

Beyond the Cloud Program: Job Seeker FAQ

What is the Beyond the Cloud program?

The Beyond the Cloud program, is the Information and Communication Technology Council's (ICTC) multifaceted initiative designed to address the growing demand for skilled professionals in Canada's digital infrastructure sector. Beyond the Cloud addresses the shortage of skilled individuals by providing industry-relevant, unique, and personalized upskill training for the following in-demand digital infrastructure roles:

- Cloud Engineers
- Cloud Administrators
- DevOps
- Back-End Developers
- Network Administrators
- Database Administrators

How do I apply to Beyond the Cloud?

Please fill out the application at <https://ictc-ctic.smapply.ca/prog/>

When does Beyond the Cloud start?

Cohort 6: August 1 - Oct 31, 2024

Cohort 7: Sept 3 - Nov 29, 2024

Cohort 8: Oct 1 - Dec 12, 2024

Cohort 9: Nov 1, 2024 - Jan 31, 2025

How long is Beyond the Cloud?

It is a 10-week program.

How many hours/week is the program?

10-15 hours each week. Most of the training is online and self-paced. However, there is some live/facilitated training you will need to attend online. You will get a timeline/schedule once you're in the program.

Is the program in-person or online training?

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What is covered in the program?

Beyond the Cloud has the following training components:

- 3-5 technical skills courses to align with the following in-demand roles: Cloud Engineer, Cloud Administrator, DevOps, Back-End Developer, Network Administrator, Database Administrator. The courses are offered through Coursera, AWS or Microsoft and an ICTC Cloud Computing Course
- soft skills course
- a work-integrated learning project

- Job search support, including techniques, resume writing, interview strategies, and networking tips
- Networking

Does this program have a work placement?

This Program includes Employability Workshops and you will have access to a Job Board and Networking events to find potential employers after the training portion of the program is completed. There may also be a Work-Integrated Learning Project through Riipen which is up to 40 hours over 4 weeks.

Am I eligible for Beyond the Cloud?

Yes, if you meet the following criteria:

- You are a Permanent Resident, a Citizen of Canada, or a person to whom Refugee Protection has been conferred under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act.
- You are legally eligible to work in Canada. If you hold a work permit, you should have at least one year remaining upon starting the upskilling program.
- You are currently residing in Canada.
- You have a minimum of three years of work experience (work experience can include volunteer work). Work experience does not need to be three consecutive years and must be outside of full or part-time studies (high school or post-secondary).
- You are unemployed or underemployed at the time of application.
- You have IT foundational skills.
- You can commit to 10 weeks of training, either part or full-time.
- You can support yourself financially while participating in the program.

Is this program for Permanent Residents only?

This program is for Permanent Residents, Canadian Citizens, and Refugees with protection under the Immigration Refugee and Protection Act. Temporary workers are eligible if they have more than one year left on their open work permit.

I am already employed here in Canada, am I eligible to apply?

It depends on the current employment you have. If you consider yourself underemployed or working out of your field and you think you will benefit from an upskilling program, you are eligible to apply for this program.

What work experience do I need to qualify for Beyond the Cloud?

This program is for job seekers with a solid foundation in information technology (IT). You need a minimum of three years of work experience. Work experience can include volunteer work and does not need to be three consecutive years. Work experience cannot be part of a high school or post-secondary program.

What are foundational IT skills needed for this program?

These foundational IT skills we are looking for:

- basic understanding of logic and object-oriented programming
- intermediate level of Excel
- demonstrated ability to work with databases
- basic statistical analysis skills
- basic data management skills
- basic knowledge of documentation and workflows
- intermediate digital literacy skills, i.e., ability to complete online research and exercise judgement regarding information sources and accuracy
- comfort with cloud-based virtual collaboration tools like Google Docs, SharePoint, etc.
- minimum of Grade 11 math
- aptitude for continuous learning
- comfort with ambiguity. e.g., adapt to changing business needs and remove personal bias from work
- comfort with giving and receiving feedback
- demonstration of “self-starter” mindset and drive to succeed
- understand that failure is an essential part of the learning process; ability to “bounce back”

How much does Beyond the Cloud cost?

The fee is \$250.

Can I get financial aid for this program?

After you are confirmed to participate in the BTC program you will be prompted to pay the \$250 program fee. It is at that time that you can email our team at BeyondCloud@ictc-ctic.ca to request financial assistance to offset the cost of the program. Our team will carefully evaluate each individual case on a first come, first served basis.

How do I find my SMA Application #?

An acceptance email is sent after your Beyond the Cloud application is completed. There is a number in the email subject line and this is your application number. It looks like the following number except the last 3 digits will be specific to you: example: BC202425--000000011

Who funds Beyond the Cloud?

It is funded by Upskill Canada (powered by Palette Skills) and the Government of Canada.

What are the prospects of getting a job once I complete the program?

It's ultimately up to you, but completing the program enhances your employability significantly. The skills you gain in the program are in high demand, making you more attractive to employers., you'll have access to career coaches, job readiness courses, virtual career fairs and in-person networking events, all of which can boost your job prospects.

Do I receive any certifications at the end of the course?

Upon completing the program, you will receive a certificate from ICTC, validating your proficiency in cloud technologies. Additionally, you'll be prepared to pursue recognized certifications from industry-leading vendors such as Microsoft Azure, Amazon Web Services (AWS), or Coursera. While the Beyond the Cloud course bundle does include AWS courses, certifications are not a component of our program at this time. The end goal of this program is to provide the identified tech skills needed to embark on an entry to intermediate level career.

What is the difference between ICTC WIL e-learning courses and the Beyond the Cloud program?

Beyond the Cloud offers comprehensive bundles focused on specific cloud roles, providing in-depth knowledge and practical skills tailored to each role. Unlike WIL e-learning courses, which may cover broader topics like Cloud Computing, Cybersecurity, and Artificial Intelligence, this program offers specialized training directly aligned with job roles, the job readiness training and the Riipen work-integrated learning project.