college has the right priorities.

Benefits for students in a small class are...

More Attention

Simple math indicates that if an instructor has to divide their time and attention between 20 students or 100 students, the 20 students will get a more personal learning experience. A college instructor can really get to know the strengths and weaknesses of their students and help them with any issues that arise.

Coursework becomes a lot easier to grade for the instructors, and feedback can be individualised and taken into consideration for a more mutually beneficial experience. A smaller class size means that there is no opportunity to be ignored or to hide in the corner when you're uncertain about a particular subject, this means that your concerns can be addressed and minimised.

Building Connections

When your class size is a reasonable size, it means that you can talk to your peers and get to know them as you study together. They can be there to help you out if you are struggling with a piece of work or a subject that you didn't quite understand, you create a community within your class and receive support from people going through the same experience as you.

It can also mean that you can make valuable and meaningful connections for your future in your new career. The connection can also be extended to the instructor, who will understand you as an individual and will know the benefits you can bring to the industry or to a particular company that may lead to an employment opportunity.

Personalised Resources

An instructor that knows their students can cater their feedback, resources, and teaching style to achieve the best results possible. A good career college will give the instructors this opportunity and allow you to get the most out of your education and be in the best position at the end of your studies.

An instructor may notice that you are interested in a particular style of music or book genre and will bear you in mind when they see an article or video online that will cater to your interests while being relevant to the curriculum.

Better Career Preparation

An instructor that has fewer students to assess will be able to provide you with better feedback and preparation for your new career. A good career college will give the instructors and the students the freedom to adjust lesson plans based on the needs of the class in order to better prepare them for their futures.

Hands-On Experience

When a career college provides a smaller class size, it gives the students an opportunity for a more hands-on experience. Rather than being lectured for hours by an instructor who has no idea about whether or not you are keeping up with their ramblings, a good career college will provide you with a classroom with the size and capacity to actually move around and participate in different projects while the instructor can monitor your progress and guide you.

A hands-on experience is essential to fully understanding what you are being taught, and saves you the time and energy of rereading your lecture notes religiously every evening to try to understand what is going on.

8%

Students assigned to smaller classes perform 8% better in tests, on average, than those assigned to medium-sized classes.



2% POINTS

Students assigned to small classes at the beginning of elementary school are about 2 percentage points more likely to be enrolled in college at age 20

What To Look Out For

If a career college is determined to squeeze as many students as it can into a small classroom, they are likely to care more about getting new students into the college than providing a quality education to their enrolled students.

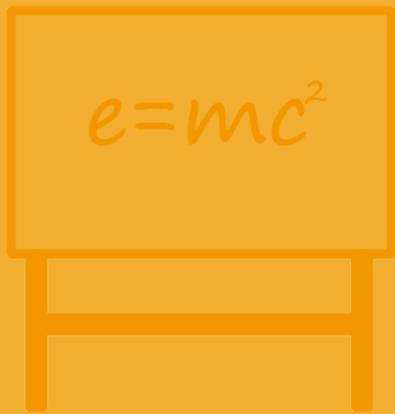
If instructors at a college appear to be impersonal and unwilling to get to know the individual needs of their students, it's likely that they are either not being given the opportunity to provide a personalised education for the class, or they simply don't care enough about the futures of their students.

“Learning never exhausts
the mind”

- Leonardo Da Vinci

6 Dedicated Teachers

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Being a teacher doesn't only require a person to be knowledgeable and experienced in a certain subject, but to also be personable and creative in order to meet the needs of their students.

While universities have tenure opportunities and a lot of research required of professors, a well-intended career college allows instructors the freedom to be of the most use to their students' needs.

Having a good instructor can be the difference between a pass and a fail in a lot of cases, and it's important to find out about how instructors at potential career colleges are treated and how they work.

A career college with dedicated instructors has many benefits...

Excellent Relationships

A good instructor will want to get to know their students in order to cater their lesson plans and curriculum towards them in the best way possible. They will have an understanding of that student when it comes to grading assessments and will be able to provide more constructive feedback and suggestions to help you reach the goals you have set.

A good relationship between students and teachers can also depend on the attitudes and values of the institution you are attending. A bad career college or university will put a heavy workload and a lot of pressure on their teaching staff to achieve certain results or commitments, meaning the instructors simply don't have the chance to do their best work.

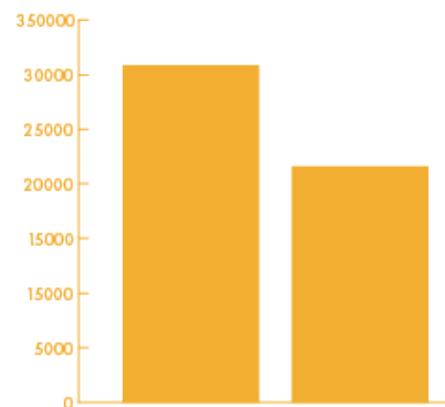
Up-To-Date Teaching

While professors and lecturers at universities are very experienced and have often worked in their particular industry for decades prior to becoming a professor, they are now focused on the opportunities that the university has to offer them and are not concerned with staying up-to-date with the latest industry trends and news.

Instructors at career colleges usually still work in the industry that they are teaching about and can therefore give the best advice about the latest developments for the students who are, essentially, the future of their industry. This is another reason why it is important that a good career college allows the instructors a chance to adjust their teaching based on updates and developments.



Tenure-line jobs are about 20 percent of all faculty positions at two-year institutions.



In 2016 post-secondary institutions hired 30,865 full-time, non-tenure-track instructional faculty members, compared to 21,511 full-time, tenure-track professors.

“Education is not the learning of facts, but the training of the mind to think”

- Albert Einstein

7 Great Results (In Less Time)

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While a traditional university experience may be catered towards 4-year courses and require students to attend full time and often live on campus, career colleges offer the flexibility to get the same, or better, results, in half the time, while offering part-time and online schedules when necessary.

All of the components that make a career college a great choice (as long as you find a good college with the right intentions) come together to deliver the results which, at the end of the day, is what it's all about.

You will be investing your time, effort, and money into the career college you believe will enable you to reach your potential and achieve the greatest results that you can to pave the way for your new future, so it should be worth it...

High Level of Education

According to multiple studies and recent articles by sources including CareerProfiles.info and Community College Review, the evolution of career and community colleges in the past few years has led to college students and graduates outperforming their university counterparts attending a 4-year course.

Students attending a university are often undecided and undedicated to their course and that can reflect in their grades, whereas a student attending a career college has already decided to commit to the next couple of years of their life.

The willingness and determination of a student, as well as the guidance and resources provided by their college, is what ultimately results in high achievements.



68% of online students are experienced professionals, 36% are 'industry switchers' looking to move to a new career, 34% are 'career accelerators' or working professionals who want to advance their current career.



89% of executives struggle to find candidates with the right mix of soft skills — things like teamwork, communication, and adaptability.



90% of hiring managers cited the ability to "communicate effectively orally" as very important and 87% said the same thing about the ability to "work effectively in teams."

Practical Results

A good career college doesn't strive to be like a university or any other educational institution, it should provide its students with the educational tools and equipment to complete their course and be ready for employment at the end of their studies.

A career college should not only provide the information that a student needs to be aware of before entering into their new career, but should also provide the practical skills needed. The smaller class sizes and flexible learning options provided by your career college will enable you to take part in practical assignments, as well as academic tasks.

Quicker Qualifications

A typical timeframe for a career college course is 2 years, making it quicker and easier to reach your career goals than attending a university. Although the courses are shorter, they do not lack the essential details needed to gain meaningful employment upon graduation.

Universities tend to offer a 4-year course that provides students with a lot of information that they don't necessarily need, along with transferable skills that can be applied to different jobs.

A good career college curriculum will provide you with catered information and skills based on your intended career and goals.

High Employment Rate

An important reason for students to enroll in a career college is the guarantee of employment at the end of your studies. A career college aims to provide you with the education that gets you hired, and these colleges have a very high rate of employment thanks to the career counselors, instructors, and college staff that set up the means and facilities to get students a job.

The practicum aspect of a career college course should also provide students with great contacts and opportunities that they wouldn't have had before, and many students are hired straight out of their practicum stage of their course.

Experience Perks

An article by Investopedia states that experience is valued as much as education when it comes to hiring new employees. Graduates from a career college that has provided them with both the education and the experience during their studies are often prepared for their new career and able to adapt easily as their career progresses.

The experience provided by a good career college means that you will be considered alongside, or before university graduates who lack the practicum or internship experience. A good career college course will set you up with the longevity needed to have a fulfilling and worthwhile career and change your future for the better.

What To Look Out For

Be sure to read reviews from alumni and former staff members of your potential colleges, staff have inside knowledge that students will perhaps not know about, and students will have the experience of dealing with the difficulties or assets of the college system.

A career college that looks good on the outside, and ticks all the boxes, may simply have a great marketing or sales team and lack the substance to fulfill their promises.

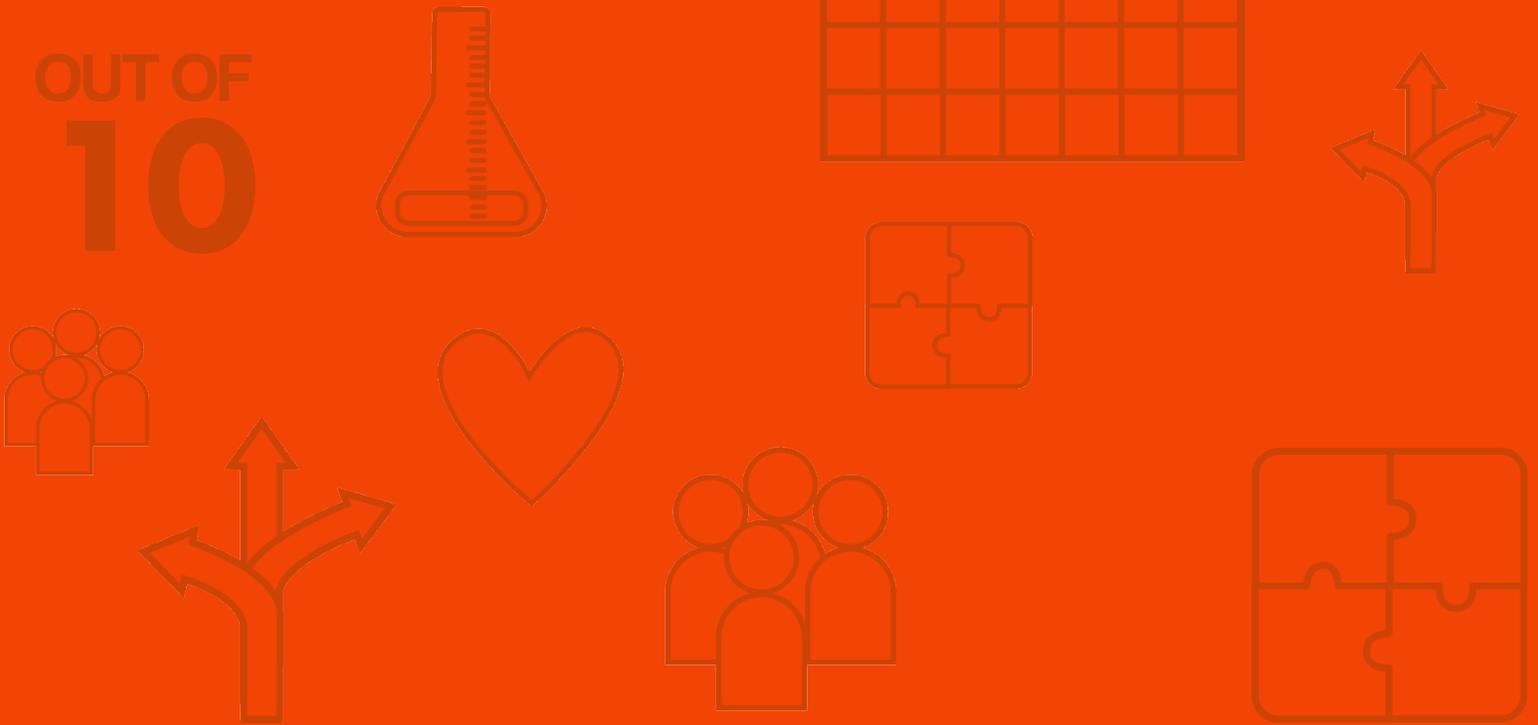
Look into the CEO or principal of the school and their attitudes and values towards their students and people in general, if they seem to only post on social media about ways to earn quick cash - be wary.

“When you know better
you do better”

- Maya Angelou

8 Regular Intake

OUT OF
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Career colleges will usually have a more regular intake of students than universities and offer a range of flexible start dates for the course you are interested in.

This means that classes will include fewer students, resulting in more one-on-one attention from the instructor, and you can begin your studies whenever you believe the time is right.

Universities often make students wait until September or, occasionally, January for their intake of new students, and those dates may not be a good time for you. Maybe you have the finance to fund your learning now or your lifestyle means that now is the best time for you to begin - next year may not be a great option for you.

The benefits of having a regular intake of students are...

Flexible Learning

The regular intake of career colleges means that there is more flexibility in your program in general. You can begin the course when you feel it is the right time for you, and you will be provided with the tools and equipment needed for the course. Laptops should be provided for students looking to learn online, textbooks, media files, contact information, and a welcome pack should be given to you before your studies begin.

You should be able to choose classes that fit closely to your personal schedule, and those class schedules should be flexible depending on the requirements of their class.

Smaller Class Sizes

With a new intake of students almost every month, a career college has smaller classes than a university in general, meaning the instructor can focus more on students individually. It also means that the college can request feedback and assessments from their students and really pay attention to the results and feedback in order to make changes to the program or the procedures of the college.

Smaller class sizes and regular intake mean that you can make meaningful connections with classmates and instructors at the campus and use them to further your career or help them out when they need it.

Fair Capacity

Career colleges have space for everyone interested in their programs because of the regular intake and the small class sizes compared to universities. Oftentimes, students interested in attending a university find it hard to register on a course before it fills up, and even when they are enrolled they find it difficult to keep up with the rate at which the professor teaches, or the high expectations set by the institution.

Career colleges are able to support every single one of their students, without anybody being unnoticed or forgotten, because of the regular intake.

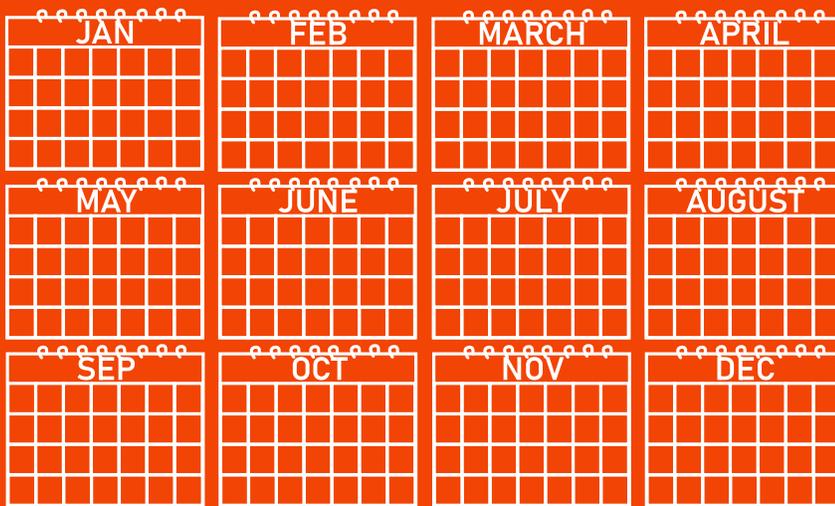
Here For You

Having a regular intake of students and flexible start dates for courses indicates that the career college you are looking at is here for you and has your best interests at its heart. It shows that the core values of the college revolve around the student and what the college and staff can do to help you, rather than making you jump through hoops in order to even qualify to attend their institution at a date chosen by them.

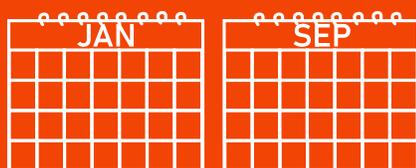
Resources Available

Career colleges will have many resources available to help you keep up with your studies and achieve the goals you have set for yourself.

Regular intake means that you can take your time completing your course and you have the time to figure out your coursework if you are struggling without getting left behind or forgotten by the instructor or the staff of the college.



Career college intake months



University intake months



82% of executives and 75% of hiring managers believe that it is very important or absolutely essential for individuals today to complete a college education.

What To Look For

Career colleges should have a regular intake of students, but should also ensure that there are enough students ready to sign up to a program before running it.

While a one-on-one education with an instructor might be beneficial in certain situations, classmates and peers are an important part of the higher education experience and will help you to brainstorm ideas, complete projects, and challenge you to better yourself.

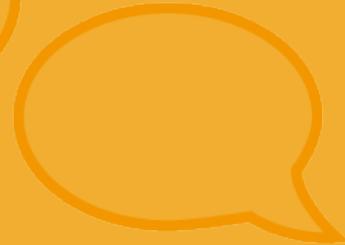
Which is what you decided to do when you looked into higher education.

“Education is not
preparation for life;
education is life itself”

- John Dewey

9 Friendly Staff

OUT OF
10



The staff working at a college or university are just as important to your education experience as the course and the instructor.

While instructors know the ins and outs of the subject they are teaching, the staff on campus are there to support your learning experience overall.

With career colleges, it's important that the staff make the effort to help place you into the career or industry that you are interested in, and support you throughout your studies with resources, connections, care, and attention.

Friendly and resourceful staff can benefit students in these ways...

Here To Help You

The whole point of a career college is to study at a higher education institution that will get to know you and get you hired into the profession you desire. The whole system should be designed around helping the students because, after all, that's what you are paying for.

There should be instructors, course leaders, career counselors, a principal, and administration staff all there to support you in your journey to changing your life. They should also be there to help you after you have graduated to help you make decisions in your career.

Social Activities

The staff at a career college should organise social events that will help you to make connections and further your career. While universities exist to simply qualify their students with often transferable skills, the social activities arranged by a career college, just like the education, is there to get you hired.

Pot luck lunches, awards programs, lounge facilities, and social media events are all organised in order for you to make quality connections, learn new things, meet new people, and get incite into other people's experiences in the career you're interested in.



87% of students who received personalized communications said that it was an important factor in their college decision



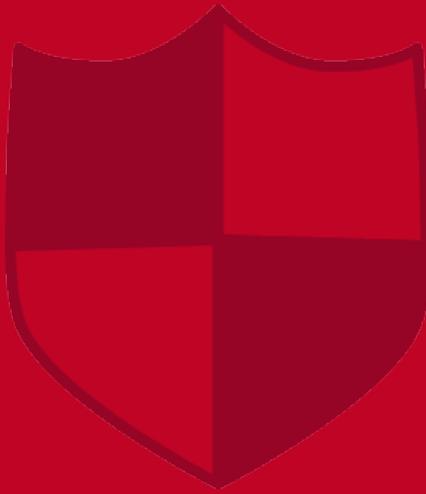
On average, students have to speak with 4+ people to get an answer to a single advising question

“Education is the passport
to the future, for tomorrow
belongs to those who
prepare for it today”

- Malcolm X

10 Protection

OUT OF
10



Institutions of higher education have a rigorous application process and high expectations of those who become students, this is to be expected. However, career colleges also need to meet the expectations of their students and alumni in order to become and remain a reputable institution and stay in business.

Career colleges advertise themselves as places of education that will get you hired at the end of your studies, and they need to meet these standards. You should feel that your education and future is protected by the investment you have made into a career college from the very moment you begin to enquire.

Career colleges should make you feel protected with...

Financial Investment

You are not only a student at your higher education institution, you are also a customer. Although career colleges cost significantly less than a university, they are still a financial investment that you are making to better yourself, further your career, and pave a greater future for yourself and your loved ones.

It's a financial investment that you deserve to get a good return on. A good career college will set realistic education expectations for the cost of their teaching and resources. They will understand how significant the decision is for you and your iteration it will make to your finances and your future.

Honest Goals

Many universities care a lot about their reputation and setting high standards for their students and alumni. While career colleges also think about their reputation, they base it on the employment results and honest reviews about the quality of their institution.

A reputable and trustworthy career college will work with you to set honest goals and realistic expectations of what they can provide for you and what will be expected of you to achieve those goals.

Helpful Staff

From the moment you begin your research into a career college to the time you pay your money and begin your program, you should have all of the information you require upfront and openly delivered by the staff of the institution. A high quality administration team will make all the difference and give you trust in the college and how you will be supported throughout your learning.

Every aspect of the enrollment process should be explained clearly and precisely to you, including your financial obligations and refund policy. The staff should also be there to support you for the full length of your time at the college, and after you graduate.

High Standards

High standards should not only be set for the students of a college, but for the staff and the institution too. There should be a protocol set in place for your career college to gather frequent feedback from yourself and your fellow students, and adaptations should be made to courses or programs where students are not satisfied or are not achieving their goals.

While a university may rely on hundreds of years of history as a higher education institution, career colleges rely on the results and reviews of their alumni. They are not only helping you reach their high standards, but they should also be striving to reach yours, too.

Mutual Commitment

You are not only committing financially to the decision, you will also be changing your lifestyle during the time it takes for you to complete your studies.

You will be spending less time with friends and family, have to alter or change jobs while you study, or have to change your living situation in order to achieve the best results possible. You will be making a huge commitment, and the right career college will assure you that their commitment to your future is just as great as your own.

Be sure to ask all of the questions and address every concern you have while making the decision about college; it's your future at stake and a good career college will understand that and be able to answer any questions easily.

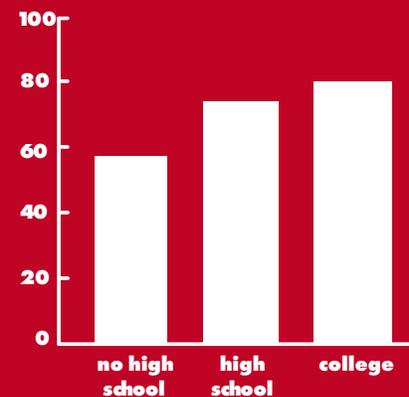
2.12
million
Post-secondary
students in Canada

227,694

College graduates
in Canada

315,630

University graduates
in Canada



Employment rates based on
level of education

What To Look Out For

Look out for a career college, or any higher education institution, that appears to be more concerned about you reaching their standards than putting in the effort to help you to reach them.

Also, be wary of administration or support staff that appear to be unconcerned, unhelpful or uninformed about policies or procedures in place to support the students in their goals.

If an institution seems to be more concerned about getting the fee from you without being there to support you through your studies or after graduation, be aware.

“To me, there was magic
in the learning”

- Michelle Obama

Conclusion

The information provided in this eBook is aimed to help you on your journey towards where you want to be in life. Follow the advice, remember the points made, and don't be afraid to ask the tough questions to potential institutions.

Consider your goals for the future as well as your current situation and responsibilities when choosing which course, career, and college are best for you. The right option for you is out there if you come equipped with expectations and the knowledge of what you're looking for.

The Next Step

Now that you have learned the benefits and what to look out for in a career college, you may be wondering what kind of courses career colleges offer. We at ABM College we have career ready programs for every sector, visit our website www.abmcollege.com and let us find the perfect program for you.

Health Programs

- Addictions & Community Service Worker Diploma
- Medical Office Assistant & Unit Clerk Diploma
- Pharmacy Assistant Diploma
- Massage Therapy Diploma
- Health Care Aide Certificate
- Personal Support Worker Certificate

Business Programs

- Legal Assistant Diploma
- Education Assistant Diploma
- Administrative Assistant Diploma
- Accounting and Payroll Administration Diploma
- Business Administration Diploma

Technology Programs

- Digital Marketing Diploma
- Graphic Design Diploma
- Help Desk Analyst Diploma
- Mobile App Developer Diploma
- Network Administrator Diploma
- Web Design & Development Diploma

Contact Us

If you are ready to get started on your journey to a new career, or are interested in hearing more about ABM College and the courses we offer, contact our admissions team or complete our online admissions form. We look forward to hearing from you!

Phone: 1-800-840-9680

Email: enrollment@abmcollege.com

Online: www.abmcollege.com/apply-online



