

**IPAC Canada Online Essentials in Infection Prevention and Control Course
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**

What's the difference between the Regular Program, and the Accelerated Program?

The **Regular Program** runs for 10 months, with breaks between modules and a break over the December holiday. It is suited for novice practitioners – in various settings - with less than two years' experience.

The **Accelerated Program** runs for 5 months, with no breaks between modules. It has the same content, but is a consolidated offering. Applicants must be currently working in, or transitioning to, an infection prevention and control role. You must obtain formal written support from your employer to apply for the Accelerated Program.

Am I required to sign in at a specific time and date each week?

No. There are ongoing discussions which you are required to participate in for evaluation. However, you can sign in and participate any time during the posted time period while the discussion is open. Some aspects of the course require group work. Group members may be in different time zones and groups are required to work together to establish set sign in times if required for group assignment purposes.

Does this course give me CIC® designation?

No. To obtain CIC® you must write the standard CBIC examination. However, some students have used this course as part of their preparation for the CIC® exam. The Certification Board of Infection Control will allow 10 IPU's on successful completion of any of our distance education courses (Essentials in IPAC Regular Course; Essentials in IPAC Accelerated Course; and the Long Term Care in IPAC Course. The IPU's can be applied towards points required for recertification through education. Note: if a student takes one of these courses when they are NOT CIC certified, you will not earn IPU's – the educational activity has to be completed during your 5-year certification period.

Will this course guarantee me a job or position as an ICP?

No. This course is intended to provide education on infection prevention and control. Some students take this course as a requirement of their current employment. Some may take this course out of interest as they pursue possible employment opportunities. If you are interested in a job as an infection control practitioner or other role, it is important you understand the basic employment requirements set out in the position by the individual facility/province/country.

How computer literate am I required to be?

You must be able to navigate the internet and send and receive email. The course uses an online learning platform. Students will receive support and orientation for the learning platform

I am qualified to apply?

Regular Program Acceptance: Although preference is given to novice ICPs, in the past we have been able to offer spots to students from a wide variety of backgrounds (RN, BSc, MLT, CSD, RRT, dental professionals, allied health professionals etc.). Your application will be evaluated on: completeness, educational/work background, clarity, communication skills and understanding of the field of infection prevention and control.

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Accelerated Program Acceptance: Applicants must be currently employed in, or transitioning to, an infection prevention and control role, and have the time – and full support of their employer – to partake in this condensed offering.

I do not live in Canada, can I apply?

Yes. We have a number of students from outside of Canada who have successfully completed the course. Students outside of North America must pay tuition via bank draft.

Will I receive a receipt and a Tuition Credits Form for Canadian income tax purposes?

All tuition payments are issued an official receipt from IPAC Canada. In addition, Canadian students will also receive a T2202 Tuition Credits Form, for income tax purposes. **IPAC Canada is required to upload a copy of each T2202 to the Canada Revenue Agency website (even if your tuition is paid by a third party or by your employer).** We require all Canadian students to send us their Social Insurance Number; we'll reach out to all Canadian students in this regard.

Will I receive a Certificate of Completion when I finish the course?

Yes, students who pass the course will be contacted regarding how to request a Certificate of Completion.

When will I find out if I am accepted or not?

For both the **Regular Program and Accelerated Program:** The dates for first round of offers to successful applicants will be posted on the IPAC Canada website and communicated to students when their application is submitted. Tuition form must be submitted by the deadline indicated in the offer of admission to confirm acceptance to the course. No offers are made after a course starts.

Make sure the basicde@ipac-canada.org email address does not go to your Spam or Junk folder, as all notifications will come from this email address.

How many students are accepted each year?

The number of students accepted each year may vary depending on the resources available to support the course. However, the overall goal is to accept approximately 65-75 per course.

I just found this course and the deadline has passed; can I still apply?

You can still submit an application; however, those who submitted by the deadline are given priority and late applications are not always reviewed. No applications will be accepted once the course has started.

For the Accelerated Program: Due to the quick nature of intake to this course, please contact basicde@ipac-canada.org to inquire or check the IPAC Canada website frequently for updates regarding application requirements and deadlines.

IPAC Canada reserves the right to stop accepting applications at any time before the published deadline if the volume of applications exceeds capacity. Application deadline dates are posted on our website.