



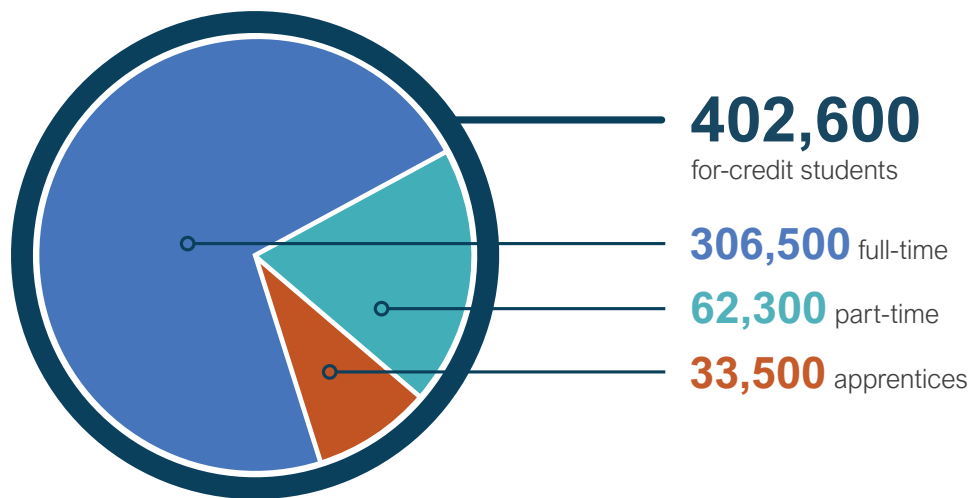
POLYTECHNICS AT WORK

Canada faces long-term challenges including skill mismatches, weak business innovation and the effects of climate change. Canada’s polytechnics contribute practical solutions by building workforce-ready graduates, offering mid-career upskilling and supporting business innovation through applied research.

Polytechnic institutions are focused on strategic workforce development, allowing students to learn alongside industry professionals, to industry standards, using industry equipment. Polytechnics deliver the skills employers demand in 10 key ways:

- **Industry-focused programming**
 - **Hands-on learning**
 - **Work-integrated learning**
 - **Applied research**
 - **Continuing education**
- **International education**
 - **Apprenticeship technical training**
 - **Applied degrees**
 - **Graduate certificates**
 - **Diploma programs**

In the 2022-23 school year, our members served:



Our members received **767,700 e-learning registrations**



114,600 students graduated from member institutions

Credentials

Polytechnics offer a variety of programs tailored to the diverse students and sectors they serve. Learners develop the skills and confidence they need, preparing them for immediate and long-term success in the workplace.

In 2022-23, Polytechnics Canada members offered:



More than
1,050
diploma
programs



Nearly
650
certificate
programs



More than
450
graduate
certificates



Nearly
270
apprenticeship
programs



Nearly
280
Bachelor's
degree
programs

Upskilling & Reskilling

More than 90% of Canadian workers and employers believe skills development is important. Polytechnics deliver training to those looking to upgrade their skills or re-enter the labour market. Our members receive hundreds of thousands of continuing education registrations each year, which is no surprise given that polytechnics and institutes of technology are ranked as the most appealing external training providers by Canadian workers.*

Cost is the main reason Canadians and their employers do not pursue training. **96% of workers are unaware of federal funding programs**, like the Canada Training Benefit, that will help offset the cost of skills development*



OUR MEMBERS OFFER
affordable courses at an
average **cost of \$465**

Time is the second greatest barrier to pursuing upskilling and reskilling. **Workers want to be able to complete a course in less than six months***



OUR MEMBERS OFFER
flexible courses which take
an average of **37 hours**
to complete

Over **85% of employers were satisfied with the upskilling training provided by polytechnics** which resulted in improved competitiveness and workforce retention*



OUR MEMBERS OFFER
nearly **20,000 courses** in a
variety of fields including health,
manufacturing, IT and
the environment

Employers who previously used polytechnics and institutes of technology for upskilling and reskilling indicated the following benefits:*

- Increased productivity
- A more resilient workforce
- Filled skills gaps
- Improved competitiveness
- Supported economic recovery
- Increased workforce retention
- Facilitated internal workforce transitions
- Improved employee relationships

*Research conducted by Leger (2022) on behalf of Polytechnics Canada

Work-integrated Learning

Polytechnic education offers learners opportunities to work alongside their future employers. Students benefit from experience and exposure to the people, technology and challenges that characterize their future workplaces.

- 100% of polytechnic programs are built around an experiential component or model
- 90% of employers who hired a polytechnic graduate point to practical experience as a key benefit (Leger 2021)

Polytechnics offer a spectrum of work-integrated learning opportunities including:

Service learning	Capstone projects	Applied research	Internships	Field placements	Co-op placements	Apprenticeships
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Applied Research

Applied research refers to an exceptionally broad range of services, such as prototyping and product development, that polytechnic institutions can offer business and community partners to overcome challenges.

OUR MEMBERS OFFER

Nearly 90 applied research spaces with the equipment and expertise needed to deliver solutions for partners of all sizes, across all sectors, including artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, healthcare and advanced manufacturing.

The economic and social benefits of applied research collaborations with business partners are substantial. 2023 data indicates that every dollar invested in polytechnic applied research generates a return on investment from a **low estimate of \$8.09 to a high of \$18.49.***

In 2023-24, Polytechnics Canada members:



Conducted **5,609** applied research projects



Developed **3,773** prototypes



Deployed nearly **\$48.6 million** in federal funding



Leveraged an additional **\$79.2 million** from other sources



Served **3,051** partners



Engaged **28,522** students



Leveraged the expertise of **2,324** faculty

*The Economic Impact of Applied Research at Canada's Polytechnics report (2024)

Polytechnics Canada Members

If there ever were an institution designed to prepare our population for the workforce of tomorrow, it's the polytechnic. Located in Canada's key economic regions, polytechnic institutions are working in partnership with industry to develop curricula across a broad range of credentials that are aligned with real-time industry needs. The result is a multi-disciplinary talent pipeline with the technical and employability skills to hit the ground running. Polytechnics Canada members also have considerable depth and capacity to partner with industry on applied R&D, making our institutions a destination for employers seeking support with new processes, technology adoption, commercialization and more.



About Us

Polytechnics Canada is a non-profit association representing 13 leading research-intensive, publicly supported polytechnics and institutes of technology. We advocate for federal action in areas where polytechnics provide solutions for a more innovative, productive and globally competitive country. Polytechnics Canada members play a critical role in addressing some of the country's greatest challenges. Through their facilities and networks, our members provide meaningful solutions to industry problems and accelerate knowledge transfer.