ASSINIBOINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

MANITOBA, CANADA

ASSINIBOINE INTERNATIONAL VIEWBOOK

ASSINIBOINE Advantage

Our most recent grads say it all:









*Statistics taken from Assiniboine Community College's 2020 Graduate Satisfaction & Employment Survey, conducted nine months after graduation



OUR CAMPUS LOCATIONS: BRANDON, DAUPHIN & WINNIPEG

TORÓNTO

Where is Manitoba?

Right in the heart of Canada! We're located in the geographic centre of North America, and our province is in the middle of the country.

Manitoba is located in the geographical centre (or the heart) of North America.

It is two to three hours by plane from cities such as Vancouver, Toronto and Chicago.



Manitoba basks in over 2,300 hours of bright sunshine per year with southern Manitoba enjoying up to 16 hours of daylight during peak summer weeks. Brandon is the 6th sunniest city in Canada.



VANCOUVER



The history of Indigenous peoples in Manitoba goes back thousands of years. Since the province was established in 1870. Manitoba has welcomed immigrants from every corner of the globe. Manitoba is home to more than 210 declared ethnic or cultural origins; we are proud of our multicultural heritage!



Living in Brandon, you can experience four distinct seasons: snowy, cold winter; cool, wet spring; hot, humid summer; and crisp, vibrant autumn.

OUR CAMPUSES

Assiniboine Community

VICTORIA AVENUE EAST CAMPUS BRANDON

The Victoria Avenue East campus features many large classrooms and well-equipped labs, along with a library, bookstore, gymnasium, childcare centre, television studio, full-service cafeteria, lounge area and game room. It's also home to our college radio station, CJ-106 FM.

Our state-of-the art labs provide you with modern, interactive equipment and space to practice and hone your skill set to perfection.

assiniboine.net/victoria

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PARKLAND CAMPUS

DAUPHIN

This campus offers programs open to international students and is centrally located in the Parkland region just minutes north of the Riding Mountain National Park border. It features a contemporary trades shop, health care training lab and early learning centre. Support services include two computer labs, a Learning Curve and an on-site, full-time learning strategist.



assiniboine.net/parkland







WINNIPEG CAMPUS **WINNIPEG**

International cohort programs are occasionally offered in Manitoba's busy capital.

assiniboine.net/internationalcohorts

BRANDON

Our North Hill campus is one of the most scenic places in the city. Perched on Brandon's North Hill, you'll have a stunning view overlooking the city and the Assiniboine River valley below.

Nearby, our Sustainable Greenhouse is where you'll bloom in the Horticultural Production and Sustainable Food Systems programs. The modern greenhouse is a central spot for applied research centered on food security and sustainability under our Field to Fork approach.



NORTH HILL CAMPUS

We continue to expand at this historic location and the North Hill campus now welcomes about half of our Brandon-based students. The Manitoba Institute of Culinary Arts (MICA) is located here; housed inside a beautiful heritage building, it combines the best of both new and old for students in Hotel and Restaurant Management and Culinary Arts. Its unique learning environments include restored dining areas and study rooms, a contemporary teaching kitchen and a culinary theatre.

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THE Provision ARE CALLING

Red, orange and pink with streaks of gold. Moody blue with purple hues, dappled in pastels. The sky here is a living thing, and it's never the same way twice. Famous for their intense colours that last for hours, prairie sunsets can be enjoyed all year, no matter the season.

Fresh water abounds in Manitoba: the province is known as the land of 100,000 lakes! Popular winter activities include ice skating and fishing, while spring/summer/fall activities include swimming, fishing, paddle boarding, canoeing and kayaking.

Manitoba's wildlife population is abundant. The very north of the province is home to animals like polar bears, beluga whales and caribou, while animals such as black bear, moose, deer, foxes and owls can be found in the south.

Fresh air that makes each breath sweeter. Ever-changing skies that stretch as far as the eye can see. Rolling fields that are reminiscent of seas and oceans. Plentiful wildlife that will have you gazing in wonder and amazement.

The word "Manitoba" is believed to originate from the Indigenous Cree term "Man-into-wahpaow", meaning "the narrows of the Great Spirit." And, indeed. the people, land and natural world of Manitoba are infused with a spirit that is undeniable.

Manitoba might be one of Canada's best-kept secrets—and it's yours to call home when you choose Assiniboine.

Agriculture reigns as the top industry in Manitoba, and it's quite diversified. In this province, crops such as wheat, canola, flaxseed, corn and sunflowers are all grown. In certain areas, potatoes, peas and sweet potatoes are also cultivated.

Known as Aurora Borealis, the dancing green, purple and pink of the northern lights shimmer and dance, leaving you spellbound. In southern Manitoba, the lights are best viewed January to March during the winter months.

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WHY MANITOBA?

When considering where to take your education, Manitoba is an excellent choice.

Manitoba is an ideal location for students looking for a safe, welcoming and dynamic study abroad experience. A low cost of living and a strong job market make learning affordable compared to other provinces.

- 1. Home to the world-renowned Manitoba Provincial Nominee Program: a pathway for international graduates to apply for permanent residency. Visit **immigratemanitoba.com** for eligibility.
- 2. As a study permit holder, you are able to work parttime during your studies. With a growing job market in Manitoba and program-related labour needs, students get jobs.
- 3. Gain a world-class education with internationally recognized education programs, state-of-the-art classrooms and research facilities, as well as highly trained instructors.
- 4. Vibrant sports, arts and culture industries with a variety of activities and events to enjoy.
- 5. Manitoba enjoys a diverse economy with strong agricultural and food processing industries.
- 6. High quality of life: clean air and water, small population, safe, and a low cost of living.



WHY BRANDON?

Brandon is located 200 km west of Winnipeg, 365 km east of Regina and 100 km north of the United States border.

Brandon's nickname is the "Wheat City" in honour of its rich agricultural heritage and reputation as a prosperous farming community. Brandon is the little city with a big heart.

Twice, Chatelaine magazine has voted it as one of the top ten cities in Canada in which to live. It is a welcoming community with a quality of life that must be experienced in order to be appreciated!



Safe, multicultural city



Brandon's population: 49,000 people



Vibrant and growing community



We are one of 11 cities in Canada that takes part in the Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot (RNIP)

WHY ASSINIBC

A HOME AWAY FROM HOME

Assiniboine's friendly and welcoming attitude is simply who we are; we are approachable, kind and supportive. So are most people in the cities throughout Manitoba. You'll quickly become familiar with your new surroundings, and we encourage you to enjoy the full college and city experience! Assiniboine International and your Students' Association will organize many activities throughout the year, and some students play on the college's sports teams.

LEARN BY DOING.

Assist a patient, cook or serve an incredible meal, run a daily broadcast news show or solve computer network problems. At Assiniboine, you will practice hands-on work skills because much of your learning isn't taught through lectures or textbooks alone. Assiniboine's labs and shops have up-to-date equipment and technology to help you learn. Our college connects you with Canadian workplaces through activities like projects, conferences, practicums or co-ops. We want to prepare you for a career that will be meaningful.

PLAN FOR YOUR SUCCESS.

Assiniboine graduates get jobs! Our 2020 survey showed that 92% of those graduates are working within nine months of graduation and earning an average salary of \$46,000 (Canadian). Assiniboine's program advisory groups (industry employers and experts) help us design and deliver programs that give graduates the skills needed for job success. Assiniboine International closely follows provincial and federal immigration priorities so Assiniboine's programs meet labour market needs.

JOIN OUR COMMUNITY.

Assiniboine's classes are small (generally 15-25 students), so instructors know your name. Our campuses are compact so you can move between classes quickly and see your friends every day. Brandon and Dauphin are small cities, but have everything needed for a good life-stores and restaurants, recreational facilities and community groups, affordable housing and easy transportation. Assiniboine staff and instructors also live here and appreciate the diversity and energy you will bring to our community.

EXPLORE ASSINIBOINE

VIRTUAL TOURS

Log on and see what our campuses have to offer. Assiniboine's virtual tours give you an inside glimpse into shops, classrooms, and all of the spaces and places that make our campuses unique!

Go to assiniboine.net/virtualtour.

While both college and university are types of postsecondary schools, they differ in the kinds of programs offered, learning styles and campus life.

Neither type of institution is 'better' than the other; they simply offer different focuses, and it's important to understand those differences, so you can make a decision on which is the best fit for you.

College is known for its hands-on learning experience: students will learn theories in the classroom and then apply that knowledge in a hands-on way during activities such as labs, field trips, or industry-based work experience (depending on the program).

A college schedule is more structured. Students attend class all day and take specific courses related directly to their program.

College programs take approximately one to two years to complete, earning you a certificate or diploma. University degrees are typically three to five years at a minimum.

Some students are choosing to complete programs at both types of institutions to boost their resumes and experience. You might start out at college, earning a diploma and getting a feel for the field; then, you may wish to continue on to university to further your education.

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assiniboine.net/international | EXPLORE ASSINIBOINE 15

PLACES, SPACES & ||||||||||| STUDENT SUPPORTS

Assiniboine's program student success advisors and international student success advisor work together to help you have the best educational experience.

They can help you with things like:

- » Preparing to come to Manitoba and study at Assiniboine Community College
- » Practical questions like getting a driver's license
- » Academic needs like tutoring, program planning or accommodations for a disability
- » Confidential support for personal issues
- » Contact with community agencies and services

Our Regulated International Student Immigration Advisor (RISIA) can answer your immigration questions related to study permits and other Canadian immigration programs.

The friendly and knowledgeable Learning Curve staff can help you grow your study skills, and they can provide research assistance to help you understand and be successful in a Canadian college. If you're even a little bit worried about your college courses, contact the Learning Curve early on to see what kind of help is available to you.

Assiniboine International staff work closely with the Students' Association international representative to plan welcome events and to arrange fun activities to help build your community of friends and supports.





ON CAMPUS

WORKSHOPS

FIELD TRIPS

LIBRARY

MONEY

IMPORTANT FEES:

- » Tuition: \$14,000 to \$22,000 CAD
- » Application Fee: \$200 CAD (non-refundable)
- » Tuition Deposit: \$800 CAD (part of tuition fees)

COST OF LIVING:

See below for estimated average monthly costs of living for a single student, living alone, in Brandon. The costs below do not include tuition, books or supplies.

- » Rent: \$800
- » Food: \$375
- » Transportation: \$0*
- » Electricity/Water/Gas: \$250
- » Internet: \$55
- » Cellular phone: \$55
- » Student Health Insurance: \$80

*Public transportation (the bus) is free for registered Assiniboine Community College students in Brandon.

See **brandontransit.ca/routes**-schedules for information on hours of operation and routes.

Note: All fees and costs are estimated and subject to chanae without notice.

HOUSING:

The search for a place to live should begin early as housing can be more difficult to find toward the end of the summer. Students who arrive in late August often face a limited choice and higher costs.

Housing options include:

- 1. Places4Students provides an online collection of numerous housing options. Visit **Places4Students.com** to explore housing possibilities in Brandon.
- 2. Brandon University welcomes Assiniboine students in single (one-person) residences located three kilometres from our Victoria Avenue East campus in Brandon, with easy access to bus services. Brandon University residency is included in the Places4Students search tool.
- 3. Student Services maintains a list of houses, apartments, room and board, and light-housekeeping rooms available. Email studentservices@assiniboine.net to request a copy.
- 4. You can also check listings in the Brandon Sun or online at ebrandon.ca or economicdevelopmentbrandon.com

Accommodations listed are not endorsed or supervised by Assiniboine, and students must make their own arrangements. Students are advised to inspect all accommodations before accepting them.

Visit assiniboine.net/housing for more information.

STUDENT

We offer bursaries of up to \$2,000 to support international students returning for their second year of a two-year program. These bursaries are awarded to students who demonstrate the most financial need.

INTERNATIONAL **BURSARIES**

APPLYING IS EASY

Apply for this bursary online at assiniboine.net/awards.

APPLY BEFORE YOUR SECOND YEAR OF STUDY.

The deadline to apply is in February each year. Please refer to assiniboine.net/awards for deadline details.

PLAN FOR YOUR SECOND YEAR.

Recipients of the International Student Bursary will be notified in the spring, in advance of their second year of study. Any bursary amount awarded will be credited towards your tuition for your second year of study.

For additional details and requirements, visit assiniboine.net/awards.

ENGLISH FOR ACADEMIC **PURPOSES**

CULTURE, LANGUAGE AND ACADEMIC PREPARATION

Students without the required English proficency can apply to EAP and a college program on the same application form for one application fee. Students can be conditionally accepted to a college program when accepted into the EAP program.

The program generally has three intakes: fall, winter and spring. The program terms are 14 weeks in length. Students are required to have a minimum IELTS score 5.0 or equivalent to be admitted. Some students may need to enroll in more than one term to achieve an IELTS score of 6.5, which is the admission requirement for most Assiniboine Community College academic programs.

EXPLORE ASSINIBOINE

PROGRAM INFO SESSIONS

Curious about college? Explore your options! Our free information sessions give you an overview about the program you're interested in. Chat with faculty, ask questions and get to know Assiniboine!

To register or for more information, including topics and upcoming dates and times, visit assiniboine.net/infosession.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

REGULAR PROGRAMS

All regular programs require an equivalent (from your home country or another Canadian province) to a Manitoba Grade 12 diploma, including a "Language Arts" (in your first language) in the 12th year of study. Many programs also require a Mathematics in the 12th vear of study.

Some regular programs (primarily in our technology programs) require an advanced level of Mathematics, or a minimum grade in Language Arts. See "Admission Requirements" on each program page at assiniboine.net/openprograms for this information.

All applicants must meet English language proficiency requirements. Please visit our English Language Proficiency page at assiniboine.net/elp to ensure you meet all requirements.

You will also need proficiency with keyboarding and basic computer applications, as you will do much of your schoolwork using a computer, and many programs do not teach these skills.

POST-GRADUATE PROGRAMS (ALSO KNOWN AS "ADVANCED DIPLOMAS")

These programs require completion of a related college diploma (two-year minimum) or university degree. All applicants must also meet English language proficiency requirements.

COHORT PROGRAMS

Cohort program requirements may vary. See each cohort's description at assiniboine.net/openprograms.

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OUR PR AREAS

Assiniboine has many program areas to choose from. Whether you wish to get out into the great outdoors, care for others, work with your hands, or tinker with the latest technology, we have a certificate, diploma or advanced diploma to suit you!

AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT

Assiniboine is Manitoba's ag college! Agriculture is big business in Canada and beyond. Prepare for a career by learning the business and science behind these industries.

BUSINESS

Business education is valuable in many areas around the world. Programs in this area range from learning the administrative side of a company to sales/marketing, human resources or accounting.

FOOD & HOSPITALITY

Work with your hands and learn practical, useful skills that will put you in demand across Canada's ever-growing provinces. Get to work immediately with hands-on projects that will give you the experience you need for any job site.

HEALTH

Canada spends a significant amount of money on our universal healthcare system and there are plenty of employment opportunities because of it. Combine your compassionate nature with a background in healthcare and learn to take care of those who need it most.

HUMAN SERVICES

Being of service to others is at the heart of these programs. Whether you're interested in public safety and community work, helping children learn and grow, or making a meaningful difference in the lives of others, human services is a diverse program area.

TECHNOLOGY

If you enjoy solving problems, have a sense of curiosity, and truly enjoy the newest gadgets, our technology programs will be of interest. Learn to connect our world, fix and repair computers, or map the world around us.

TRADES

Work with your hands and learn practical, useful skills that will put you in demand across Canada's ever-growing provinces. Get to work immediately with hands-on projects that will give you the experience you need for any job site.

Join the Team

- » Men's volleyball, soccer and futsal
- » Women's volleyball, soccer, futsal and hockey

International students are welcome to participate in a number of sports.

You must be a full-time Assiniboine student (18 credits per term) to play for the Cougars Assiniboine provides travel, meals, accommodations and game-day uniforms for our student athletes when the team travels. There are also potential scholarship opportunities for our athletes.

For more information on Cougar Athletics, visit assiniboine.net/athletics or email our Athletics Manager at cougars@assiniboine.net.

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Assiniboine Cougars

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CAMPUS LIFE ACCSA: YOUR STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

The ACC Students' Association (ACCSSA) exists to serve you. Our Students' Association council works hard to ensure we voice relevant student perspectives, provide representation on college committees and engage with student projects. We strive to deliver quality services that address the specific needs of students and to host events and programming that create a social atmosphere and offer stress relief.

OUR SERVICES INCLUDE:

» Leadership training opportunities » Student health and dental insurance » Socials » U-Pass, free bus transit (Brandon campuses only) » Paw Pass, student discount program » Advocacy and appeal support » Student clubs » ...and much, much more!

Learn more at **accstudents.com** or find us on social media at:



@ACCSA_MB

ACC Students' Association





OUR EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- » Orientation week activities and events
- » Wellness and mental health initiatives
- » Multicultural activities and events
- » Recreational activities and events
- » Professional development opportunities
- » ... and more!



Want to know more about the Assiniboine experience? Check out other student profiles at assiniboine.net/spotlight.

Mabel Caldeira Passos de Figueirdo, class of '18 **Program**: Land and Water Management Home Country: Brazil

ome Western painted turtles may owe their lives to Mabel Caldeira Passos de Figueiredo.

Figueiredo came to Assiniboine Community College from Brazil to take Environmental Technologies: Land & Water Management specialization.

She won the Best in Show award at the college's annual Showcase of Applied Research and Innovation for her project to protect the breeding grounds of the turtle in the Boissevain area, south of Brandon.

The Western painted turtle is not yet on the endangered list, but a recent report saying their numbers are declining by 10 per cent shows their survival is a long-term concern, Figueiredo said.

"Why don't we start a prevention program before they are endangered? All painted turtles have a unique pattern. The design on their shell is like a fingerprint. It is the only time you will see that drawing," she said.

They act as a food source for other animals. while their shells absorb phosphorous from the water system, reducing potential harm to other animals.

Mother turtles lay their eggs in nests in sandy areas, away from trees. The hatchlings stay in the nest for a year, reaching maturity, and leave the nest the following spring.

Figueiredo's research showed that protecting the nests with small metal frames helped reduce the loss of eggs and hatchlings to coyotes, raccoons and other predators, while open canopies allow the sun to keep the hatchlings warm through winter.

In Brazil, Figueiredo was an occupational health and safety technician, first for Fugro, an offshore survey company, and then for Transocean, a deep-water drilling company.

But when global oil prices plunged, "I decided this is the perfect time for me to realize my dream of studying abroad. I put all my chips on coming here to Canada to study."

She chose Assiniboine "because of the courses. All the other places I searched for environmental courses were too generic. Assiniboine had land and water management. I didn't want a random degree or diploma. I wanted something specific that would really go deeper in some form of knowledge."

Figueiredo praised the instructors at Assiniboine for taking a genuine interest in her education and career.

"They go above and beyond to make sure you understand the subjects."

When two of her instructors started talking about how much the drone business is growing, Figueiredo took and graduated from the course required to become a pilot of what are formally known as unmanned aviation vehicles (UAVs.)

"I will be able to fly a drone professionally for photography, thermography, crop

inspection. This was only in my life because of Assiniboine. I never thought about using drones before that," she said.

She advises prospective students from outside Canada to bring more money with them than the government advises. "Settling in a new country can be costly sometimes. It's better to have some extra money."

Students should also try to get a part-time job during the school year to help build their Canadian resumé, she said.

Her own career has taken a surprising and gratifying turn, thanks to the close connections Assiniboine instructors build and maintain with potential employers.

One instructor took her class on a field trip to a chemical plant in Brandon, Figueiredo took advantage of the opportunity to network and share some of her experience doing similar work in Brazil. She is now working for this company on a six-month contract as an Environmental Health and Safety Technician.

"I had these amazing instructors at ACC. How could I ever have had a chance of being noticed by my current employer, if I hadn't gone on the field trip that day? Field trips were a chance to see real-life applications of my studies, and most importantly, opportunities to network with potential employers," she said.

"Being an ACC student was essential for this opportunity to happen."

This publication is available in alternate English formats. Please contact **accessibility@assiniboine.net** or 204.725.8700 (ext. 6052).

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ATTENDING ASSINIBOINE:

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assiniboine.net/international



