

ABOUT US

Colbourne College teaches the internationally recognized UK Higher National And Extended Diplomas and our students advance directly to the final year/s at Universities in the United Kingdom, United States And Canada. We also offer the US High School Diploma – GED for entry to US And Canadian Universities.

- You Can Earn A US High School Diploma - GED and UK Level 3 National Diploma To Enter First Year Of Universities In Canada/US/UK or anywhere you live because BTEC and GED are globally recognized awards.
- You can earn BTEC level 5 and transfer straight onto final year/s of university in **Canada/US/UK** for the bachelor's degree because the credits from BTEC level 5 awards are globally recognized as degree equivalent and acceptable by nearly all universities.
- You can earn BTEC Level 7 and transfer straight onto final year of university in Canada/US/UK for the master's degree because the credits from BTEC level 7 awards are globally recognized as graduate degree equivalent and acceptable by nearly all universities.

Any way you choose to study - on-campus, distant learning or online, Colbourne College will make learning flexible, personal, fun, informative, practical and life changing

BACKGROUND: Colbourne College teaches BTEC qualifications in Aviation, Business, Travel And Tourism, and Strategic Management And Leadership from Pearson, UK; and US High School Diploma - GED from the American Council on Education (ACE) and Pearson. Starting Fall 2019 will be new program offerings: BTEC Assessment Management, Teacher Training, Health Care Practice, and Health Care Management.

There is so many things to love about Colbourne College. Colbourne offers programs that are recognized, accredited and acceptable on a global scale. For example, BTEC is accredited by OFQUAL which is the statutory body that is responsible for the regulation and accreditation of examination boards and tests in England. ACE is the only major higher education association to represent all types of U.S. accredited, degree-granting institutions: two-year and four-year, and public and private institutions alike.

BTEC stands for 'Business and Technology Education Council', which used to run the award, first introduced in 1984. Pearson BTECs are now awarded by the Edexcel examination board and are taken in more than 100 countries at all levels, from pre-GCSE to Degree equivalent.

Graduates of Colbourne College will live, study and work anywhere in the world they choose because BTEC and GED qualifications are recognized and accepted by employers and universities globally.

How? Start Colbourne College by studying in-class in Jamaica, or attend scheduled lectures 100% online, or by distant learning. Then, transfer directly to final year of a university anywhere you choose to live or study.

When? To earn a bachelor's degree, undergraduate students will:

- 1) complete 20/24 months successfully at Colbourne and earn BTEC Level 5 Diploma directly from Pearson, UK.
- 2) transfer the 240 Credits earned with BTEC L5 Diploma which is widely acceptable onto final year/s of university to top-up the bachelor's degree in the United States, Canada, Dubai, New Zealand, Australia, United Kingdom etc.
- 3) Upon completing university abroad, the students may work full-time for a limited period before returning to their countries with the degree and valuable work experience.

When? To earn a master's degree, graduate students will:

- 1) complete 12/16 months successfully at Colbourne and earn BTEC Level 7 Postgraduate Diploma directly from Pearson, UK.
- 2) transfer the 120 Graduate Credits earned with BTEC L7 Diploma which is acceptable onto final year/s of university abroad to top-up the master's degree.

Programs at Colbourne are entry-level, undergraduate-level, and graduate-level programs that are accredited by Pearson BTEC and ACE.

- **ENTRY LEVEL** - GED is equal to 5 CSEC Subjects and is acceptable for entry onto university and into employment in all 50 US State And Canada. GED is taught and certified over 4 months. BTEC Level 3 is completed in 8 months. GED and BTEC L3 are acceptable for entry to year 1 of university and taken together are completed in 12 months.
- **UNDERGRADUATE LEVEL** - BTEC Level 4 takes 12 Months. BTEC Level 5 takes 20/24 Months. BTEC L4 is acceptable onto Year 2 of university. BTEC Level 5 provides direct entry onto the final year/s of nearly all universities for the bachelor's degree.
- **GRADUATE LEVEL** - BTEC level 7 is a postgraduate program, and acceptable directly onto final year of nearly all universities for the Master's Degree Program.

There are over 8 million people around the world with BTEC and EDEXCEL qualifications from Pearson, and we are in one small corner of the world and just a dot on the map. So, Colbourne College should not be your only source for information. Carry-out your own independent research using Google as a starting point. Type in BTEC, there are millions of articles, and testimonials from colleges, universities, students, graduates, and employers worldwide.

GED is older than the Pope and a large swathe of US residents, the Canadian population and others living elsewhere, have one. GED is a national staple in the US, so research data is also readily and universally available about the acceptability of GED.

Colbourne College considers that being economically and socially under-served is no reason for Caribbean students not to have the best first-world education and the highest prospects of studying abroad with the career opportunities that follow. We will also email new applicants various testimonial videos posted by students, employers and universities about their stories and how BTEC benefited them.

Get Started Now:

- ✓ Access and submit the application form at www.studyaimusa.org
- ✓ An Admission Officer will contact you by email and text message
- ✓ Complete the admission process aided by the Admission Counselor
- ✓ There are two (2) ways to pay: In JMS & US\$. Anyway, you choose Colbourne provides the pathway to quality degrees at the most affordable rate. Scholarships are also available to high achievers.
- ✓ There are three (3) ways that you can study on BTEC: 1) join us on-campus in Kingston. We offer boarding accommodation; 2) You can use a phone/computer to attend our on-campus classes that we broadcast 100% Online. You chat and participate with the lecturers same as on-campus students. 3) Distant Learning is where you study independently and at your own pace.

ANSWERS TO FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1) **Is Tuition Paid To Colbourne College Different From Registration Fee For Pearson BTEC?**

Tuition and the external fees for registration and assessment for BTEC are in separate columns on the tuition page on our admission website at www.studyaimusa.org and on the Financial and Enrolment Agreement given to all applicants at enrolment. The documents also sum up: 1) what the annual tuition is, 2) the registration and assessment fees for Pearson BTEC, and 3) the total amount that a student will pay over the program lifetime for the entire study. This total column includes both tuition and registration for assessment with BTEC.

2) **What is the late penalty for Pearson BTEC fee if the student does not Register on Semester One?**

Students pay for external examination at end of semester one on year one. Students can also register for assessment by BTEC in 2nd or 3rd year but with late fee. Late penalty for external assessment by Pearson is GBP60.

3) **How is the timeline of 2-year at Colbourne and 1-year top-up abroad calculated for students on level 5 programs?**

The breakdown on the program timeline is documented in several places. You will find this on the Financial and Enrollment Agreement, Brochure on the website, admission documents sent at application, and tuition page of the website.

EXAMPLE: The level 5 HND program is 20 Months Or 24 Months. It is a choice the student makes on which of the pathway to pursue. The decision of 20 or 24 months is the length of time and which allows lower payment plan.

EIGHT (8) Months is ONE (1) college year. 24 Months = 3 x 8 months. 20 Months = 2 ½ X 8 months.

Example Of 3 College Years (= 24 Calendar Months): **2 ½ College Years (= 20 Calendar Months):**

YEAR 1: September 2018 - April 2019;

YEAR 1: September 2018 - April 2019;

YEAR 2: May 2019 - December 2019; and

YEAR 2: May 2019 - December 2019; and

YEAR 3: January 2020 - August 2020

YEAR 2 ½ : January 2020 - April 2020

4) **What is BTEC Level 3 equivalent to?**

Level 3 National Diploma will enable students to enter directly into careers in their chosen fields (business, airlines, travel agencies, tours etc.) or matriculate for university. It is equivalent to education at sixth form level e.g. CAPE and GCE A 'Levels. Level 3 National Subsidiary Diploma has less transferrable credits than the National Diploma.

5) **Are all programs taught at Colbourne College accredited?**

BTEC Pearson is an accredited body, hence why the Level 5 Diploma awarded by Pearson is acceptable by universities globally and can be converted to a degree in just 8-16 months. For example, if BTEC level 5 wasn't recognized, students would have to start the degree from scratch. That is, enter year 1 at university rather than advance to year 2 & 3 as they do with the level 5 diploma.

- Pearson BTEC (same EDEXCEL) is the largest qualification body in the United Kingdom with over 8 million Candidates on their program globally. Same programs being pursued here at Colbourne are delivered on every continent of the world and the diploma awarded by Pearson directly. The Diploma is likewise accepted on every continent of the world by Universities and employers.

- **GED** is a joint venture of the American Council on Education (ACE) and Pearson and is acceptable in all 50 States, Canada, and abroad. From its website: "*The GED® test has opened doors to better jobs and college programs for more than 18 million graduates since 1942. Last year nearly 800,000 adults sat for the GED test, which is accepted by virtually all U.S. colleges and employers.*"
- BTEC is a global qualification. From its website "*We are the UK's largest awarding body and we are regulated by Ofqual (England), SQA Accreditation (Scotland), CCEA Accreditation (Northern Ireland) and Qualifications Wales (Wales). We offer academic and vocational qualifications that are globally recognized and benchmarked, with educational excellence rooted in names like Edexcel, BTEC, EDI and LCCI.*"

6) Does Colbourne College have current graduates studying on the top-up degrees?

In 2018 alone, we had 12 students completing University in the US and UK, graduating with BA & MBA degrees in Merits and Distinctions. Their photos and stories are on Colbourne Face Book page.

7) After completing BTEC Diploma if we can't afford to top up the degree right away can that certificate given to us be used in Jamaica re getting a job?

Colbourne students and graduates are 90% employed in all sectors and in entry level and managerial positions here and abroad. Once you have the diploma you can start college at any time. There are no time constraints. You can work to save money for the final year/s then you'll apply to the university of choice. You will top-up the bachelor's degree in 8-16 months by way of distant learning or on-campus.

8) Are the programs accredited by the University Council Of Jamaica (UCJ)?

Colbourne College teaches only programs that are already accredited. Students attend classes here but earn the Diploma directly from accredited and globally recognized examination boards in England and the US e.g. BTEC by OFQUAL in the UK and GED offered by Pearson VUE and accredited by the American Council On Education (ACE).

UCJ on the other hand, accredits courses that are developed in Jamaica or programs offered by foreign universities that are operating in Jamaica. For example, when Colbourne College developed its own Associate and Bachelor's Degrees in 2005, the college applied for and received registration from UCJ towards furthering accreditation of our programs by UCJ. We have since changed our business model and have discontinued our local programming. We are now only offering BTEC and GED which are accredited qualifications that are globally recognized awards.

As such Colbourne College does not require accreditation from the UCJ as we have no locally developed programs. When students complete the program of study at Colbourne, they receive the diplomas directly from BTEC (UK) and GED (US), and not from Colbourne College (JA). In short, Colbourne is only the approved teaching and examination center for Pearson (BTEC) and Pearson (GED). BTEC and ACE are accredited examination boards in the US and UK that award diplomas directly to the students.

Students who are looking just for UCJ programs, can consider attending any local colleges in the Jamaica. This is not what we offer. Students at Colbourne College are being prepared for assessments and awards from globally recognized examination boards such as Pearson's BTEC and GED which are generally acceptable in the Caribbean or anywhere else in the world the students may choose to live, study and work.

9) How do I study and take the examination for GED?

Student register and pay for GED classes and examinations at Colbourne College, Kingston or AIM-USA in Fort Lauderdale. The classes are taught 100% online by Kaplan, USA over a period of 90 days. Students are timetabled for the examination right after completing. The examinations are conducted at our center in Kingston, Jamaica.

UK QUALIFICATION LEVELS EXPLAINED (CHART)

