HighTech U
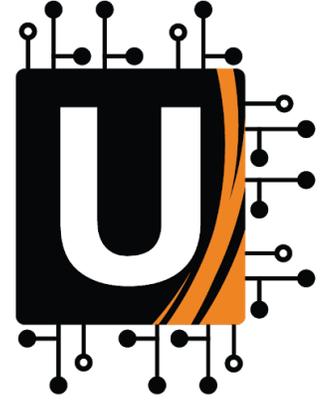
Empowering Future Innovators

Virtual Skills Academy Pilot Information Guide

delivered in partnership with

University of Victoria | Electrical & Computer Engineering

About the Virtual Skills Academy Pilot

Virtual Academy Overview

The Virtual Skills Academy is a project-focused, team-based online program, allowing students to begin building a professional portfolio, using technology to solve real-world problems while supported by university and industry mentors.

Offered fully-online, and delivered in partnership with the [University of Victoria's Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering](#), this cohort will be focussed around the design and development of smart technology solutions to current and emerging global health and environmental problems.

When will the Virtual Academy be taking place?

The Virtual Skills Academy Summer Pilot is scheduled to take place during following period:

Cohort Period	Focus Area	Days	Times
July 6 - 10, 2020	**Smart Solutions to Global Problems**	Monday-Friday	10am-4pm

How is the Virtual Academy delivered?

Delivered for the first time *fully-online*, and facilitated through the use of web-based technologies to support collaboration and project management, this week-long summer pilot will help students gain practical experience working in remote teams while building the type of in-demand professional skills that are critical for future education and career pathways.

Am I eligible to apply for the Virtual Academy?

You must meet the *HighTechU Membership Criteria*, to apply for the Virtual Skills Academy pilot. These criteria include:

- ★ Be a high-school student, or a homelearner, living and studying in BC.
- ★ Have an interest in learning through/about technology.
- ★ Demonstrate a commitment to the HighTechU Core Values.
- ★ Meet and maintain the Member Standards and Expectations.

Who will be a successful applicant for the Virtual Academy?

Successful applicants for the Skills Academy program must demonstrate how they exemplify our six core values of respect, resilience, creativity, curiosity, teamwork and innovation in their daily lives. With diversity as a cornerstone, applicants must also be able to demonstrate a range of interests and experiences outside of education and technology.

How do I apply for the Virtual Academy?

New Member Applicants must complete an **Academy Application Package,** found at https://hightechu.ca/apply. This must be submitted via email to hightechu@uvic.ca by the application deadline of **11:59pm on Wednesday, June 17, 2020**.

Past Academy Alumni wishing to participate in the Virtual Academy Pilot must email hightechu@uvic.ca prior to the deadline indicating their interest in participating in the Pilot.

What happens after I submit my Virtual Academy application?

Following the submission deadline, **Academy Application Packages** will be reviewed by an internal selection committee, composed of HighTechU staff. Selected applicants will then be invited to a mandatory online group interview and information session, scheduled for **Saturday, June 20th at 1:00PM,** for further assessment.

Successful candidates will be informed of their interview results via email by June 24th.

Am I eligible to apply for the HighTechU Dual Credit option?

Due to the nature of this pilot, the summer Virtual Skills Academy cohort will <u>not</u> be offered for Dual Credit.

What is the cost for the Virtual Academy?

HighTechU is committed to ensuring we remain accessible to all students, regardless of socio-economic status. As such, and thanks to the support of Coast Capital Savings, the University of Victoria Faculty of Engineering, and the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, this Virtual Skills Academy Pilot is being **offered at no-cost to participants.**

About UVic Engineering

At UVic Engineering, we're pushing the edges of engineering and applied science. We're creating tangible solutions to real-world problems and making an impact with projects like:

- sustainable housing and energy systems,
- medical devices that will improve the health of people around the world, and
- new applications of machine learning and artificial intelligence.
- next generation electric vehicles and smart grids

At UVic, you'll get the dynamic hands-on experience you'll need to launch a successful career. Take part in co-op work placements, join award-winning student teams and study in state-of-the-art facilities with professors whose research makes a difference every day.

For more information related to studying Engineering and Computer Science at the University of Victoria, contact:

Clare Walton

Engineering Student Recruitment Officer
Phone: 250-472-5569
Email: engcsrecruit@uvic

Additional Information

For more information on HighTechU, please visit our website at:
https://www.hightechu.ca

Or contact:
HighTechU, University of Victoria
hightechu@uvic.ca