

Georgian College profile

Georgian College is a powerful place offering more than 100 programs at seven campuses in Barrie, Orillia, Owen Sound, Midland, Muskoka, Orangeville and South Georgian Bay. It is one of the fastest-growing colleges in Ontario, with 11,000 full-time students and 28,000 Continuing Education registrations annually. Georgian is home to the unique University Partnership Centre, the Henry Bernick Entrepreneurship Centre, the Sadlon Centre for Health and Wellness and the Automotive Business School of Canada. The college's mission is to inspire innovation, transform lives and connect communities through the power of education.

From a modest beginning in a Barrie shopping plaza in 1967, Georgian has evolved into one of the leading colleges in Canada. More than 60,000 alumni have graduated from the college. Georgian employs approximately 2,250 full-time and part-time staff members.

Georgian is a catalyst for economic development, bringing innovation, opportunity and strong social and cultural benefits to communities. The college has grown to become a vital component of the communities within the 21,000-square-kilometre area it serves. Figures from 2011 show it has an annual economic impact of \$157 million regionally and \$361 million provincially. Since 1999, Georgian's annual operating budget has grown from \$55 million to \$170 million.

Innovative partnerships and pathways

Georgian is known for attracting the most dynamic industry and community leaders, building rich partnerships and providing industry with highly skilled graduates to sustain and grow their operations. Close working relationships assure Georgian receives the valued input of leaders in the community and students benefit from relevant and engaging curriculum.

Georgian College provides innumerable academic opportunities and pathways for its students, ranging from academic upgrading, apprenticeship and diploma programs, to graduate certificate, college degree and university degree programs through its unique University Partnership Centre. The college has more than 450 agreements with 47 institutions around the world.

Almost all Georgian programs include a workplace experience component. The college strives to place an emphasis on relevant academic content combined with practical applications and quality work experiences. Georgian was the first co-op college in Ontario and is the largest co-op college in Canada, with more than 3,500 employers offering 4,500 co-op positions each year.

Delivering excellent, career-focused programs is not the only thing Georgian does well – Georgian is also committed to supporting its students in every way possible, providing access to friendly, knowledgeable staff and an extensive range of resources that help to ensure student success.

International education

International education is thriving at Georgian. The college is home to more than 500 students from 43 countries – including India, China, South Korea, Japan and Nigeria.

Results from the 2012 International student Barometer Survey – the world’s largest survey on international student satisfaction – tell the story. Georgian received the highest ranking in student satisfaction, making international students at the college the most satisfied with their experience not just in Ontario, but worldwide.

At home and abroad, the college continues to expand its reach and strengthen global connections through increased international recruitment and partnership development. Currently, Georgian is engaged in international projects with institutions in India and Malaysia. Past projects have included partnerships with institutions in such countries as Argentina, China and Mexico.

Advanced facilities

The college is home to a number of specialty areas of study, offering hands-on experiences for students, research opportunities and the latest in innovative technology.

- **Automotive Business School of Canada** (Barrie): Offers the only Business Administration (Automotive Marketing) program and the only Bachelor of Applied Business Automotive Management degree program in Canada. Home of the Georgian College Auto Show, the largest outdoor student-run auto show in North America
- **Centre for Applied Research and Innovation** (Barrie): Addresses challenges faced by industry and partners with local businesses to bring ideas to life in the commercial marketplace
- **Centre for Sustainable Technologies** (Barrie): Serves as a learning lab with technology and systems that meet the needs of industry
- **Henry Bernick Entrepreneurship Centre** (Barrie): Aimed at sparking new business and encouraging students to think entrepreneurially
- **Georgian College Skilled Trades Centre** (Midland): Focuses on growing the skilled trades through pre-apprenticeship, apprenticeship and post-secondary programs
- **Great Lakes International Marine Training and Research Centre** (Owen Sound): Developed in co-operation with Transport Canada and the Canadian shipping industry. With a recent \$8.5-million upgrade which includes state-of-the-art marine simulators, its facilities are world-class
- **Justice and Public Safety Institute** (Orillia): Offers current, hands-on education for people interested in public safety fields
- **Sadlon Centre for Health and Wellness** (Barrie): Home to state-of-the-art labs, classrooms and such community-accessible clinics as massage therapy, nurse practitioner-led, oral health, opticianry and speech, language and hearing

Additionally, the college operates three employment service locations in Barrie, Orangeville and Orillia, helping more than 2,000 people to connect with employment and educational opportunities each year. As part of the provincial Employment Ontario (EO) network of services, Georgian helps community members who are looking for their first jobs, are mid-career, or are moving toward retirement to determine both short- and long-term goals. Georgian’s 10 Literacy and Basic Skills sites, operating as Academic Upgrading (AU), are also part of the EO network. AU provides the opportunity for about 1,500 learners annually to improve their academic credentials and skills to prepare for post-secondary programs and new employment opportunities.

Georgian College has also undertaken a number of initiatives in partnership with the Anishnabe Education and Training Circle that focus on increasing the recruitment, retention and graduation of students of Aboriginal ancestry – including First Nations, Métis and Inuit. The college is committed to the academic and personal success of Aboriginal students and houses Aboriginal Resource Centres at the Barrie, Orillia, Midland and Owen Sound campuses. The centres host a range of cultural events throughout the year and provide resources and support to students, regardless of program or status.

Committed to excellence

Annual results from provincial Key Performance Indicators support Georgian's consistent ranking as a leader in graduate employment and graduate satisfaction. In fact, Georgian has had one of the highest graduate employment rates among Ontario colleges for more than a decade.

Recently, Georgian was named one of Canada's Top 100 Employers in a national MediaCorp competition – for the sixth time. The college was named one of Canada's Greenest Employers for 2012 – the third consecutive year Georgian has won the award.

Georgian's Power of Education fundraising campaign has a \$65-million cumulative goal for strategic priorities including student awards and scholarships and the Henry Bernick Entrepreneurship Centre. To date, \$45 million has been raised.

For more information on Georgian College, please visit www.georgiancollege.ca.