

THEME: UNDERSTANDING THE FUNDAMENTALS OF CANADIAN EDUCATION AND SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

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BRIEF LECTURE:

I appreciate the administrative arm of this platform for the privilege. Hello scholars, It's a great honour to be here. How many folks are online? I appreciate the administrative arm of this platform, thanks for the privilege, straight to business.

Understanding the fundamentals of Canadian Education and Scholarship Opportunities

Outline...

- A. Facts about Canada her Educational system
- B. Admission and Scholarships application procedure
- C. Post-graduation opportunities.
- D. Questions and Answers

A. FACTS ABOUT CANADA AND HER EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM

Canada is a place to be:

1. It has one of the best educational systems in the world.
2. You can secure admission and scholarships/funding/fellowship without writing GRE nor TOEFL.

3. At the moment, there is 98% certainty that an international student can stay back after graduation to work and apply for permanent residence.
4. While studying in Canada, you can easily bring your wife along with you or she can join you later. She will be given an Open work permit to work while you study.
5. Canada does not grant PhD or Research based masters admission without the availability of funding.
6. The easiest admission to get in Canada is Course based/Professional Masters which are usually for 1 year and do not have funding.
7. Admission rejections are rampant here because of the competitiveness; it doesn't mean you are not qualified.
8. The minimum grade requirement for Master degree admission in Canada is Second class upper. Anything less than this will lead to rejection.
9. Both course based Masters and research based Masters can lead to PhD. All that matters is securing a supervisor.
10. Some courses like Economics and other Management courses require GRE for admission in Canada.
11. Once you are a Canadian student. You can easily get a visiting visa to USA because they know you are genuine.

I can continue to talk on facts but time won't permit, Let me just give some further explanation to some of these points.

Summarily, Canada is a country that offers great funding opportunities to international students. But most people are not aware about the scholarships and funding opportunities there. Every admitted graduate student for Msc and PhD get automatic funding via fellowship, scholarship or research assistantship from their supervisors.

Once you are admitted with funding which can be a combination of Research Assistantship, Teaching Assistantship and or internal scholarships, after your tuition is deducted, the remaining fraction

of the money will be paid biweekly. However, if there are no funding available applicants won't be admitted.

B. ADMISSION AND SCHOLARSHIPS APPLICATION PROCEDURE

1. Minimum Admission requirement is 2nd class upper.
2. You will pay application fee of about \$65 - \$165 Canadian dollars.
3. Interestingly, University of British Columbia waive application fee for Nigerians. You may not see this clearly on their website but when you are to pay, the system automatically waives it.
4. Securing a supervisor who has funding to supervise you, gives 85% certainty in the admission process. However, securing a supervisor is the mind bending part of the process
5. Most Canadian admissions opens around October - April every year. Individual institutions vary.
6. It takes up to 3month to get admission offer letter after application. Some offer letter comes with funding package simultaneously.
7. After your first year of Msc if you have a first class result (3.5 of 4.00). You can be promoted to PhD based on approval by your supervisor and faculty of graduate school.
8. Some universities in Canada accept straight entry into PhD. a perfect model is University of Toronto.
9. The best University in Canada is University of Toronto. It is the most difficult school to gain admission to. Please watch well before applying to the school
10. You can apply to three schools together simultaneously... Never apply to only a single school like U of T and hope for the best
11. I was rejected at University of Alberta last year with my big 4.71/5.00 from Nigeria. Many reasons are responsible for this but i wouldn't go deep into that now

I will like to talk on sending mails to professors. I just discover the secret for them to reply, once you use this logic, Professors will be persuaded to reply you immediately. I would have loved to share a sample of the letter but people have taught me great lesson by plagiarism my essays so i changed my mind. Avoid plagiarism....that should be a lecture topic for another day

B.I TIPS FOR SENDING A PROFESSOR AN EMAIL

Because of time, i will just post an example of my mail here to see what i mean, then i will bring out the logics in the content.

Dear Professor D

I was very excited to read about the various works of your Fire Management Systems Lab on University of Toronto website. I humbly desire to join your lab as a PhD student with research interest in forest fuels and fire behaviour.

*I am currently a graduate student in the Master of Sustainable Forest Management (MSFM) program at University of British Columbia (UBC), Canada with full scholarship from MasterCard Foundation scholars Program. My present grade is *. I would be completing this program by * 2019 and I desire to pursue a PhD in forest fire with fall 20** start date. In addition, I obtained my bachelor degree in forest mgt where I graduated with a cumulative grade of 4.** of 5.00.*

*As part of my Masters program at UBC, I am presently taking a directed studies on the effect of 2017 forest fire on Gavin Lake forest under the supervision of Dr C** and Dr L** . Furthermore, reading through some of your publications on Forest fire increased my desire to work under your supervision at university of Toronto.*

Below are your two publications that I read that relates significantly to my research interest.

Albert-Green, A., C.B. Dean, D.L. Martell and D.G. Woolford (2013). A methodology for investigating trends in changes in the timing of the fire season with applications to lightning-

caused forest fires in Alberta and Ontario, Canada. Canadian Journal of Forest Research, 43: 39-45.

Podur, J.J., D.L. Martell. (2009). The influence of weather and fuel type on the fuel composition of the area burned by forest fire in Ontario, 1996-2006. Ecological Applications. 19(5):1246-1252.

I would like to know if you will be willing to be my supervisor during my period of studies at University of Toronto. I have attached a copy of my CV, undergraduate transcripts and my masters degree transcripts to this mail.

I humbly awaits your response.

Point to note...

1. I started by commending his effort by telling him he has been doing great job.. You can start talking about his publications you come across
2. I tried to link my past and present work to his work.
3. The major trick is to mention some of his publications. You can get this on his website. You don't need to read them. Just list.

Let me give you a link to see list some scholarships in Canada

- i. <https://admissiontable.com/19-scholarships-in-canada-for-international-students/>
- ii. Msc Mathematics, statistics and computer science, University of Saskatchewan, Canada. No GRE, no need to seek supervisor, sure funding guaranteed. About \$19k-\$21/year to all admitted students
- iii. Calgary University also give sure funding of about 21 to 25k /per year to admitted graduate students
- iv. University of Toronto Offer you 4-year Fellowship funding but a supervisor must nominate you

- v. Ontario trillium scholarship is \$40,000 per year but your supervisor must nominate you
- vi. Memorial University has apparently the cheapest tuition fee in Canada, they also give funding

C. POST GRADUATION OPPORTUNITIES.

1. Finally, if you finish your program in Canada, you will be eligible for post-graduation work permit for about 1 to 3 years. You get excellent jobs that would make your salary bigger than that of a Nigeria professor. Conclusively, don't settle for less, think outside the box. Apply to different countries. Keep trying and all will be fine. I need to quickly give you a link where you can correct the errors in your essays. It correct concord and punctuation errors. (www.grammarly.com)

I think this lecture is helpful... Over to the admin for Questions and Answers session

D. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS SESSION

Question 1: If one wants to study in Canada, should PR application comes first or after admission application?

Answer: Not compulsory... Study makes PR application easy and having PR increases your chances of getting scholarships and paying less tuition

Question 2: What are your challenges so far?

Answer: This question is too big, break it down

Question 3: What school can I apply for, because I studied URP?

Answer: start your search with Google.com

Question 4: Sir so if you don't meet the minimum of second class upper you don't stand a chance of scholarship in Canada?

Answer: Yes

Question 5: If no is there by chance that you are aware of any that has Lower standard??

Answer: I don't have any for now

Question 6: As regard this, someone in a sister forum got his PhD admission and funding with 2:2. What made that possible pls?

Answer: She got a supervisor i guess

Question 7: Pls can u explain the processes of submitting transcript. Seems a bit complicated, would it be before the application or after?

Answer: You will upload unofficial transcript first, after admission you will send the hard copy.

Question 8: Is the unofficial your personal transcript?

Answer: Yes

Question 9: Please, what happens when when one fails to secure a supervisor? Should one go ahead and apply?

Answer: Depend on the admission requirements. Some require you get one, some assign one after applying, going ahead to apply might also lead to rejection, because you won't get funding

Question 10: Pls I want to ask, is the funding automatic, or u will apply for it!? And please does the funding comes after the approval of application or when one gets there?

Answer: some funding may come before admission, some may come with admission and some may come after admission.

Question 11: Please some of these Canadian universities ask for English proficiency test and all that. Pls is there any easy way to go about it?

Answer: Medium of instruction letter from your school is sufficient

Question 12: Please. I really appreciate your contribution, if someone can share a Canada school link for either Masters or PhD for physics student

Answer: Lot of schools offer physics program. Do personal assignment by searching yourself

Question 13: Please, I will really appreciate, if someone here can share a Canada school link for mathematics student

Answer: University of Saskatchewan

Question 14: What about master program? Is it same as PhD? I mean the whole process.

Answer: Yea... But it always better to secure supervisor for PhD

Question 15: If someone has an admission from a University in Canada McGill to be precise and was not lucky to win the MasterCard scholarship subject for the admission. What advice can you give to that person?

Answer: If he could afford the cost of tuition and \$10,000 for first year. He can proceed. If not, keep applying for scholarships.

SIGNED: SCHOLAR TOBI