

UBC Welcome to UBC

Why Join the University of British Columbia?

The University of British Columbia (UBC) is one of the **world's leading public universities**, consistently ranked among the top institutions globally for teaching, learning and research.

Situated on the breathtaking west coast and interior of British Columbia, UBC's two campuses offer a rare combination of **academic excellence, cultural vibrancy, and natural beauty.**

Our Vancouver campus sits on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) people, surrounded by old-growth forests, sandy beaches, and the Pacific Ocean. **Vancouver is regularly ranked among the most livable cities in the world**, offering endless opportunities for outdoor recreation, arts, culture, and global cuisine — all within minutes of campus.

Our Okanagan campus is located on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Syilx Okanagan Nation, set against a backdrop of rolling hills, vineyards, and sweeping mountain vistas. Located in Kelowna — the largest city in British Columbia's Okanagan Valley — **the campus offers the amenities of a vibrant city alongside easy access to orchards, vineyards, wineries, and championship golf courses, many just minutes from downtown.**

Across both campuses, faculty who join UBC become part of **a dynamic, internationally connected academic community** where discovery, innovation, and collaboration thrive. At UBC, you can build a meaningful academic career while enjoying an unparalleled quality of life.



Curated Consultation & Dedicated Faculty Support

UBC takes a thoughtful, collaborative approach to faculty recruitment. Through the Housing, Immigration and Relocation Services (HIRS) team, new faculty receive personalized one-on-one support before, during, and after their move.

Our advisors provide comprehensive, tailored guidance to help you understand life at UBC, Vancouver and Kelowna. Support includes:

- **Immigration and work permit guidance;**
- **Housing options for renting or owning in the region;**
- **Partner/spousal employment resources;**
- **Childcare, schooling, and family-support information;**
- **Healthcare and other UBC benefits;**
- **Banking, taxes, and other relocation assistance.**

The HIRS team is committed to ensuring that your transition to UBC is both seamless and smooth, giving you the information and clarity you need at every step.



IMMIGRATION SUPPORT

Navigating international relocation can be complex — which is why UBC provides dedicated immigration advisors to support you every step of the way. Services include:

- **Work permit and visa application support for you and your accompanying family members;**
- **Information on permanent residency pathways;**
- **Coordination with government agencies and internal units.**

Our advisors help you begin your faculty appointment with confidence, knowing that practical details are handled with care and expertise.

Comprehensive Housing Support

UBC recognizes that securing affordable, convenient housing is a key factor in attracting and retaining world-class faculty. To support this, the university offers a suite of housing programs designed specifically for faculty members and their families — whether you're looking to rent or buy.

ON-CAMPUS RENTAL HOUSING FOR FACULTY

Vancouver campus only

Finding a home in Vancouver's competitive housing market can be challenging — which is why UBC offers on-campus rental housing for faculty. Benefits include:

- **Modern, well-designed units in safe, walkable neighbourhoods;**
- **Priority access for new faculty members;**
- **Immediate proximity to parks, trails, beaches, and campus amenities;**
- **Strong residential communities designed with academics and families in mind;**
- **A short commute that gives you more time for research, teaching, and enjoying life.**

Living on campus means a short commute that gives you more time for enjoying the tranquility of forested pathways while remaining connected to world-class academic facilities.



FACULTY HOME OWNERSHIP PROGRAM (FHOP)

Vancouver campus only

For faculty planning to put down roots in the region, UBC offers the Faculty Home Ownership Program (FHOP) — a strategic support initiative to make home ownership in Metro Vancouver more affordable. Eligible faculty may receive:

- **Down Payment Assistance** — a forgivable, interest-free loan of \$50,000 to help with the purchase of a primary residence within Metro Vancouver.
- **Prescribed Interest Rate Loan** — a 15-year interest-payment only loan to assist with housing affordability and financial flexibility.

These programs are designed to support faculty in achieving long-term stability, building equity and establishing lasting ties to the UBC community.



ADDITIONAL HOUSING RESOURCES & GUIDANCE

Through the HIRS team, new faculty receive personalized advice on finding both on the UBCV campus and off-campus housing, information on neighbourhoods, and rental and homeownership market insights. The team can connect you with local community resources and support your transition to life in Vancouver or the Okanagan.



Childcare & Schooling

UBC understands that family well-being is essential to faculty success. The university operates **licensed, affordable, high-quality childcare** centres on campus, serving children from infancy through elementary school. These programs emphasize leading early childhood education, play-based learning, and safe, supportive environments for families within the UBC community.

Select faculty members may receive priority access to UBCV childcare centres.

While there are numerous public and independent K-12 schools throughout Vancouver and the Okanagan, UBCV also hosts three public schools directly on campus, providing convenient options for faculty families.

The HIRS team provides guidance and support with school and childcare registration, helping families navigate options and settle in with confidence.



Relocation Fund

To help remove barriers to joining UBC, eligible new faculty may receive relocation funding to assist with moving and relocation costs. This support can be used for:

- **Moving and transportation expenses;**
- **Pre-move house-hunting trip or temporary accommodation upon arrival;**
- **Shipment of research labs or professional equipment;**
- **Costs associated with temporary health care, immigration fees, and more.**

This investment reflects UBC's commitment to welcoming world-class scholars and helping them establish strong roots in our community.



Community Integration

At UBC, community integration is an intentional and ongoing process. New faculty and their families are welcomed into a vibrant, inclusive campus environment that encourages connection, belonging, and engagement from the outset. Through social gatherings, cultural events, and opportunities to connect with colleagues and neighbours, faculty are supported in building meaningful relationships both within the university and the surrounding community.

Support continues well beyond arrival, ensuring faculty and their families feel connected, supported, and at home throughout their time at UBC.

Life at UBC

VANCOUVER

Vancouver offers a lifestyle that few cities can match. With its blend of natural beauty, cultural depth, and global connectivity, faculty and their families enjoy a living environment that is both enriching and inspiring.



OUTDOOR LIFESTYLE

- Beaches, forests, and mountains just minutes from campus
- World-class hiking, skiing, cycling, and kayaking
- Mild coastal climate with year-round opportunities to explore nature



FAMILY-FRIENDLY & INCLUSIVE

- Safe, walkable neighbourhoods with excellent public services
- High-quality healthcare and education
- Diverse, welcoming communities from around the world



CULTURAL RICHNESS

- Thriving arts, theatre, music, and film scenes
- One of the world's most diverse culinary landscapes
- Festivals, museums, and cultural events throughout the year



OKANAGAN

Nestled along Okanagan Lake and surrounded by mountain ranges, Kelowna combines a relaxed pace of life with rich cultural, recreational, and professional opportunities.



OUTDOOR LIFESTYLE

- Lake access for swimming, boating, and paddleboarding
- Extensive hiking and cycling trails throughout the valley
- One of the longest golf seasons in Canada, plus easy access to skiing, snowboarding, and snowshoeing



FOOD, WINE & CULTURE

- Renowned vineyards, wineries, and seasonal wine festivals
- Local orchards producing world-class fruit
- A vibrant Cultural District with galleries, theatres, and live music



FAMILY-FRIENDLY & CONNECTED

- Safe, welcoming neighbourhoods with a strong community feel
- Excellent healthcare, schools, and public services
- Regional hub serving a growing population of over 250,000





Join us at UBC

Becoming a faculty member at UBC means choosing a future defined by academic **excellence, personal well-being, and a deep connection to community and place.**

With comprehensive support — **from immigration and housing to childcare and community integration** — and with the exceptional quality of life offered by Vancouver and Kelowna, UBC is a place where **your professional ambitions and personal aspirations can truly thrive.**

