

IQAS Placement Recommendations

The placement recommendations are guidelines for international educational credentials and how they compare to Canadian educational standards. They represent benchmark credentials and do not cover all credentials. The fact that a credential is not mentioned in the placement recommendations does not mean it cannot be assessed by IQAS. International credentials that are not covered by the placement recommendations should therefore be referred to IQAS for individual evaluation.

The placement recommendations are advisory in nature, and indicate the general level of a credential in Canadian terms.

Given the different educational philosophies, objectives and program structures in the educational systems of the world, evaluation in terms of direct equivalence to specific Canadian credentials is not possible. It is for this reason that IQAS' placement recommendations are made in terms of 'generally compares' and not 'equivalent'.

When evaluating international credentials IQAS considers the following: the education system of the country concerned; the recognition of the awarding institution, and the level; as well as the length and structure of the program.

When appropriate, IQAS may consider that comparison to a different level of education may more accurately reflect the level of the international credential in Canadian terms. IQAS may also combine two or more credentials if it is considered appropriate.

Credential Name	Entrance Requirements	Length of Study	IQAS Recommendation
Title of <i>Bachiller</i> (Baccalaureate)	Completion of Grade 9	2 years	Generally compares to the completion of Grade 12.* * The phrase "with specialized training in xx" should be added if the program incorporated training in a specialized field.
Title of <i>Técnico Profesional</i> (Professional Technician)	Title of <i>Bachiller</i> , i.e. completion of Grade 11	2.5-3 years	Generally compares to the completion of a postsecondary Certificate with a focus in xx.
Title of <i>Técnico Profesional Especialista</i> (Specialist Professional Technician)	Title of <i>Técnico Profesional</i> in a related area of study	1-1.5 years	Generally compares to the completion of <i>one</i> * additional year of technical postsecondary study with a greater specialization in the field. * The number of years should reflect the actual full-time equivalent duration of the program.
Title of <i>Tecnólogo/a</i> (Technologist)	Title of <i>Bachiller</i> , i.e. completion of Grade 11	3 years	Generally compares to the completion of a postsecondary Diploma with a focus in xx.

Title of <i>Tecnólogo/a Especialista</i> (Specialist Technologist)	Title of <i>Tecnólogo/a</i> in a related area of study	1-2 years	Generally compares to the completion of <i>one</i> * additional year of technical postsecondary study with a greater specialization in the field. * The number of years should reflect the actual full-time equivalent duration of the program.
Title of <i>Normalista Superior</i> (Teacher for preschool and elementary school levels)	Title of <i>Bachiller con Profundización en Educación</i> (Baccalaureate with a Focus in Education), i.e. completion of Grade 11	2 years	Generally compares to the completion of a postsecondary Diploma with a focus in xx.
Titles of <i>Profesional</i> ('Professional'), <i>Licenciado/a</i> (Licentiate), <i>Maestro/a</i> ('Master'), and other undergraduate degree titles	Title of <i>Bachiller</i> , i.e. completion of Grade 11	4-5 years	Generally compares to the completion of a four-year Bachelor's Degree with a focus in xx.
Title of <i>Odontólogo/a</i> (Dentist)	Title of <i>Bachiller</i> , i.e. completion of Grade 11	5 years	Generally compares to the completion of a first professional university degree in dentistry, preceded by preprofessional university study in science. <i>Note: The dentistry degree program in Colombia usually requires five years of continuous study in the Faculty of Dentistry (Odontology). In Canada, dentistry degrees, in general, require at least two years of pre-professional university study followed by four years of professional dentistry study.</i>
Title of <i>Licenciado/a</i> (Licentiate; i.e. undergraduate degree in education)	Title of <i>Bachiller</i> , i.e. completion of Grade 11	4-5 years	Generally compares to the completion of a four-year Bachelor's Degree* with a focus in xx and courses in education. *If the program completed included a sufficient number of education courses, it may be considered generally comparable to the completion of a four-year Bachelor of Education Degree with a focus in xx.
Title of <i>Ingeniero/a</i>	Title of <i>Bachiller</i> ,	5 years	Generally compares to the completion of

(Engineer)	i.e. completion of Grade 11		a four-year Bachelor of Science Degree with a focus in xx engineering.
Title of <i>Abogado/a</i> (Lawyer)	Title of <i>Bachiller</i> , i.e. completion of Grade 11	5 years	<p>Generally compares to the completion of a first professional university degree in law (as practiced in the Republic of Colombia), preceded by preprofessional university study.</p> <p><i>Note: The law degree program in Colombia usually requires five years of continuous study in the Faculty of Law. In Canada, the usual pattern of study in law requires at least two years of preprofessional university study followed by three years of professional law study.</i></p>
Title of <i>Médico</i> (Physician) or <i>Médico y Cirujano</i> (Physician and Surgeon)	Title of <i>Bachiller</i> , i.e. completion of Grade 11	6 years (5 years of theoretical and practical instruction + 1 year of rotation-based internship)	<p>Generally compares to the completion of a first professional university degree in medicine, preceded by preprofessional university study in science.</p> <p><i>Note: The medical degree program in Colombia usually requires five years of continuous study in the Faculty of Medicine followed by a one-year clinical internship. In Canada, medical degrees, in general, require at least two years of university study in science followed by four years of professional medical studies.</i></p>
Title of <i>Enfermera/o</i> (Nurse)	Title of <i>Bachiller</i> , i.e. completion of Grade 11	4-5 years	Generally compares to the completion of a four-year Bachelor of Science Degree with a focus in nursing.
Title of <i>Fisioterapeuta</i> (Physiotherapist) or <i>Terapeuta Ocupacional</i> (Occupational Therapist)	Title of <i>Bachiller</i> , i.e. completion of Grade 11	4-5 years	Generally compares to the completion of a four-year Bachelor of Science Degree with a focus in physiotherapy/occupational therapy.
Title of <i>Médico Veterinario</i> (Veterinarian)	Title of <i>Bachiller</i> , i.e. completion of Grade 11	5 years	<p>Generally compares to the completion of a first professional university degree in veterinary medicine, preceded by preprofessional university study in science.</p> <p><i>Note: Veterinary medicine degrees in Colombia generally require five years of continuous study in the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine. In Canada,</i></p>

			<i>veterinary medicine degrees require in general at least two years of undergraduate study in science followed by four years of professional veterinary medical studies.</i>
Title of Especialista (Specialist)	Completion of an undergraduate degree in a related area of study	1-1.5 years; up to 5 years for medical specializations	Generally compares to the completion of a graduate Diploma with a focus in xx.
Title of Magíster (Master)	Completion of an undergraduate degree, normally in a related area of study	2 years	Generally compares to the completion of a two-year Master's Degree with a focus in xx.
Title of Magíster en Administración (de Negocios/Empresas) (Master of Business Administration, MBA)	Completion of an undergraduate degree	2 years	Generally compares to the completion of a Master of Business Administration (MBA) Degree.
Title of Doctor (Doctor)	Completion of an undergraduate degree, normally in a related area of study; most applicants are admitted based on a Master's Degree	2-3 years following a Master's Degree; 4-5 years following an undergraduate degree	Generally compares to the completion of a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Degree with a focus in xx.