

The University Transition Program

An Early Entrance to University Program

Initiated in 1993

A Provincial Resource Program since 1995

Tri-Institutional Partnerships

The Vancouver School Board

The University of British Columbia

The BC Ministry of Education

Program Location:

The University of British Columbia

1924 West Mall, 240-D

Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z2

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the goal of the program? The two-year pre-university program prepares academically gifted adolescents to achieve their goals of early entrance to university and successful studies thereafter. Students complete core academic courses at Grades 11 & 12, write provincial examinations and meet requirements of the Faculties to which they apply in order to achieve the BC Dogwood Certificate and early entrance to UBC.

What is required to achieve success in the program? Student success requires a minimum of 80% in all courses, recommendation from the program of readiness for advanced university studies, and acceptance by a Faculty based on four provincial examinations.

Who can apply to the program? Permanent residents or Canadian citizens who have completed Grade 7 or Grade 8.

How are students identified for the program?

- a. Information sessions for students and parents, large group assessment for all applicants, interview, portfolio of work, demonstrated success from recent report cards and awards.
- b. Psycho-educational assessment.
- c. Criteria include exceptional demonstrated and potential abilities, social-emotional strength, stamina and resilience, and student motivation, work ethic, goals and career interests.
- d. Recommendations discussed with individual students and their parents.
- e. Orientation at UBC location for one week in May.
- f. Summer program option e.g. Global Citizenship Summer Institute.

How are students accelerated?

- a. Academic acceleration utilizes gap-based instruction to build core knowledge and skills, conceptual frameworks to promote higher level critical and creative thinking, compacting of curriculum and faster-paced instruction to support interdisciplinary connections and extend depth and breadth of learning, problem-based learning challenges and rigorous academic standards.
- b. Social-emotional development is supported by the program culture of respect, caring and social responsibility, a focus on local and global citizenship and leadership e.g. Self & Society credit, community service and work experience, Model United Nations.
- c. Career exploration involves Campus Day explorations, UBC mentorship and peer mentors.

What features make this program unique?

Only program of its kind in BC and Canada committed to on going program development

- a. Program integrity: Conceptual framework & research base aligned with program goal & practices
- b. Credibility of identification process: comprehensive, rigorous, equity of access, gender equity
- c. Cohort model maximum of 20 students for each year; continuing relationship with graduates
- d. University location and use of university resources and facilities e.g. libraries, labs
- e. Individual Education Plans to support individual learner profiles
- f. Gifted education leadership and team of VSB teachers and UBC professors
- g. Institutional partnership support from Representational Steering Committee
- h. Success of graduates & support of community of program parents and alumni parents
- i. Faculty of Education liaison, research and support.

UNIVERSITY TRANSITION PROGRAM

A 2-Year Preparation for Early Entrance to University for BC Academically Gifted Adolescents

Candidate Application Form & Registration for Assessment 2023 – 2024 PLEASE PRINT

Have you applied to the program before? Y N

1. **Name:** _____ **Date of Application:** _____
(Last Name) As per on your passport (First Name) Preferred Name

Current Grade _____ Age: _____ BD: _____ Gender: _____
(M/D/Y)

Mailing Address: _____
(Street address) (City)

Postal Code: _____ Tel: _____ e-mail: _____
(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

Country of Birth: _____ First Language: _____ Language in Home: _____

Years speaking English: _____ Years lived in Canada: _____ French Immersion: _____ Grades _____

Previous Psycho-Educational Assessment: Y N Date: _____ Strongest Academic Subjects: _____

Previous Gifted Education Programs: _____

Passionate Pursuits: _____ Career interests: _____

2. **Current School:** _____ Tel: _____ School District: _____

City: _____ School Principal _____ Contact Teacher: _____

3. **Name of Parents/Guardian: Father:** _____ **Mother:** _____

Occupation/Education: Father _____ Mother: _____

Parent E-mails: Father _____ Mother: _____

Siblings:(Names/Ages): _____

4. **Please attach to application form: (not necessary, only attach if available)**

Recent Photo Copy of Recent Report Card, Psycho-Ed.Report if available; List of Awards & Achievements

5. **A Portfolio will be required for students who are invited for an interview after Assessment Day.**

Bring work you are proud of and want to share with the program, something that helps us to get to know you.

6. Have you previously applied for this program? Yes No Year _____

7. Are you an International Student? No Yes. If yes, when did you arrive in Canada? _____

8. Cultural Heritage: _____ Do you have Aboriginal Ancestry? Yes No _____

Parent / Guardian Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

{Parents: Please ensure student brings pens, pencils, book to read & lunch to Group Assessment.}

Please email application form / Documents to: email: utp@vsb.bc.ca