

What is Accreditation?

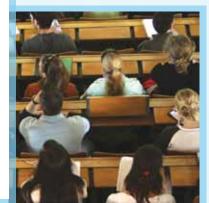
Accreditation is a quality assurance process to ensure that services and operations offered by an educational program meet national standards as evaluated by an external body. If these standards are met, accredited status is granted to the qualified program.

ECO Canada has developed a national environmental program accreditation system in collaboration with educators, accreditation professionals and industry.

Accreditation demonstrates to students, parents, educators and industry that environmental programs have met, and are committed to upholding, a national standard.

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I enjoyed working with the team and working for a good cause. Also, it is good to see what different institutions are doing.



Nationally Accredited Environmental Programs





Bachelor of Science in Environmental and Resource Science



Environmental Technician



Bachelor of Applied Science: Environmental Management



Techniques du Milieu Naturel



Environmental Management and Assessment Post Graduate Certificate



Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science



Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science Honours



Natural Resources Environmental Technology



Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science

Benefits of Accreditation

- Increases enrollment in environmental programs
- Facilitates school-to-work transitions for graduates
- Provides a framework for continually improving the quality and efficiency of environmental programs
- Increases cooperation, articulation, and resulting economies in the development of new environmental programs
- Offers an objective measure of a program

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Meeting the Standard

The **National Standard** and accreditation are intended to provide quality assurance and support the continuous improvement of the quality of environmental education. The national accreditation process evaluates the following components:

- 1. General Requirements
- 2. Environmental Program Development and Maintenance
- 3. Environmental Curriculum
- 4. Faculty Complement
- 5. Admissions
- 6. Student Services
- 7. Institutional Facility and Learning Resources
- 8. Program Financial Resources
- 9. Scholarly Activity





It was very useful to see how other universities approach the same issues and problems.

Application Process

The application phase consists of two steps:

- 1) call for interest and
- 2) invitation to apply

ECO Canada will conduct semi-annual **calls for interest** to post-secondary institutions. Forms would be due February 28th and August 31st each year. In general, programs submitting interest on February 28th would undergo a site visit the following Winter (March/April), and programs submitting interest on August 31st, would undergo a site visit the following Fall (October/November). There are a limited number of programs that can be accommodated each cycle.

Programs are encouraged to submit their Expressions of Interest as soon as the decision to undertake Accreditation has been made; waitlists can be long and site visit schedules booked up to two years in advance.

The Site Visit Evaluators were highly qualified and experienced, had good questions, and gave good advice.

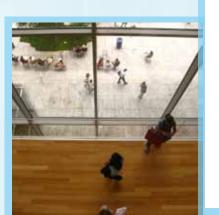


Contact

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I very much enjoyed the entire process and look forward to future involvement in any capacity that ECO Canada might consider.

