

# EDUCATION

Canada spends about 5.4% of its GDP on education, more than any other country in the G8. Education is integral to a healthy society and a prosperous economy. British Columbia has some of the best schools in the world, and every year thousands of students from across the globe come here to study. Canadian public primary and secondary schools are free, accessible, and offer a high quality of education.

The BC Ministry of Education administers enrollment of approximately 553,000 public schools, 81,000 independent schools and over 2,200 home school students. According to the 2016 Census there were over 2 million students enrolled in Canadian universities and colleges in 2016/2017.

The Langley School District No. 35 administers kindergarten through grade 12 curriculum to about 21,000 students in 45 schools. It was established in 1871, making it one of Canada's earliest established school districts. Today, the Langley School District serves youth of the Katzie, Kwantlen, Semiahmoo, and Matsqui First Nations, as well as the Township of Langley, and the City of Langley. In addition to the BC curriculum, it offers a diversity of programs to meet the needs & interests of students including French immersion, alternate & specialty programs, and international

baccalaureate certificate and diploma program for admission into universities worldwide. In addition to the 45 public schools, there are also 12 diverse private and independent schools in the Langley area. These range from faith-based, non-denominational, and individual-approached Montessori program.

Post-secondary educational institutions in Langley include Trinity Western University (TWU) and Kwantlen Polytechnic University (KPU).

TWU has been located in the Township since 1962 and is Canada's largest private, Christian liberal arts university and welcomes students from a variety of nationalities and faith backgrounds. The University focuses on the liberal arts, sciences, and professional studies with emphasis on academic excellence, research, and classroom engagement. It enrolls approximately 4,000 students and has a student faculty ratio of 16:1. TWU offers 42 undergraduate majors and has 17 graduate degree programs, and is home to the Spartans, championship-winning athletic teams in basketball, volleyball, soccer, track & field, and cross-country.

KPU is one of the largest post-secondary institutions in British Columbia with over 15,000 students annually attending courses. With five

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## Useful Links

Trinity Western University  
[twu.ca](http://twu.ca)

Langley School District No. 35  
[sd35.bc.ca](http://sd35.bc.ca)

Kwantlen Polytechnic University  
[kpu.ca](http://kpu.ca)

With 40 public schools, 12 private schools and two post-secondary educational institutions, Langley provides a variety of specialized education and training opportunities, making learning attractive, available, and accessible.

campuses across Metro Vancouver, KPU is Canada's only polytechnic university with a focus on hands-on skills in addition to traditional academics. Many of the programs at Kwantlen include work experience, practicums or cooperative education options. KPU offers university bachelor degrees, associate degrees, diplomas, certificates, and citations in over 120 programs. There are also opportunities to learn internationally through field schools, exchanges, and studying abroad.

Other notable educational facilities and institutions in the Lower Mainland include:

***British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT)***

BCIT offers programs in applied & natural sciences, business & media, computing & IT, engineering, health sciences, and trades. BCIT is the largest and longest serving provider of trades training and apprenticeship programs in Western Canada.

***Capilano University (CAPU)***

CAPU is a teaching-focused university in North Vancouver, offering a wide range of programs and services in areas as diverse as film and animation, early childhood education, and tourism management. CAPU aligns program offering with the BC Skills for Jobs Blueprint, ensuring students graduate career-ready for BC's most in-demand jobs.

***Emily Carr University of Art and Design (ECUAD)***

ECUAD is solely devoted to education, learning and research in art, design, and media.

ECUAD is recognized as one of Canada's most research-intensive art and design universities.

***Simon Fraser University (SFU)***

SFU is where innovative education, cutting-edge research and community outreach intersect. SFU has become Canada's leading comprehensive university with three thriving urban campuses in BC. With programs in applied sciences, arts & social sciences, business, education, environment, health sciences, science, as well as communication, art & technology, SFU enables students to build their own undergraduate degree and provides distance education, and nights & weekend classes.

***University of British Columbia (UBC)***

UBC is a global center for teaching, learning, and research, consistently ranked among the top 20 public universities in the world. With programs in applied sciences, architecture, community & regional planning, dentistry, education, journalism, kinesiology, law, medicine, nursing, public policy & global affairs, social work, and economics, UBC has diverse offerings and an environment that attracts students from around the world.

***University of the Fraser Valley (UFV)***

UFV is recognized for an excellent learning environment, creative integration of programming, and their work with local communities. UFV has campuses in Abbotsford, Chilliwack, Mission, and Hope, and offers over 100 programs in more than 30 subject areas, as well as trades and technology programs.