University of Toronto Info Guide

School Type

- Public university
- 3 campuses
    - St. George - Main campus
    - Mississauga (UTM)
    - Scarborough (UTSC)
- Urban setting
- Very safe environment - The University of Toronto is dedicated to creating a safe and secure environment for students, staff, faculty, and visitors, and has several services to ensure safety, including, but not limited to:
- Each U of T campus has a campus police service
- Campus emergency telephones – Located around each of the 3 campuses

School Size

- Statistics from Fall 2019-2020:
    - Total enrollment: 93,081
    - Domestic: 70,062
    - Undergraduate: 53,785
    - International: 23,019
    - Undergraduate: 19,000
    - St. George campus: 62,864
        - Undergraduate: 43,790
    - Mississauga campus: 16,014
        - Undergraduate: 15,166
    - Scarborough campus: 14,203
        - Undergraduate: 13,829
    - 15,585 new full-time students entering the First Entry Undergraduate Programs (includes Arts & Science, Applied Science & Engineering, Architecture, Kinesiology & Physical Education, and Music):

- St. George Campus - 8,480
- Scarborough Campus - 3,238
- Mississauga Campus - 3,867

Academics

- Uses the semester calendar
- Many opportunities for professional experience (internships, co-ops, field school)
- In-class research is common with students
- The U of T faculty members win more prestigious research awards than their peers at any other Canadian university
- Broken down into departments, centers & institutes: Which supports an important part of the smaller learning community experience for students

Student-to-Faculty Ratio

- The student-to-faculty ratio and the average class size vary by program/class.
- There are 14,400+ faculty members.
- Many first-year classes consist of several hundred students (300-500 students). This is because many students are still exploring courses in their first year. Each class offers tutorial and/or practical sessions that have more of an intimate learning environment
- Some find it hard to relate to the instructors given that the class sizes are huge
- More specialized programs have smaller classes (100-150 students)
- Research opportunities allow students to get to know the faculty better.
- Students also can enroll in seminar classes, First-Year Learning Communities, and Foundational Year Programs: These classes typically have 25 students or less.

List of Majors

St. George campus - Over 700 undergraduate programs in:

- Humanities & Social Sciences
- Life Sciences
- Physical & Mathematical Sciences
- Commerce & Management

- Computer Science
- Engineering
- Kinesiology & Physical Education
- Music
- Architecture

Mississauga campus - Over 180 undergraduate options in:

- Chemical & Physical Sciences
- Commerce
- Management
- Visual Studies
- Humanities
- Theatre & Drama
- Forensic Science
- Computer Science, Mathematics & Statistics
- Social Sciences
- Psychology
- Communication, Culture, Information & Technology (CCIT)

Scarborough campus - Over 200 undergraduate options in:

- Anthropology
- Arts, Culture and Media
- Biological Sciences
- Computer and Mathematical Sciences
- Critical Development Studies
- English
- Health and Society
- Historical and Cultural Studies
- Human Geography
- Language Studies
- Management
- Philosophy
- Physical and Environmental Sciences

- Political Science
- Psychology
- Sociology

Student Life

- Getting involved takes some research in terms of navigating the clubs and endless academic/research opportunities.
- Most of the residential colleges have tons of events, from campus-wide capture the flag games to movie nights or intramural sports.
- More than 1,000 diverse organizations and student groups across all three campuses.
- Greek life is found more so on the St. George campus:
- Home to 20+ sororities & fraternities
- Taste of the Danforth → Annual Greek festival that takes place in August
- The University of Toronto is home to Canada's largest intramural sports program and one of the largest and most successful intercollegiate sports programs, with 44 teams participating in 26 sports
- U of T Varsity Blues teams participate in two leagues:
- OUA (Ontario University Athletics), which oversees provincial university sports
- U SPORTS, the body that oversees national university sporting competition
- U of T isn't a member of the NCAA- For comparison purposes: U of T Varsity would be a Division II/Division III school

Opportunities

- International study/studying abroad opportunities:
    - The Faculty of Arts & Science offers Summer Abroad experiences across the world, which allows you to complete one full-year course in 3-6 weeks.
    - Location sites include Asia, Europe, Australia, and the Americas. Some examples of Summer Abroad experiences include:
    - Studying the Australian environment, wildlife, and conservation (Environment course in Australia)

    - Consulting on micro-enterprises (Rotman Commerce course in Cape Town, South Africa)
- Research opportunities:
    - The Research Opportunities Program enables you to work on a research project with a professor at the second-year level for course credit
    - Research excursions allow you to participate in a practical or experiential off-campus research activity under the supervision of a faculty member in your third year. Examples include:
    - Excavating the ancient Minoan harbor town of Palaikastro, Crete, Greece (Art History)
    - Using ground probing radar to explore how Earlier Stone Age hominids lived in Kathu, South Africa (Earth Sciences)
- First-year opportunities:
    - The First-Year Foundations One's Programs combines one or more small-group, theme-based courses with co-curricular events and experiential learning opportunities.
    - First-Year Learning Communities are groups of 25 students registered in the same courses and labs who meet bi-weekly for academic and social activities.

Location & Surrounding Area

- Main campus: Located on 165 acres (67 hectares) near the center of downtown Toronto (near Queen's Park)
- Easy to navigate
- 3 campuses - St. George campus (main location), Mississauga, & Scarborough
- Always has something new happening: The Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF), skating in Nathan Phillips Square, etc.
- The Royal Ontario Museum is practically on campus, art galleries are within walking distance, and a nightlife to suit just about any type of person
- Festivals every season - Toronto Caribbean Carnival in the summer & TIFF in the autumn
- Scotiabank Nuit Blanche- Annual art festival that runs from dusk until dawn (October)

- Toronto is home to 8 professional sports teams, so you'd be able to catch a game if you're interested - The 2019 NBA champions, the Toronto Raptors (basketball), Toronto Blue Jays (baseball), Toronto Maple Leafs (hockey), Toronto FC (soccer), Toronto Argonauts (football), Toronto Rock (lacrosse), Toronto Marlies (hockey) and Toronto Wolfpack (rugby)
- Jurassic Park - Known for the amazing crowds during the Toronto Raptors games
- High Park is well-known for its beautiful cherry blossoms that only last for a short time (2 or 3 weeks)

Application Info

- Some programs require supplemental applications or student profiles, but most programs at the University of Toronto do not.
- If your program requires supplemental materials, it will be noted on the applicant's website.
- Overall high school/high school equivalent average between 87% - 95% (depending on the program)
- General admission requirements:
    - Canadian:
    - Supplementary Application Form (SAF)
    - Transcript of high school records
    - Essay
    - Statement of Interest
    - English proficiency test scores (if English isn't your first language)
    - The minimum score for IELTS is 6.5
    - The total accepted score for TOEFL is 100+22 for writing
    - For both Cambridge C1 (advanced) and C2 (Proficiency) tests - The minimum overall score is 180
    - 2 letters of recommendation
    - Subject prerequisites
    - Vary by the program you're applying to - These are based on the Ontario High School curriculum (research your country's educational system course equivalents)
- American/International:

    - Completed application form
    - Payment of non-refundable application fee of CAD 180
    - All academic transcripts from high school/senior secondary levels
    - Completed senior-level or grade 12 level course
    - English-language requirements - TOEFL/IELTS/Cambridge C1 or C2/CAEL, etc
    - Self-reported grades form
    - Standardized test scores
- Courses:
    - Canadian: (more specifics vary by program)
        - Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) with six Grade 12 U/M subjects, including ENG4U
        - MCV4U is required for programs with the Calculus prerequisite
        - The co-op component of Grade 12 courses will not be used for admission purposes
        - Conditional offers of acceptances are made based on all of your Grade 11 finals and any available Grade 12 finals/midterms (in progress), with emphasis on courses specific to the program you applied to
    - American/International:
        - Pre-requisite subjects, including English, should be presented at Senior Year/Grade 12 level, as SAT Subject Tests or AP/IB.
        - Some instances: Pre-Calculus can be used to meet the minimum requirement for some program areas that require mathematics for admission. Calculus 12 or AP Calculus or 1 semester of college or university Calculus is required for most math, science, computer science, and commerce programs. AP Statistics does not provide the appropriate preparation.
- Fees: (financial aid/scholarships available)
    - Domestic:
        - Undergraduate programs: from CA$6,100 per year
        - Graduate: CA$10,080 to $46,270
    - International fees: CA$ 21,560 to CA$64,810

Selectivity

- The average acceptance rate of 43% (higher or lower - depending on the program)
- Some specialized, more competitive programs (Engineering, Computer Science, Business, etc.) will admit fewer students
- Due to the competitive nature & size of the program

Unique Features

- U of T undergrads can mix and match courses from about 600 programs, from aboriginal to women's studies
- The University of Toronto has 44 libraries & the library system has more than 19.5 million physical holdings and more than 6.4 million electronic holdings.
- "A leading North American university for the creation of new companies based on institutional intellectual property"

School's Strengths

- U of T is one of the few universities in Canada that encourages undergraduates to pursue their own research projects, often under the guidance of a faculty member who is a leading expert in the field.
- 18th in the world for arts & humanities
- 13th for life sciences & medicine
- 18th for natural sciences
- Joint 22nd for engineering & technology
- Joint 18th for social sciences & management

Core Curriculum/Requirements

- The University of Toronto doesn't require students to complete core curriculum or general education courses.
- Students will take a combination of courses required to graduate from their program of interest, along with elective courses of the student's choosing.

Housing

- If you decide to find your own housing arrangement, the University's housing offices can help you with navigating the rental market and finding the best fit
- Each U of T campus has a range of housing options that will help you integrate into a fun, supportive, and close-knit community at the University.
- You'd be able to walk to classes, participate in on-campus events, and have access to athletic facilities and libraries. You'd also be able to take part in movie nights, recreational sports events, study groups, and club activities.
- You'll have access to healthy dining options, laundry facilities, city tours, and academic mentorships, among many other things.
- The University of Toronto at St. George has 11 residences
    - Chestnut Residence
    - Graduate House
    - Student Family Housing
    - The St. George campus can accommodate 6,502 students in its 11 residences (2019-20)
    - The Mississauga campus can accommodate 1,551 students in residences (2019-20)
    - The Scarborough campus can accommodate 844 students in residences (2019-20)
    - Housing guarantee for students entering their first year
    - Many local students (who live within the GTA) choose to commute to & from campus

Food

- Food Services at the University of Toronto oversees more than 30 food locations across the St. George campus and runs programs like Veggie Mondays, cultural events, environmental initiatives, and campus Meal Plans.
- All three U of T campuses have diverse dining options
- From local and organic food, vegetarian and vegan, to university dining halls and cafeterias, brand-name chains, pubs, cafes, sushi or pho, and much more
- Some residences have mandatory meal plans

- Even if you’re not living on campus, you can sign up for a meal plan that works with your lifestyle and offers discounted prices
- U of T students can explore food available in markets and restaurants throughout the GTA
- Students at U of T Mississauga and U of T Scarborough can enjoy the benefit of being surrounded by the flavors of Asia, the Caribbean, and the Middle East, and many popular North American favorites

Miscellaneous

- The demographics on campus reflect those of surrounding Toronto: "One of the most diverse cities around."
- All students have an excellent academic record prior to university
- Huge variances in race, religion, sexual orientation, academic focus, postgraduate aspirations, socioeconomic background, disability, nationality, athleticism, and community involvement
- Most students say it's relatively easy to find a social group among like-minded individuals
- The libraries and other research facilities are excellent & contribute to the overall academic experience
- Ranks among the top institutions in the world for their entrepreneurship and start-up company support programs