



Career Information Educational Assistant

Overview

Career Title: Educational Assistant

Industry/Field: Human Services/Education

The Educational Assistant Certificate program prepares you for a meaningful career working with children in school settings. Graduates will have the skills to assist students with exceptionalities by adapting their educational materials and programs. Educational Assistants also help students learn in one-on-one or small group situations, promote inclusion, prepare instructional materials for teachers, and monitor student progress.

Date	February 2025 Updated
Required Education & Skills	<p>Hard Skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Classroom Management: Techniques for maintaining an organized and productive learning environment• Knowledge of working with students with special needs and implementing Individualized Education Programs• Strategies for managing and modifying student behavior• Assisting in the development and implementation of lesson plans• Understanding of child development stages and psychology <p>Soft Skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Communication: Clear and effective verbal and non-verbal communication with students, teachers, and parents• Providing support with kindness and understanding, especially in challenging situations• Adjusting to different classroom environments and student needs• Collaborating effectively with teachers and other staff members• Maintaining ethical standards and professional behavior
Job Market & Outlook	<p>Current Demand: Educational Assistants are in demand across various provinces, with particularly good job prospects in Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Quebec, and Saskatchewan.</p> <p>Projected Growth: Over the period from 2022 to 2031, new job openings for Educational Assistants are expected to total 35,300.</p> <p>Salary Information: These are average national salaries, experience, and geographical location will alter your salary.</p> <p>These figures can fluctuate based on factors such as industry demand certifications, and regional economic conditions. Alberta's average salary tends to be higher, reflecting the provincial demands and economic conditions.</p> <p>Entry-Level: \$38,800.00</p> <p>Mid-Level: \$42,000.00</p>

Pros & Cons of this Career

Pros:

- Helping students with diverse learning needs succeed can be incredibly rewarding
- Job Security: High demand for addictions counsellors ensures stable employment opportunities
- Opportunities to work in diverse environments such as elementary, junior and senior high schools, and special education programming.
- Professional Growth: Opportunities for specialization and continuing education to advance your career
- The ability to support and make a difference in students' lives brings immense job satisfaction

Cons:

- Emotional Strain: Working with students who have challenging behaviors or special needs can be emotionally demanding
- High Stress: Managing crisis situations and dealing with life-and-death scenarios regularly
- Often involves long hours and a heavy caseload, which can be exhausting
- Working with students who may be resistant to help or have complex needs can be tough

This information has been compiled using publicly accessible provincial and federal data sources.

