



## **Alaska Highway Consortium on Teacher Education**

A Joint Project of Northern Lights College, Simon Fraser University,  
University of Northern British Columbia and School Districts #59, 60, & 81

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Do you want to be a **TEACHER?**

Would you like to complete your  
**TRAINING IN THE NORTH?**

**Think about AHCOTE!**

Inside this package is the information needed  
to get you started on your way to becoming  
and AHCOTE Student.

# CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION TO AHCOTE

## PROFESSIONAL WORK

- quality and amount of work or volunteer experience in a public education setting
- other non-classroom work or volunteer experience indicating an interest in working with children

## PERSONAL

- written and verbal communication skills
- interest in and understanding of education as conveyed through the application and interview
- indications of commitment, perseverance and determination in references and interview

The completed AHCOTE application includes an AHCOTE Application Form, SFU student number, **official** transcripts, references, resume, and covering letter. Late Entry applicants must also include their PDP fee (verify amount with AHCOTE office).

### **Regular Entry**

Since AHCOTE students take Education courses through Simon Fraser University, **admission to SFU is a prerequisite for admission to the AHCOTE Program.** In order to be admissible to SFU, applicants from B.C. colleges must complete **at least one full year (30 semester hours) of transferable work** with a minimum grade point average of 2.5. Once admitted to SFU, in addition to the above professional and personal qualifications, the following academic criteria will apply:

### **ACADEMIC BACKGROUND: Regular Entry**

30 credits of University Transfer courses (cumulative grade point average of 2.5 required) including the successful completion of:

- \*English (6 credits)                      \*Lab Science                      \*Canadian History                      First Nations Studies  
(3 must be literature credits)
- \*Math 190 (Principles of Mathematics for Teachers)                      \*Canadian Geography

*Students must meet the Literacy and Quantitative Skills Requirement at Simon Fraser University (see SFU calendar)*

### **Late Entry**

Since AHCOTE students take Education courses through Simon Fraser University, **admission to SFU is a prerequisite for admission to the AHCOTE Program.** Once admitted to SFU, in addition to the above professional and personal qualifications, the following academic criteria will apply to the selection of candidates for the AHCOTE Late Entry Program:

### **ACADEMIC BACKGROUND: Late Entry**

*Students must meet the Literacy and Quantitative Skills Requirement at Simon Fraser University (see SFU calendar)*

**Elementary** - an appropriate degree or 76 credits prior to Education 401/402 (cumulative grade point average of 2.5 required) including the successful completion of:

- \*English (6 credits)                      \*Lab Science                      \*Canadian History                      First Nations Studies  
(3 must be literature credits)
- \*Math 190 (Principles of Mathematics for Teachers)                      \*Canadian Geography

**Secondary** - an appropriate degree (cumulative grade point average of 2.5 required) with a major or two minors in teachable areas, including successful completion of \*English (6 credits.)

\* Some of these courses could be taken after entry to the AHCOTE program but before the start date of Education 401/402.

**Prospective Late Entry AHCOTE students are advised to contact the office of the AHCOTE Coordinator at 250-785-6981 or 250-784-7543 for evaluation of transcripts prior to submitting their applications.** Students are accepted on an individual basis subject to available space within the AHCOTE Program.

A personal interview will be required of candidates meeting the initial screening criteria. Applicants will be contacted to arrange a date and time for an interview.

## Questions and Answers about the AHCOTE Program

### What is AHCOTE?

The Alaska Highway Consortium On Teacher Education is a joint teacher education program offered by Simon Fraser University, Northern Lights College, School Districts 59 and 60, the University of Northern British Columbia, and the local teacher associations.

### What do I get when I complete the program?

Any student who successfully completes the program and applies for a Teaching Certificate before completion of a degree will be recommended for a B.C. Conditional Teaching Certificate.

Any student who successfully completes the program with an degree, will be recommended for a B. C. Professional Teaching Certificate.

### Where can I teach when I finish?

Either certificate qualifies you to teach anywhere in British Columbia.

### How long will it take?

The Regular Entry Program takes two years and four months to complete.

The Late Entry Program takes one year and four months. Both programs begin in September.

### Where will AHCOTE be offered?

The program will be offered on the Northern Lights College campuses in Fort St. John and Dawson Creek. During the EDUC 404 Education Course Work Semester, students may be required to spend one session of 6 weeks at SFU in Burnaby, BC, depending on the courses they require, and the courses available locally. The practical components will be completed in schools in Fort St. John, Dawson Creek, and surrounding area.

Students will be expected to travel between Fort St John and Dawson Creek for various classes.

### Who can apply?

Students with 30 university transfer credits, including 3 English credits, Math 190 (Principles of Mathematics for Teachers) and 3 Canadian History or Canadian Geography credits, can apply to the AHCOTE Regular Entry Program. Prior to entering Education 401/402, they must have completed 6 English credits, Math 190, and 3 credits in each of Canadian History, Canadian Geography, and a Lab Science, and numerous electives.

Students with an acceptable university degree or 76 university transfer credits prior to Education 401/2 may apply to the Late Entry Program.

### When do I practice teach?

Students practice teach in school classrooms throughout the duration of the program, beginning in the first semester. Practicum lengths progress from 1/2 day per week to a full 13- week session.

### Are credits transferable?

Credits earned in the AHCOTE Program are transferable to degree programs at Simon Fraser University and other universities.

### How much will it cost?

Tuition fees will vary from about \$1500 to \$2400 for a full semester, depending on the courses you take. In addition, there will be student association fees, and textbook fees each semester of approximately \$120 per course.

### Am I suited for the program?

If you meet Simon Fraser University's admission requirements, are a committed, literate, mature individual who enjoys working with children, are prepared to apply yourself in preparation for and throughout a teaching career, you may be one of the individuals we are seeking. There will be a maximum enrolment of 14 students in each location in each year of the program.

### Fort St. John Campus

AHCOTE  
Northern Lights College  
Box 1000, 9820 - 120 Avenue  
Fort St. John, B. C. V1J 6K1  
Tel: (250) 785-6981  
Fax: (250) 787-6227  
e-mail: [ahcote@nlc.bc.ca](mailto:ahcote@nlc.bc.ca)

### Dawson Creek Campus

AHCOTE  
Northern Lights College  
11401 - 8 Street  
Dawson Creek, B. C. V1G 4G2  
Tel: (250) 784-7543  
Fax: (250) 784-7610  
e-mail: [ahcote@nlc.bc.ca](mailto:ahcote@nlc.bc.ca)

## AHCOTE Course Descriptions

In the AHCOTE program, experienced teachers (Coordinator, Faculty Associates and School Associates) play various roles. The Coordinator and Faculty Associates are teachers who are seconded to the program for a temporary appointment. School Associates are the teachers in whose classrooms student teachers are placed.

### **Education 220: Introduction to Educational Psychology**

A survey of educational research and theories concerning motivation, learning, development, and individual differences in classroom settings.

### **Education 240: Social Issues in Education**

Social functions of the school; education and socialization; social, political, economic and cultural influences in the institutions and practices of education.

### **Education 252: Introduction to Reflective Practice**

Provides opportunities for prospective teachers to begin their development as reflective practitioners. Through readings, classroom activities and discussions, and interactions with students and practicing teachers, students will be exposed to various educational issues and questions. They will be given time to explore their own values and beliefs about education and teaching. Some time will be spent observing in local schools, and working with children individually and in small and large groups.

### **Education 352: Building on Reflective Practice**

Building on the experience of EDUC 252, prospective teachers will continue to develop their reflective practice. Various educational issues related to the caring for children and the creation of learning communities will be explored. Prospective teachers will spend time in classrooms exploring the importance of connected learning experiences for children.

### **Education 472: Designs for Learning: Language Arts**

This course will focus on developing knowledge, skills and strategies to create a rich and stimulating language arts program in the classroom. Issues in reading, writing, speaking and listening will be examined through current theory and teaching practice.

### **Education 475: Designs for Learning: Elementary Mathematics**

Focuses on teaching elementary school mathematics. Students explore mathematical learning, their own mathematical thinking, and curriculum; and plan mathematical instruction within a consistent framework using appropriate instructional materials and methods.

### **Education 401/402: Integration of Theory and Practice**

In Education 401 and 402, teaching is studied through the integration of in-classroom practicum experiences and instructional seminars. This integrated experience makes it possible for students to grow in their understanding of the relationship between educational theory and classroom practice.

As part of their Education 401 experiences, students are assigned to a classroom teacher (School Associate). During Education 402, students begin the study of the literature of education and engage in seminars that examine educational issues. They will also attend curriculum workshops and become familiar with an array of educational resources. As an important part of the Education 401/402 experience, they will begin to make meaning of the vast and complex world of educational practice, and to have this meaning informed by extensive study of the literature and by thoughtful, reflective discourse.

### **Education 404: Education Course Work Semester**

Students take 14-18 semester credit hours of studies in Upper Level Education courses as part of the program requirements. Students may be required to attend SFU Burnaby campus.

### **Education 405: Teaching Semester**

In Education 405, students are assigned to a classroom for 13 weeks of student teaching experience. During this semester, the School Associate and Faculty Associate provide help and guidance, as well as make assessments of student growth toward the achievement of standards of professional competence.