Database Administrator

SCHOOL FOR ADVANCED DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY

Overview

Database administrators play a crucial role in managing and maintaining databases within an organization. You ensure the availability, security, integrity and performance of the databases that store critical data.

This program may be for you if you have existing relational database knowledge and an interest in computers and information technology.

In this program, you will learn:

- how to use database administration tools from industry leaders like Oracle and Microsoft, and gain proficiency in managing databases on Windows and Linux platforms, commonly used in enterprise environments
- how data is organized, structured and related within these databases
- to design efficient and scalable database systems, master data modelling, and normalization techniques while creating database schemas that meet business requirements
- how to create, design and optimize database systems for speed, responsiveness and scalability
- to be proficient at ongoing database maintenance tasks
- to implement robust backup and recovery plans to safeguard data integrity
- to implement security measures to safeguard data from unauthorized access and security threats, a top priority for organizations to protect sensitive information.

Apply your knowledge and skills as a database administrator to real-world scenarios augmented with hands-on experience during a practicum.

Database technology is continuously evolving. As a graduate, you will be well-prepared for a career in a dynamic field as an asset to organizations relying on data-driven decision-making.

Potential roles include database administrator, database developer, data analyst or database architect.

Due to the tight integration of the courses in the Database Administrator program, credit for prior learning is unavailable.

Traits, skills and aptitudes

Those working in the database administration field tend to be innovative, methodical and self-directed.

You need:

- to learn quickly and think logically
- to build abstract structures that represent complex relationships
- to focus on details without losing sight of the whole
- an awareness of legal, policy and privacy restrictions
- speaking, listening and writing skills
- to work on a team
- an active interest in keeping up with changes in technology.

This program is designed for learners with existing IT literacy. We strongly recommend you have prior experience with relational databases and operating systems.

To do well in this field, you should enjoy working with a variety of people in a team setting and solving problems.

Practicum, Co-op and Work Integrated Learning

During your final semester, you'll participate in a practicum at a company, providing you with a realistic taste of the technology industry and the opportunity to network with a potential employer.

Credentials

Upon successful completion of this program, you will be awarded a SAIT Database Administrator certificate.

Admission requirements

Applicants educated in Canada

Applicants must demonstrate English language proficiency and completion of one of the following courses or equivalents:

- at least 60% in English Language Arts 30-1 or 30-2 or equivalent, or
- a minimum of two years of post-secondary education from a recognized university, institute or college.

SAIT accepts high school course equivalents for admission for applicants educated outside Alberta.

Applicants educated outside of Canada

All applicants who were educated outside of Canada must demonstrate English language proficiency and provide proof they meet the program admission requirements with an international document assessment. Find accepted educational documents and assessment options.

SAIT may also accept courses completed at certain international post-secondary institutions.

Costs

2026/27 tuition and fees

The following estimated costs are effective as of July 1, 2026.

The estimated total cost of tuition and fees is based on the suggested schedule of study. Following a modified schedule will impact the fees you pay per semester and may alter final costs.

Domestic Students

Year	Number of semesters	Tuition fees	Additional fees	Total per year
1	2.5*	$18,174	$2,015	$20,189
			Total cost:	**$20,189**

The estimated total cost of tuition and fees for domestic students is based on the recommended course load per year.

*.5 indicates a combination of full-time semester(s) and part-time semester(s) in the same academic year. In many cases, students are completing a practicum during their part-time semester. Part-time students are those taking less than nine (9) course credits in a semester. You are not eligible for the UPass during a part-time semester.

International Students

The program total is based on the estimated amount you will pay if you enter this program during the 2026/27 academic year. The program total amount listed on your letter of admission may appear higher. This amount is your maximum tuition guarantee for the program. SAIT will not exceed this maximum, regardless of changes in tuition and fees between academic years.

Year	Number of semesters	Tuition fees	Additional fees	Total per year
1	2.5*	$30,927	$2,015	$32,942

Year	Number of semesters	Tuition fees	Additional fees	Total per year
			Total cost:	**$32,942**

The estimated total cost of tuition and fees for international students is based on the recommended course load per year.

*.5 indicates a combination of full-time semester(s) and part-time semester(s) in the same academic year. In many cases, students are completing a practicum during their part-time semester. Part-time students are those taking less than nine (9) course credits in a semester. You are not eligible for the UPass during a part-time semester.

Books and Supplies

Books and supplies are approximately $1,000 - $1,500 per full-time year.

This is a bring-your-own-device program with a power-user hardware and software requirement. See the specific requirements on our computers and laptops page.

Find your booklist on the SAIT Bookstore's website. The booklist will be available closer to the program start date.

Can't find your program or course? The bookstore didn't receive a textbook list. Contact your program directly to determine if they're still refining course details or if you're in luck; no textbook purchase is required this term.