



Health Care Aide

Health Care Aide Career

Health care aides are important and respected members on the frontlines of Alberta’s healthcare system and in high-demand in the workplace. They also play a critical role in helping Albertans receive quality, person-centered care.

[ALIS Alberta](#) lists average hourly wage range: \$19 - \$22/hr

Program Overview

NorQuest College’s [Health Care Aide program](#) is among the largest in Canada and prepares you to be a part of a health-care team in a variety of different settings, providing a high level of front-line care to clients in need of assistance. NorQuest College is licensed to deliver the Health Care Aide Government of Alberta Provincial Curriculum.

Career Potential

Upon successful completion of the program, you will be prepared to work in continuing care institutions, home care agencies, group homes, assisted or supportive living facilities, day programs, specialized care centres and programs, acute care hospitals, and private care.

Admission Requirements

Language Arts – this requirement can be met with any of the following, or an equivalent course: 60% in English Language Arts 20-2 or equivalent. [Accuplacer](#) exam can be written and passed to meet this requirement and is part of the application fee.

Please see additional [practicum requirements](#), which include a clear PIC, immunizations, N95 Mask fit test, Basic Life Support (BLS) / CPR, other courses offered through NorQuest.

[Health Care Aide workplace education delivery applicants only:](#)

Must meet all program admission requirements listed above and must be currently employed as a front-line caregiver in a participating continuing care agency.

English Language Proficiency (ELP) Requirements

If English is your second language, you must provide proof of English language proficiency before admission. These results must be no more than two years old when you start your program.

Test scores we accept

- IELTS Academic: 6; no section score below 5.5
- TOEFL iBT: 71
- Duolingo: 105*
- CLBA or CLBPA: no section score below 7

*please check website for changes for Fall 2024 intake

Courses

The program has 36 credits.

- [HCA Roles & Responsibilities](#) – 3 credits (Lab)
- [Human Body, Health and Chronic Illness](#) - 3 credits
- [Communication & Documentation in the Health Care Environment](#) – 4 credits (Lab)
- [Providing Person-Centred Care and Comfort](#) – 5 credits (Lab)
- [HCA Clinical Placement I](#) – 3 credits
- [Meeting Complex Care Needs](#) – 5 credits (Lab)
- [Special Activities for Clients with Various Health Conditions](#) – 5 credits (Lab)
- [HCA Clinical Placement II](#) – 5 credits
- [HCA Consolidated Clinical Placement](#) – 3 credits
- [HCA Provincial Exam](#) (non-credit)

Program Outcomes:

- Health Care Aides must demonstrate the competencies outlined in the [Alberta Health Care Aide Competency Profile](#).

Quick Facts

Credential: Certificate

Successful completion of provincial exam required by Alberta Health to work as a certified HCA in Alberta.

Length: 2 terms (8 months) or 3 terms (12 months)

Deliveries:

*all deliveries are offered Full-time (FT) with the exception of Workplace. Students can take a reduced course load to be part-time (PT).

SEPTEMBER

Edmonton	8 month/12 month in-person
Online	12 month Online w/ Friday Saturday in-person labs
Online Wetaskiwin	12-month Online w/ in-person labs and clinical in Wetaskiwin

JANUARY

Edmonton	8 month/12 month in-person
Online	12-month Online w/ in-person labs

MAY

Edmonton	8 month in person
Online	12-month Online w/ in-person labs

MONTHLY

Workplace	PT Custom
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Tuition and Fees

Edmonton & Online Deliveries

Canadian Students	International Students
Total tuition: \$6,525.00	Total tuition: \$17,100.00
Total fees: \$1,456.00	Total fees: \$1,456.00

Workplace Delivery

Canadian Students
Total tuition: \$2,826.00
Total fees: \$701.00