PROFESSIONAL DEGREES

A professional degree is a program of advanced learning which leads to an occupation governed by a mandatory regulatory body. Professional programs usually require an undergraduate degree as well as a professional degree and designation/licensure to use the professional title and actively practice the profession. Most professions require practicing members to engage in ongoing continuing education in order to retain their designation. Examples of Canadian professional programs are included below.

APPLYING TO DENTISTRY

SCHOOLS IN ONTARIO

- University of Toronto – https://www.dentistry.utoronto.ca/
- University of Western – http://schulich.uwo.ca/dentistry/

For a full listing of accredited Canadian universities offering Dentistry programs, visit: https://www.cda-adc.ca/cdacweb/en/

DENTAL APTITUDE TEST (DAT) (required by UofT and UWO)

The DAT is administered by dental schools to help students assess their capacity for a career in dentistry and to assist dental schools with admissions. The DAT is designed to measure manual dexterity, perceptual ability, reading comprehension, as well as science knowledge including biology and chemistry and is delivered over a half day (½).

For information about the DAT including test dates, visit the Canadian Dental Association’s website: http://www.cda-adc.ca/en/becoming/dat/index.asp.

USEFUL LINKS

Ontario Dental Association - http://www.youroralhealth.ca/
National Dental Examining Board of Canada: https://ndeb-bned.ca/en (on becoming a licensed dentist)

APPLYING TO NURSING

Below is a partial list of Ontario universities offering nursing degree programs. For a full list of accredited Canadian programs visit the Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing site: http://www.casn.ca/accreditation/accredited-canadian-nursing-education-programs/

CASPer Test: Computer-Based Assessment for Sampling Personal Characteristics

This is an online selection test designed to measure key personal and professional characteristics (eg. professionalism, empathy, compassion and cultural sensitivity. Consult individual schools for test requirements. For test information visit: takecasper.com

UNIVERSITY NURSING PROGRAMS IN ONTARIO

- University of Toronto – http://bloomberg.nursing.utoronto.ca/academic/programs
- Ryerson University - http://www.ryerson.ca/undergraduate/admission/programs/nurcollab.html
- Queen’s University – http://nursing.queensu.ca/
- York University – http://nurs.info.yorku.ca/
- Western University - http://www.uwo.ca/fhs/nursing/undergrad/bscn/index.html
- Brock University - http://brocku.ca/applied-health-sciences/academic-departments/nursing
- University of Windsor - http://www.uwindsor.ca/nursing/

ACCELERATED & SECOND ENTRY NURSING PROGRAMS IN ONTARIO

Accelerated programs are shorter in duration and applicable to applicants with existing and relevant university level studies (varies by school).

Second entry programs typically run for up to two years and are applicable to applicants with a completed university degree (requirements vary by school).

- McMaster University - http://fhs.mcmaster.ca/nursing/education_undergrad_bscnaccel.html
- Queen’s University - http://nursing.queensu.ca/undergraduate/two_year_advanced_standing_track_program
Ottawa University - http://health.uottawa.ca/nursing/programs/grad-undergrad-studies
Western University - http://www.uwo.ca/fhs/nursing/undergrad/bscn_ctf/index.html
Trent University - http://www.trentu.ca/nursing/program.php

USEFUL LINKS

- College of Nurses of Ontario: http://www.cno.org
- Ontario Nurses’ Association: http://www.ona.org
- Registered Nurses Association of Ontario: http://www.rnao.org
- The Canadian Nursing Students’ Association: http://www.cnsa.ca
- Ontario Colleges: http://www.ontariocolleges.ca

APPLYING TO PHARMACY

University of Toronto – www.pharmacy.utoronto.ca
University of Waterloo – www.pharmacy.uwaterloo.ca

For a full listing of Canadian and International universities offering Pharmacy programs, visit:

Prior to applying to international programs, students are encouraged to investigate the licensing requirements of the province/country in which they wish to practice.

PHARMACY COLLEGE ADMISSION TEST (PCAT)

An online multiple choice assessment covering topics including: biological processes, chemical processes, critical reading, and quantitative reasoning. Consult individual schools to determine if PCAT’s required.

Visit the PCAT website at www.pcatweb.info for more information.

To learn about accredited Pharmacy Technician programs visit:
http://ccapp-accredit.ca/find-an-accredited-program/

APPLYING TO OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Occupational Therapy is “a profession concerned with promoting health and well-being through occupation. The primary goal of occupational therapy is to enable people to participate in the activities of everyday life.” (World Federation of Occupational Therapists Council Meeting 2004; http://www.wfot.org/AboutUs/AboutOccupationalTherapy/DefinitionofOccupationalTherapy.aspx)

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS: Master of Science (M.Sc.) in Occupational Therapy

Application Procedures and Deadlines
Applications must be submitted through The Ontario Rehabilitation Sciences Programs Application Service (ORPAS): http://www.ouac.on.ca/orpas. Typically available in mid-October for admission to the program in the following academic year. The application deadline is typically early January.

SCHOOLS IN ONTARIO

University of Toronto: http://www.ot.utoronto.ca/
Western University: http://www.uwo.ca/fhs/ot/
McMaster University: http://srs-mcmaster.ca/
Queen’s University: http://rehab.queensu.ca/programs
University of Ottawa (training is in French only): http://health.uottawa.ca/

For a full listing of Canadian universities offering programs in Occupational Therapy, visit:
Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists: http://www.caot.ca/site/rfs/res_for_students?nav=sidebar

USEFUL LINKS

- College of Occupational Therapists of Ontario (COTO): http://www.coto.org
- Ontario Society of Occupational Therapists (OSOT): http://www.osot.on.ca/mis15/
- Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists (CAOT): http://www.caot.ca
- Canadian Occupational Therapy Foundation (COTF): http://www.colticanada.org
APPLYING TO PHYSICAL THERAPY

Physical Therapy is “a professional health discipline directed towards the prevention or alleviation of movement dysfunction, and towards the enhancement of physical capacity.” The ultimate goal of Physical Therapy is to assist the client/patient to achieve the highest possible level of independent function. (Department of Physiotherapy at the University of Toronto, 2009).

APPLICATION PROCEDURES AND DEADLINES

Applications for Ontario schools must be submitted through The Ontario Rehabilitation Sciences Programs Application Service (ORPAS): http://www.ouac.on.ca/orpas (typically available in mid-October for admission to the program in the following academic year). To obtain an application, choose the “Request an Application Package” option. The application deadline is typically early January.

SCHOOLS IN ONTARIO

- McMaster University – http://srs.mcmaster.ca/
- Queen’s University: http://rehab.queensu.ca/programs (Master’s only)
- Ottawa University (program offered in French only): http://www.uottawa.ca/graduate-studies/future-students/programs/physiotherapy
- University of Toronto: http://www.physicaltherapy.utoronto.ca/
- Western University: http://www.uwo.ca/fhs/pt/programs/mclsc/index.html

USEFUL LINKS

- College of Physiotherapists of Ontario: http://www.collegept.org/Home
- Canadian Physiotherapy Association: http://www.physiotherapy.ca

To learn about accredited Physiotherapy Assistant programs visit: https://physiotherapy.ca/becoming-pt-or-pta

APPLYING TO SOCIAL WORK

What is Social Work?

Social work is a profession concerned with helping individuals, families, groups and communities to enhance their individual and collective well-being. It aims to help people develop their skills and their abilities to use their own resources and those of the community to resolve problems. Social work is concerned with individual and personal problems but also with broader social issues.

Education: the minimum educational requirement to become a social worker is a Bachelor of Social Work (B.S.W.) degree. Agencies that hire social workers may prefer applicants who have earned a master’s degree (M.S.W.) and a master’s degree is generally required to advance to senior positions and perform specialized work such as therapy. College and university teaching positions require a PhD in social work.

Ontario Faculties of Social Work (offering both Bachelor & Master's degree programs – B.S.W. & M.S.W.)

- Carleton University – http://www.carleton.ca/ssw
- Lakehead University – https://www.lakeheadu.ca/academics/departments/social-work
- McMaster University – http://socialsciences.mcmaster.ca/social-work
- York University – http://sowk.laps.yorku.ca/
- University of Western Ontario, King's University College www.kings.uwo.ca/academics/school-of-social-work/
- University of Windsor – http://www.uwindsor.ca/socialwork/
- Renison University College (affiliated with University of Waterloo): https://uwaterloo.ca/school-of-social-work/
- Ryerson University, http://www.ryerson.ca/socialwork/
- University of Toronto – http://socialwork.utoronto.ca/ ("MSW & PhD only")

For a full listing of Canadian universities offering BSW / MSW / PhD programs in Social Work, visit: Canadian Association for Social Work Education https://caswe-acfts.ca/commission-on-accreditation/list-of-accredited-programs/
USEFUL LINKS

- Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers: http://www.ocswssw.org
- Ontario Association of Social Workers: http://www.oasw.org
- Canadian Association of Social Workers: http://www.casw-acts.ca/

APPLYING TO SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY OR AUDIOLOGY

Speech-language pathology (SLP) “is concerned with the study, assessment, and treatment of disorders of speech and language. Speech-language pathologists assess and treat communication disorders in children and adults.” (The Department of Speech Language Pathology at the University of Toronto, http://www.slp.utoronto.ca/about-us/the-history-of-slp/). You may also be interested in exploring Audiology (to assess, diagnose and treat a broad range of hearing and balance disorders). Audiology programs are taught in some of the same Canadian schools as SLP and are regulated by the same professional bodies.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Applications for Ontario schools must be submitted through The Ontario Rehabilitation Sciences Programs Application Service (ORPAS): http://www.orac.on.ca/orpas (typically available in mid-October for admission to the program in the following academic year). The application deadline is typically early January.

SCHOOLS IN CANADA

For a listing of Canadian universities offering programs in SLP and / or Audiology, visit: Speech Language & Audiology Canada: http://www.sac-oac.ca/students/academic-programs

**contact the university department directly for the most up-to-date information**

USEFUL LINKS

- College of Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists of Ontario: http://www.caspo.com
- Ontario Association of Speech Language Pathologists and Audiologists: http://www.osla.on.ca
- Speech Language Audiology Canada: http://sac-oac.ca

To learn about Communication Health Assistant training programs visit: www.sac-oac.ca/students/supportive-personnel-academic-programs

ADMISSION TESTS

Admission tests are required by numerous professional faculties and graduate schools. Typically, they are prepared and administered by American agencies, although there are numerous testing centres across Canada. Some good books on admission tests are available for use at the UTM Career Centre. To access admission test preparation e-books, visit: http://guides.library.utoronto.ca/c.php?g=373504&p=2526368

For further information about any of the tests, visit the web sites below or contact the administering agency by phone or e-mail. On-line registration is also possible for most tests via their web sites.

- GMAT (Graduate Management Admission Test) http://www.mba.com/global/the-gmat-exam.aspx
- MCAT (Medical College Admissions Test) https://www.aamc.org/students/applying/mcat/
- LSAT (Law Schools Admissions Test) http://www.lsac.org/jd/lsat/about-the-lsat.aspx
- GRE (Graduate Records Examination): http://www.ets.org/gre
- TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language): http://www.ets.org/toefl

CAREER CENTRE EVENTS & RESOURCES

Graduate & Professional Schools Fair: Annually in September (see Events Calendar on our website for details) https://www.utm.utoronto.ca/careers/events/events-calendar

Get Experience Fair: Annually in September (see Events Calendar on our website for details)

Professional and Graduate School Workshops: Attend workshops such as The Road to Graduate School, Applying to Teacher’s College and Law School and Medical School Information Sessions offered fall and winter terms (see Events Calendar on our website for details)

Resources & Links for Further Education (UTM Career Centre): https://www.utm.utoronto.ca/careers/further-education-0

Extern Job Shadowing Program & In the Field: Learn about various professions first-hand from individuals in the field. Job shadow. Network. Explore. (See our website for details)

Career Resource Library: See occupational binders and various career books at the Career Centre

Assistance with Graduate School Applications: Schedule an appointment with a Career Counsellor to have your application documents reviewed (e.g. résumé/CV, personal statement)

Individual Appointments: Discuss you career and further education questions with a Career Counsellor

Please note that this information is subject to change. It is best to refer to the original sources for the most up to date information. (Updated May 2017)