



Education

This region is home to a well educated population, with more than 60% of the population benefiting from a post-secondary education. The region is committed to quality education from pre-school and kindergarten through to our college and university. Within the Alberta public-school and Catholic-school systems, there are more than 40 elementary schools (primary), junior high schools (pre-secondary), high schools (secondary) and integrated occupational schools (secondary).

When it comes to selecting a school, parents and students can choose from a wide range of options. Alberta is recognized internationally for its excellent K–12 (kindergarten through high school) education system.

Alberta School System Options

Most children attend public, separate, francophone or charter schools that are part of Alberta's public education system. They can also access a number of unique and innovative programs - including home education, online/virtual schools, outreach programs and alternative programs. Parents can also opt to home school their children.

Choice is one of the important principles Alberta's education system is built on, and this is embodied in the numerous education offerings available within the system.

The predominant options include:

- **Public and Separate Schools**
 - Youth between the ages of 6 and 19 years of age
 - Open to all Canadian citizens, including those admitted to Canada for permanent residence, a child of a Canadian citizen, or child of an individual admitted to Canada for permanent or temporary residence
- **Francophone Schools (French Language)**
 - Under Canadian law, parents whose first language is French have a constitutional right to have their child educated in French when there are enough students to warrant it.
- **Private Schools**
 - Parents may choose to educate their children outside the public education system, within the private school system. Private schools may charge tuition and other fees as required.
- **Charter Schools**
 - These autonomous non-profit public schools are designed to provide innovative or enhanced education programs that improve the acquisition of student skills, attitudes and knowledge in some measurable way.

Lethbridge is one of only a few cities its size with two post-secondary institutions. Combined with our smaller size and safe environment, our region is an exceptional place for students from across Canada and around the world.

Lethbridge College

www.lethbridgecollege.ca

Lethbridge College has a 50-year tradition of meeting the educational and training needs of southern Albertans. Working collaboratively within the Campus Alberta system, more than 6,200 students access Lethbridge College each year in over 70 career programs including: Business and Management, Media and Design, Engineering Technology, Justice Studies, Health Sciences, Human Services, Agriculture and Natural Sciences, Environmental Sciences, Trades and Apprenticeships, Preparatory Studies and University Transfer.

Innovative career-focused programs provide Lethbridge College graduates with a solid foundation to go forward into the working world and help to facilitate the change that is often needed in today's business environment. Lethbridge College's mission is to inspire and facilitate learning and innovation to meet economic and social needs.

Each College program has an advisory committee made up of business and industry representatives to guide curriculum development. The quality of Trades and Technologies programs at Lethbridge College is reflected in the Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training Board's recognition of four instructors as the best in southern Alberta for four years running. Now the College is embarking on a project to build a new Trades wing, to add advanced technologies to the training of future tradespeople.

The Lethbridge College welcomes students from China and all around the world to join our campus community. Lethbridge College and the Southern Alberta region offer a safe and friendly environment in which to live and study. Information is available in Mandarin at: http://www.lethbridgecollege.ca/sites/default/files/imce/admissions/international/viewbooks/international_chinese_viewbook_2014-15_rev_nov.pdf

The University of Lethbridge

www.uleth.ca

Founded in 1967 as a liberal arts institution, the University of Lethbridge has evolved into a comprehensive university with a broad range of programs. More than 500 Faculty members educate nearly 8,500 students in undergraduate and graduate programs in education, fine arts, health sciences, humanities, management, nursing, sciences and social sciences, leading to academic degrees at the bachelor, master's and doctoral levels. The institution also provides select degree completion opportunities for transfer students and diploma graduates, as well as programs and degrees that lead to a professional designation.

As one of Canada's top primarily undergraduate universities, the University of Lethbridge strives to support the academic, professional, and personal development of our students. The university is ranked 3rd overall in the primarily undergraduate category within the Maclean's Canadian University rankings (2014). International students comprise approximately 7% of the

University's total enrolment. There are over 85 countries represented on campus with 125 students from the People's Republic of China as at Fall 2014.

The U of L has experienced unprecedented growth over the past decade. The growth in student enrolment has been reflected in the landscape of the campus with the addition of 11 new buildings in the past 10 years. In spite of this growth, the U of L maintains a close-knit feel and a dedication to our history as a liberal arts institution.

With facilities for pursuing original research and creative activities, the university conducts research in all disciplines and is dedicated to research excellence in areas in which it has special expertise or that have particular relevance to the region through research centres and institutes. These include the Canadian Centre for Behavioural Neuroscience, the Prentice Institute for Global Population and Economy, and the Water Institute for Sustainable Environments.

This region offers multiple centres providing world-class research and development. At the **University of Lethbridge** researchers are performing **ground-breaking work** in the field of science, **Lethbridge College** is training youth in **state of the art techniques** to deal with today's age of technology and environmentalism and **Lethbridge Research Centre** is **expanding our agricultural abilities** at one of Canada's largest Agriculture and Agri-food research facilities. The University of Lethbridge is also home to **nine research centres and institutes** that bring leading researchers together from across disciplines to address issues that affect our world and beyond.