There was some institutional expansion after World War I. In 1939 Canada had 28 universities, varying in size from the University of Toronto with full-time enrolment of about 7,000 to institutions with fewer than 1,000 students. There were about 40,000 students, representing 5% of the population between the ages of 18 and 24.

Radical changes began after World War II. As a result of a veteran's rehabilitation program, 53,000 ex-soldiers entered the universities between 1944 and 1951. The immediate problem of space was solved by temporary buildings and creation of satellite colleges. By the mid-1950s, places vacated by veterans had been filled with an increasing number of high school graduates. Demands for university expansion continued, but the full force of this pressure came in the 1960s when enrolment rose from 128,600 in 1961-62 to 323,000 in 1971-72. During the 1970s enrolment fell in some years, despite the continued increase in the population aged 18 to 24 years.

In the early 1970s growth rates began to decline. Enrolment in most universities was below forecasts and larger numbers of students withdrew before completing their degrees. Part-time students began to increase more rapidly than those registered for full-time study. A decline in full-time enrolment was expected in the 1980s, although interest in part-time and extension study continued to grow.

Curriculum. Admission to university is usually after 11 to 13 years of schooling. Each institution controls its admission standards and policies. With provincial examinations discontinued in recent years, the school record has become the main basis for judging applicants. It is customary for students to enter directly from high school, except in Quebec where they qualify through the collèges d'enseignement général et professionnel (CEGEPs). Most universities provide for the admission of mature students, including those who do not meet normal entrance requirements.

The first or bachelor's degree is awarded after three or four years of full-time study. Admission to law, medicine, dentistry, business administration and theology is usually conditional upon completion of part or all the requirements for the first degree. A distinction may be made between general and honours degrees; the latter are more specialized and sometimes require an additional year of study. A bachelor's degree at the honours level or the equivalent is necessary for acceptance into a master's program of one or two years of study. Entrants to doctoral studies must have a master's degree or equivalent in the same field.

Some universities are bilingual, the University of Ottawa and Laurentian University of Sudbury being notable examples. Instruction is offered in both English and French. Other universities conduct classes in one language only but permit students to submit term papers, examinations and theses in either French or English.

Teaching staff. During the 1960s the demand for growth necessitated rapid and massive staff recruitment. From about 7,000 in 1960-61, the full-time teaching force has increased to more than 30,000. Most new appointees were Canadians but the number from other countries was significant. Recent changes in immigration and employment requirements are aimed at ensuring that foreign faculty are hired only after all efforts to recruit qualified Canadians have been exhausted.

Students. The 376,300 full-time students in Canadian universities in 1980-81 were equivalent to 11.2% of the population age 18 to 24 and about double the proportion in 1960. In addition, 245,000 part-time students were registered in degree programs.

Tuition fees usually differ from one university to another and from one faculty to another. In Alberta, Ontario, Quebec and some universities in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, higher fees are required of foreign students. In the early 1960s one-quarter of university income was derived from student fees, but with the increase in public funding this proportion has been reduced to approximately one-eighth. An estimated 40% of all students take advantage of the federal student loans plan.

Finance. The 1960s marked a turning point in higher education finance as governments began to assume a major share of support. From the beginning of that decade, expenditures rose from about \$273 million to more than \$1.2 billion in 1967-68, and to an estimated \$4.4 billion in 1980-81. Together, federal and provincial governments contributed more than 82% of the total.

The Federal-Provincial Fiscal Arrangements Act extended over the five-year period 1967 to 1972. It was renewed for two years in 1972 and for another three in 1974. A new condition stipulated that the total increase in the federal share for any given year would be limited to 15% of the preceding year.

This agreement expired on March 31, 1977. It was replaced by the Established Programs Financing (EPF) plan covering education, hospital insurance and medicare. Half the federal payment consisted of a transfer of tax points to the provinces (13.5 points of personal income tax and one point of corporation tax). The other half was a per capita cash grant. It was expected that the tax portion, based on 1975-76, would grow with the tax base, while per capita grants would increase in relation to the gross national product.