

Naturopathic Doctor

Eight years of school for a private-pay practice you build yourself. Regulated in most provinces, but not covered by medicare.

TYPICAL PAY

\$57,000

a year, full time

PAY RANGE

\$40k to \$123k

starting to experienced

TIME TO QUALIFY

7 to 8 years

after high school

DEMAND

Moderate

job outlook

LICENCE NEEDED

Yes

regulated job

WHERE YOU WORK

**Private clinics, wellness centres,
multi-practitioner clinics, home o...**

How you get there

- 1 High school** Grades 11 and 12
Biology, chemistry and math. You need marks good enough for a science degree.
- 2 Bachelor's degree** 3 to 4 years
Any major with the prerequisite sciences: biology, chemistry, biochemistry, physiology, psychology. Most students take life sciences.
- 3 Accredited naturopathic program** 4 years
The CCNM (Canadian College of Naturopathic Medicine) has campuses in Toronto and New Westminster, BC. It is the only accredited option in Canada. Basic and clinical sciences, then a year in the teaching clinic seeing real patients.
- 4 Board exams** During and after the program
The NPLEX (Naturopathic Physicians Licensing Examinations): Part I on biomedical science after year two, Part II on clinical science at the end. Ontario also runs its own entry-to-practice exams.
- 5 Register with your province** A few months
For example the College of Naturopaths of Ontario. Add a jurisprudence exam, a police check and insurance.

Pros and cons

- + Long visits and real relationships with patients
- + You own your schedule and your practice
- + Regulated title and prescribing rights in the big provinces
- Eight years of school with no paid residency and heavy debt
- Income depends entirely on how many patients you can attract
- Not covered by medicare, so patients pay out of pocket

Good to know

One school in the whole country

The CCNM (Canadian College of Naturopathic Medicine) in Toronto is the only Doctor of Naturopathy degree in Canada, with a second campus in New Westminster, BC. Everyone else trains in the US.

The board exam is North American

The NPLEX (Naturopathic Physicians Licensing Examinations) is written by candidates in both Canada and the US, and the fees are charged in US dollars: US\$800 for Part I and US\$1,315 for Part II.

Optional boosts

Prescribing authority. IV (intravenous) therapy certification. Acupuncture. A niche.

Where these numbers come from

Job Bank: Naturopathic doctor (ND), wages (updated Nov 2025)
Canadian Association of Naturopathic Doctors: education and regulation
College of Naturopaths of Ontario
Canadian College of Naturopathic Medicine

Numbers checked September 2026. Pay figures are typical full-time annual amounts in Canadian dollars, based on Government of Canada Job Bank wage data and published salary grids. They vary by province, employer and experience. Tuition is for domestic students. Sources, links and the click-through version: <https://career.help/ca/careers/naturopathic-doctor>



Scan for the full clicker