

Agriculture Advanced Diploma

(one academic year (8 months) post-graduate program)

Please read and think about the following information below carefully to decide whether this program is a good fit for you. This information may change and is simply intended to offer you a helpful perspective on what you will experience in this program.

Orientation: Typically during the last week of August (**Required** for all students).

Program Dates: September through April

Scheduled Breaks: Last week of December and first week of January (two weeks); first week of March (one week). Check your registration for exact dates.

Post-Graduation

Work Permit length: Up to 8 months.

Schedule: Monday to Friday as early as 8 a.m and as late as 6 p.m. You will receive a schedule of **required** field days, which could be at different times of day.

Campus Location: 1430 Victoria Avenue East, Brandon, Manitoba. See campus information [here](#)

What You'll Study:

Build on your existing education, with new specialized skills in the fast-changing world of agriculture. Program best for students with a previous business/commerce background. Courses in the science and management of agriculture: crops, livestock, equipment, pests, soils. Develop additional knowledge in agricultural-related communications, customer service, sales and marketing, and management. Round out your analytical and critical thinking skills by learning the technological applications of GIS (geographical information systems) and GPS (global positioning systems).

See course descriptions on the [Agribusiness Advanced Diploma](#) page under 'Courses and Costs'.

How You'll "Learn By Doing"

- Concentrated, advanced courses get you career-ready in one academic year.
- Classroom theory integrated with hands-on lab and field (outside) learning.
- You'll meet agricultural producers and businesses to learn from them.
- Well-equipped, modern soils and plant labs complete with growth chambers.
- Off-campus industry tours throughout the year allow you to see careers in action, network with others in your field, and help you to see the complex and fast-paced world of agriculture.

What You'll Need to Do to Graduate

- **Attend all classes**, activities and field trips; arrive on time every day. Do **not** plan vacation/a trip home outside of regularly scheduled college breaks.
- **Purchase all required books and supplies**, including safety clothing and equipment.
- **Work co-operatively in teams and behave respectfully** to all students, staff and partners.
- **Manage physical demands** like walking a long distance, often on rough/uneven land, or lifting equipment into a vehicle.
- **Pass all courses and** have a grade point average (GPA) of C (60%). Passing many courses with only a D (50%) can make your GPA too low to graduate. Re-testing is generally not an option. If you fail a course, it may not be available again until the following year.
- **English only during class.** All English skills (reading, writing, listening, speaking) are important. Evaluation could include tests, group projects, presentations, public events and research papers.
- **No personal cell phone use during class.**
- **Do your own work.** Cheating, not referencing sources of your ideas, or using other people's work ((current or previous) could result in failing grades, probation or suspension.
- **Ask for help** when you need it!

How Assiniboine College Can Help You

- Trained instructors will share their knowledge and experience from the industry, and will give you frequent and specific feedback on your progress.
- Learning Commons staff available to assist with study skills, like test-taking and writing papers.
- Student advising staff offer support for academic planning and can refer you to resources outside the college such as counselling, housing, and other supports.
- A Regulated International Student Immigration Advisor can answer questions related to permits.

Job Options for Graduates

- Potential employers include grain companies, seed and crop inputs suppliers, banks and credit unions, livestock supply outlets, agricultural equipment dealers, government agencies, agronomists/consultants and co-operatives.
- Types of jobs include agriculture, agronomy, sales and service, finance, livestock, marketing, management, research, administration and precision agriculture.
- Most jobs will require working outside, sometimes in unpleasant weather.
- Some jobs will require evening and weekend work and/or long hours of work, especially in the spring/summer/fall months.
- NOTE: It will be important to have a valid Manitoba **driver's license**. Many jobs will be outside of the city's bus system. See information [here](#).
- Most job opportunities will be outside of a city, in a smaller town or rural area.
- **Possible** jobs on Manitoba In-Demand Occupations list: [Agricultural representatives, consultants and specialists](#) or [Technical sales specialists-wholesale trade](#).

Other important information:

- **Field trips** will generally be outside; the weather could be cool or windy or rainy. You could be walking a long distance on uneven ground and in fields of dirt or crops. There could be insects. You will need comfortable and warm shoes/boots and clothing.
- **Location of many jobs** will be outside of a city, so you will have the best opportunities if you will live and work in a small rural community.

Questions about this information? Or, would you like to discuss your program choice? Please contact Assiniboine International at 204-725-8700, ext. 6640 or bridgea@assiniboine.net