# WHAT CAN I DO WITH A BACHELOR OF EDUCATION AFTER DEGREE?

A Guide Compiled by CUE Career Services



### **General Skill Sets:**

The Bachelor of Education (After Degree) program prepares its graduates for certification as a teacher in Alberta. It is a generalized elementary two year after degree program which supports the development of competencies defined by Alberta Education's Teaching Quality Standard. Upon obtaining this degree, graduates are qualified to teach any subject. The program's coursework is complemented by on-going mentorship from staff, faculty, and teachers in the field (CUE Education After-Degree). Due to the Faculty of Education's collaboration with CUE's Indigenous Knowledge and Research Centre, Education graduates have had the opportunity to engage with and learn about Indigenous historical and cultural topics in order to foster positive educational practices (CUE Braided Approach).

## Skills Acquired from an Undergraduate Degree in Education:

- Think analytically, critically and logically
- Negotiate and collaborate with others
- Develop and practice leadership skills
- Research, writing and communication
- Creative problem solving
- Demonstrate competence in technical subjects such as teaching core subject areas (Language Arts, English Language Learning, Mathematics, Social Studies, Physical Education and Health, and Art).
- Develop lesson plans for Elementary School
- Research, discuss, and reflect on contemporary issues in pedagogy
- Apply instructional psychology and instructional design best practices
- Facilitate and contribute to project planning and presentations

- Assess, analyze and propose solutions for student behaviour issues
- Meet assignment deadlines and prioritize multiple tasks
- Self evaluate and reflect on professional practice
- Ability to work independently or collaborate with others
- Demonstrate ethical decision-making and conduct
- Show self-direction and motivation
- Manage multiple competing priorities and tasks with varying deadline
- Enhance professional competencies and political acumen through two practicum placements
- Foster effective relationships with colleagues, mentors, and students
- Incorporate digital technologies into lesson planning

A Bachelor of Education is a requirement to be a certified teacher in Alberta. Since the After Degree follows a 3 or 4 year undergraduate degree, graduates have the benefit of gaining specialized knowledge in their chosen subject area in addition to training in pedagogy. In most industries, university graduates are more likely to be promoted or attain leadership positions than those who do not have a degree.

# **Careers for Graduates of an Undergraduate Degree in Education:**

Although most graduates choose to pursue teaching roles, there are other career options for Education graduates. The list below contains a sample of positions available to graduates:

- Teacher
- Substitute Teacher
- Guidance Counsellor
- Sales Manager
- Training and Development Specialist
- Principal
- School Administrator
- Project Coordinator
- Public Relations Advisor
- Social Services Manager
- Office Manager
- Post-secondary Learning Advisor
- Instructional Designer
- Curriculum Advisor
- Fund Development Coordinator
- Event Planner

- Career Development Practitioner
- Executive/Professional Coach
- Grant Writer
- Education Specialist
- Experiential Education Coordinator
- Talent Acquisition Officer
- Labour Relations Consultant
- Item Writer
- Research Assistant
- Entrepreneur
- Learning and Development Trainer
- Journalist
- Education Lobbyist
- College/Vocational Instructors
- Administrative Officers
- School Educational Assistant
- School Librarian

As learning is life-long, some careers which are related to a Bachelor of Education degree require additional training. This may involve weekend, evening or part-time courses; further education (some employers provide support by allowing time or offering finances to assist you in your learning); distance studies; accreditation courses and exams; or full time college or university, including graduate studies. In any case, the Bachelor's degree is a valuable starting point.

## **Industries Related to Education**

Bachelor of Education graduates are trained to work as teachers but are equipped to work in nearly every industry. Here are some examples:

Business & Human Resources (eg. Learning & Development Coordinator, People Specialist)

Education (eg. Teacher, Instructional Designer, Higher Education Administrator, Principal, Tutor)

**Government** (eg. Curriculum Designer, Politician, Educational Policy Analyst)

Healthcare (eg. Patient Advocate, Volunteer Coordinator, Human Resources Advisor)

**Technology** (eg. Learning Specialist, Account Manager, Instructional Designer)

#### References

Government of Canada, Career Planning Student Dashboard (Elementary Education and Teaching)
CUE Faculty of Education
CUE Bachelor of Education (After-Degree)
Government of Alberta, Teaching Quality Standard
ATA Becoming a Teacher