



# Professional Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems

**G**ain specialized professional skills to become a drone pilot in this emerging field with application to various industries.

Our Professional Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) program will teach you all aspects of operating drones for commercial use. From agricultural, environmental and industrial monitoring and inspection to emergency response to 3-D mapping and beyond, the use of drones for a variety of applications in numerous industries is rapidly evolving.

You'll learn about the construction and maintenance of drone technology and be trained and licensed according to Transport Canada guidelines for Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems. You'll also add value to clients and employers by gaining practical experience with inspections, mapping and the processing of geomatics data performed by Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems and emerging Beyond Visual Line of Sight (BVLOS) operations. Understanding these systems will allow you to contribute to business operations by addressing how RPAS and BVLOS can help meet business needs and client demands.

## Is this the right fit for me?

In accordance with Transport Canada's overall requirements, the pilot operating the RPAS must:

- not suffer from any condition which would render them unfit to perform their duties.
- have visual acuity 20/20 or 20/20 corrected (i.e. use of corrective lenses).
- have sufficient English language ability to be understood by local Air Traffic Control when using VHF radio.
- have evidence of good health.

## Credential

After successfully completing this program, graduates will receive their Professional Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems certificate.

## Admission requirements

### Application dates

Applications are accepted until the program start date but are subject to change.

- **Fall 2022 start:** applications opened on Oct. 6, 2021.
- **Spring 2023 start:** applications opened on June 13, 2022.

### Program requirements

At least 50% in the following courses or their equivalents:

- English Language Arts 30-1 or English Language Arts 30-2
- Math 30-1 or Math 30-2 or Pure Math 30 or Applied Math 30,
- one grade 12 science course

All applicants must demonstrate [English language proficiency](#) prior to admission, including students educated in Canada. SAIT accepts [high school course equivalents](#) for admission. If you don't meet the requirements, consider [Academic Upgrading](#).

SAIT evaluates international documents for admissions. After you've applied, consider our [international document assessment](#) service if your education is from outside of Canada.

## Direct entry: four-step process

**Step 1:** Read the program information to see the qualities needed for student success.

**Step 2:** Ensure that you meet all of the admission requirements listed above.

**Step 3:** [Apply](#) and submit your [transcripts](#) and/or anticipated final grades.

- Admission will be extended on a first-qualified, first-offered basis until the program is full.

**Step 4:** Log in to [mySAIT.ca](#) to check your admission status and monitor changes to your [application status](#).

Failure to meet anticipated final grades will result in offers being rescinded.

## Communication during admission

Email is the primary source of communication during the selection process. Ensure your personal email account is managed appropriately to receive our emails, files and communications. We recommend you add the [transportation.info@sait.ca](mailto:transportation.info@sait.ca) domain to your safe senders' list or you risk missing critical email messages.

## Costs 2022/23

### Domestic tuition and fees

Cost per credit: \$529

Year	Number of semesters	Tuition fees	SAIT fees	Saitsa fees*	Total
1	1	\$9,522	\$458	\$407.50	\$10,387.50

\*Maximum fee. Actual fees may be less and are based on the number of credits a student takes per semester and whether they opt-out of health and dental benefits.

### SAIT fees

- Campus athletic and recreation fee: \$98
- Universal transit pass (Upass): \$160
- Student support fee: \$100
- Student technology fee: \$100

### Saitsa fees

### Student Association fee

- Maximum: \$145.50

This is the maximum amount the student will pay. Actual fees may be less and are based on the number of credits the students take per semester.

### Health and dental fees

- Health plan: \$127
- Dental plan: \$135

Students with existing health and/or dental plans can opt-out. Please refer to [Saitsa's website](#) for information.

For more information on health and dental benefits for international students, please contact the [International Centre](#).

## **Books and supplies\***

Books are approximately \$50 to \$150.

A mandatory drone build kit must be purchased from SAIT for approximately \$500 – \$1000.

For an estimate of the costs associated with purchasing a computer that meets the program's hardware and software requirements, see our [computers and laptops page](#).

Learn more about [tuition and financial aid](#).

\*Tuition, fees, books and supply costs are subject to change.