

Education Assistant & Community Support Certificate | WL Campus

Program Information Package 2020-21

Program Description

The Education Assistant & Community Support Certificate (EACS) is an eight-month employment ready program that prepares students for careers that provide support and service to children, youth or adults with exceptionalities. Students are prepared to work as an education assistant in British Columbian school districts or in communities as support workers.

The program includes a field work practicum in the winter semester. Practicum placements are offered in many different schools and community agencies.

Graduates from the Education Assistant & Community Support Certificate may ladder directly into year two of the Human Service Diploma program. At TRU Williams Lake, EACS is used as year one of the Human Service Diploma program.

Next Intake Date(s)

September 2020

Learning Options

- **Full-time and part-time study.** The program is offered on a full-time basis (5 courses per semester) over eight months. Part-time study is also available; most part-time students take 2-3 courses per semester over two years.
- **The Education Assistant & Community Support Certificate is not available online through TRU Open Learning,** although some courses may be available by distance. Please contact the TRU Williams Lake Academic Advisor for more details.

Application Deadline

Applications are accepted until the program has reached capacity; there is no set application deadline.

After the program is full, completed applications will continue to be accepted and placed on a waitlist until the start of the program. Waitlisted applicants will be offered a seat on a first-applied, first-qualified basis should a seat in the program become available before the start of the program.

Admission Requirements

Admission is limited. Admission is offered on a first-applied, first-qualified (completed application and all requirements met) basis. It is important to complete your application as soon as possible to ensure the best chance of securing a seat.

Educational Requirements

1. Grade 12 (or equivalent), or mature student status
2. English 12 with a minimum 73% (or equivalent), or successful completion of the ACCUPLACER assessment (see below).

General Requirements

1. Canadian citizenship or permanent resident status
2. Applicants must be 18 years of age as of December 31 of their fall semester
3. Two letters of reference (forms will be sent in the admissions package)
4. Submit an immunization record

What if I don't meet the program requirements?

If you don't meet the minimum requirement in English 12, you can write the ACCUPLACER English assessment in place of upgrading your English course. The ACCUPLACER costs \$37 to write. You can schedule your ACCUPLACER by calling 250-392-8000 and you can find more details online: www.tru.ca/assessment/accuplacer

Alternatively, if you are not successful on the ACCUPLACER or you prefer to upgrade your English course, please meet with the TRU Williams Lake Academic Advisor to create your individual upgrading plan.

International Students

The Education Assistant & Community Support Certificate at TRU Williams Lake is not open to international students.

Permanent Resident Students

If you are a Canadian Permanent Resident, and/or you did not graduate from a BC or Canadian high school, you may be required to meet and/or obtain the minimum English Language Proficiency requirement through additional coursework or approved English placement assessment. In general: If your high school and/or post-secondary was completed in a country where English is not the official language, you will likely have to complete one of the following:

- Assessment: TOEFL (iBT: 88+ with no sections below 2.0), IELTS (6.5+ with no bands below 6.0) or Pearson Test of English. Please note: English placement assessment likely needs to be completed in either Vancouver, Kamloops, Prince George, or another city.
- Additional Coursework: English as a Second Language (ESAL) course. Please note: TRU Williams Lake does not offer any ESAL courses.

How to Apply

1. **Submit your application after October 1.** There are two ways to submit a TRU application form: by printing and filling in the paper [TRU Application Form](#), then submitting it to the TRU WL admissions office in-person or by email to wladmissions@tru.ca; or you may apply online via [Education Planner BC website](#) (the latter method requires payment with credit card).
2. **Pay the application fee of \$29.83.** Your application will not be processed until the application fee is paid.
3. **Submit official high school transcripts and any post-secondary transcript(s)**, before the application deadline, to:
Thompson Rivers University – Williams Lake Campus
Admissions Office
1250 Western Avenue
Williams Lake, BC V2G 1H7

BC high school applicants and graduates can submit their official transcripts through the [Student Transcripts Service \(STS\)](#).

Current high school applicants are required to submit their official transcripts before the application deadline and at the time of graduation. Please also ensure submission of interim grade 12 grades before the application deadline to increase your competitive consideration. Past high school applicants are required to submit their official transcript before the application deadline. To order your official high school transcript, please visit your provincial or territorial Ministry of Education website for further information.

Applicants are required to submit official transcripts from all post-secondary institutions attended. If you are currently attending another post-secondary institution, you must submit an official transcript at the time of your application. Should you have courses in progress, you will be required to submit a final official transcript at completion of these courses.

Need help with transcripts? Find our step-by-step guide at tru.ca/future/admissions/undergrad/submit-transcript

You will be contacted by admissions via email within 2-3 weeks of submission of your online application regarding next steps.

Applicants are responsible to ensure all transcripts and required documents are submitted by the application deadline.

Funding and Support Services

TRU Grit Awards are awarded annually to TRU Williams Lake students. The financial awards range from \$500 to \$2,000 and all students are encouraged to apply as all applications will be considered. Students who demonstrate a financial need will be given a higher priority. Applications open in late spring every year: tru.ca/williamslake/student-services/financialaid

TRU Student Awards & Financial Support offers a comprehensive range of programs to both assist students in financing their educational and living costs, and to recognize academic excellence. Financial support can be a combination of bursaries, scholarships, awards, work-study, loans and grants. More information can be found online: tru.ca/awards

Student loan funding is designed to supplement the resources of those who could not otherwise afford post-secondary studies. **BC Student Loan applications can be found online at studentaidbc.ca.** If you are a resident of another Canadian province or territory, you apply for government student assistance through your home province/territory.

Indigenous students are encouraged to contact TRU Williams Lake's Gathering Place (indigenous student services) at 250-392-8179. The Gathering Place is a friendly and inviting Indigenous centre that provides information on all aspects of university life and doubles as a space to socialize, study or just take a break from your day. It is truly a home away from home.

Accessibility Services provides academic accommodations and service to all eligible TRU students, both on campus and Open Learning. They facilitate equal access to educational opportunities by reducing physical, attitudinal and systematic barriers. Find out more online: tru.ca/as

Visit the TRU Williams Lake website, tru.ca/williamslake/studentervices for more information regarding additional support services, including counselling, sponsorship and student housing options.

Program Costs Estimate (full-time, one year)

Tuition	\$4,321
Student Fees	\$725
Books	\$1,734
Total Approximate Cost – Year 1	\$6,780

Commitment Fee: If you are offered a seat in the EACS program, to accept and hold your seat you are required to pay a \$500 tuition deposit within two weeks of receiving your official seat offer. The commitment fee will count as payment towards your tuition.

Payment deadlines: Tuition and student fees are due the last Friday in August for the Fall semester and the first Friday in January for the Winter semester.

Need Help? Contact Us.

TRU Williams Lake Reception (General inquiries and to book an advising appointment):

Phone: 250-392-8000

Email: wmain@tru.ca

TRU Williams Lake Admissions:

Phone: 250-392-8020

Email: wladmissions@tru.ca