



10 reasons why a private career college may be right for you...

As you begin to consider or re-consider your career goals and evaluate Post-Secondary education, the questions and choices may appear confusing.

Do I go directly into the work force? Can I successfully change careers? Should I go to College or University? How do I afford the tuition and living costs? Which school should I choose? Where can I get advice and information on my options?

High School Guidance offices often have up-to-date information on the many public colleges and universities and will provide you with this information. Often students cannot make a multi-year commitment to school due to: affordability; supporting a family, lack of high grades or uncertain of career choices and goals.

Hidden amongst the choices are over 400 Private Career Colleges in Ontario. Often, the guidance office has little information and experience with these institutions. For thousands of high school graduates each year, choosing a Private Career College has changed their lives.

For career changers and unemployed workers years removed from the high school system, researching potential schools becomes even more difficult. This Top Ten Checklist becomes even more valuable in making an educated decision on a career change.

Students that are considering post secondary education should be aware of the benefits of Private Career Colleges and include them in their education decision-making process.

This Top 10 Checklist gives you information on the hidden gems within our education system:

1. Graduate into the workforce in 12 months or less versus other schools - Public Colleges and Universities can take 2 to 4 years to graduate. At Private Career Colleges (PCC) you can graduate with a diploma and be in the work force in 1 year or less. By getting into the work force quicker, you can use your earning power to pay back debts quicker and begin your career. At a PCC this is accomplished because you only take courses relevant to your specialty. There are no elective subjects as required in the public system.
2. Compressed Learning Day - A PCC typically teaches class for 5 hours per day scheduled in the morning and afternoon. This enables you to work part time during your program and still leave time for homework and a social life.
3. Industry-experienced Teachers & Smaller Class Sizes - PCC instructors are audited by the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities to ensure that they have real world experience. Most PCC instructors demonstrate that on a daily basis in the classroom. Typically, the class sizes range from 10 to 20 students enabling Instructors to give more personalized attention to the student than in a public institution.

4. PCC's delivers curriculum that focuses on both theory and practical skills and includes instructor-led and facilitated training.
5. Curriculum tends to be more current - The curriculum at a PCC is very market driven due to the number of PCC's competing for students. It tends to be updated regularly (especially in information technology {IT} programs). Programs that don't result in jobs disappear quickly. Certification from Industry Associations means credibility - Often PCC's include industry certifications in their programs. This recognition by provincial, Canadian or world-wide standards bodies gives employers confidence that graduates have the skills identified by these standards bodies to be successful in the work force. Often a graduate with certification will get priority in interviews and hiring.
6. There is a PCC near you - With over 400 PCC's in Ontario, there are often multiple choices in the city closest to your home. This enables you to live at home so you incur less debt. It also means that you don't have to leave your friends and part-time jobs to go to school if you don't want to.
7. Registered with MTCU means Security & Financing - The PCC is registered with the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities. PCC's are subject to annual audits to ensure that the school meets requirements laid out by the Ministry. Schools are measured annually on their graduate and employment rates and these results are published so potential students can review the success rates. Students going to many PCC's are able to apply for Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) loans to assist in the funding of their tuition and living expenses.
8. Job Placement Focus - Most PCC's have dedicated Career Services Consultants to help you find a job. They pay more personalized attention than traditional colleges and universities due to the lower number of students in a PCC. Career Services Consultants reach out into a particular industry to promote graduates to employers and promote employers to students.
9. Career Management Support - Private Career Colleges are required to deliver Career Management Curriculum and support to students during their program. Resume Writing, Interviewing Skills and Job Search Guidance are common components of the curriculum.
10. Student Financing Solutions - Each PCC is required to have a Financial Aid Officer (FAO) on-site. The role of the FAO is to assist students in assessing their financial situation and determine the best solution for the student in financing their education. The FAO helps students throughout the school year as circumstances occur that may impact their finances. The FAO also provides guidance to students at the completion of their program as to managing any student loan debts and the best way to minimize them and pay them off.

Private Career Colleges like CTS Canadian Career College are very willing to meet with prospective students, help them assess whether the school is right for them and work with the student to finalize a financing solution if required.

CTS Canadian Career College has locations in Sudbury, North Bay and Barrie
www.ctsccc.com