

**NORTHERN LIGHTS COLLEGE
REGISTRAR'S OFFICE
PROGRAM INFORMATION AND COMPLETION GUIDE**

Program Name: University Arts and Sciences
Credential/Certification: Indigenous Human Service Worker Certificate
Date Submitted: November 2024
Effective Date: September 2025

Program Contact: academic-chair@nlc.bc.ca

Dean: Kathy Doucette

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Program Description: This program will prepare graduates for employment as a Human Service Worker, with a focus on serving Indigenous people on- or off-reserve. Students will acquire culturally appropriate knowledge, skills, and values while working with individuals, groups, and communities. Indigenous Human Service Worker (IHSW) Certificate graduates will earn course credits that can be applied to NLC's Early Childhood Education and Care Diploma, Education Assistant Diploma, and Social Service Worker Diploma. Conversely, graduates from these diploma programs may apply relevant course credits to completion of the IHSW Certificate.

Admission Requirements:

A. Domestic students and students from counties that practice Standard Written English ([see Appendix A](#)) must have official transcripts demonstrating that they have met the English Requirements: One of the following with a 'C' grade or higher: English 12 or English Literature 12 or English First Peoples 12, ENGL 050, or ENGL 099. Alternatively, any university-level English course with a 'C' grade or higher. Students who do not meet one of the above English Requirements must complete the NLC Writing Assessment for appropriate course placement.

B. International students who do not meet the requirement A above, and domestic students who received their secondary education in French or another language, must show that they have met the NLC English requirement: [see Appendix A \(General Academic English Language Proficiency Requirements\)](#).

C. Dual-credit students who do not meet the requirement A above may submit secondary school transcripts indicating successful completion of English 11 and enrollment in an acceptable Grade 12 level English course with a minimum interim grade of 'C'.

Note that some course options have specific prerequisites. Meeting the program entrance requirements does not ensure course prerequisites have been met for all available courses.

Post-Admission Requirements:

Clearance letter from the Ministry of Public Safety & Solicitor General for a Schedule B Criminal Record Check (works with Children and Vulnerable Adults) must be received prior to registration in classes. Please see the NLC website for completion instructions and more information pertaining to Criminal Record Checks. CRCs must be renewed if they expire before the program is completed. Under no circumstance are students permitted to complete any practical work without having a CRC on file with the NLC's Office of the Registrar. Failure to ensure a valid CRC is on file may result in a requirement to withdraw from the program. Students are obligated to report any Schedule B criminal convictions that occur after they authorize a CRC while still enrolled in the program

Length of Program: (weeks and total hours) Normally, 8 months (32 weeks) for full-time study. Part-time study may be an option. Length of program may vary for sponsored intakes.

Program Intake: (start/finish dates) To be determined. Requests for sponsored intakes may be sent to the Program Contact or Program Dean.

Available Seats: 20

Application Deadline: To be determined.

Career Prospects: Band Social Worker, Community Wellness Worker, National Native Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program (NNADAP) Workers, Aboriginal Patient Liaison Worker or Aboriginal Patient Navigator (APN), Native Courtworker, Youth and Cultural Worker, Cultural Connections Coordinator, Aboriginal Support Workers. Certificate graduates may also ladder into NLC's Early Childhood Education and Care, Education Assistant, and Social Services Worker diploma programs.

Affiliations/Partnerships: Northeast Native Advancing Society (NENAS) and regional school districts.

Location: Fort St. John campus with the possibility of additional video-conference sites and some online delivery. Sponsored offerings at other locations may be available upon request.

Additional Requirements/Supplies: (fees, supplies, materials)
Laptop.

Eligibility for Canada Student Loans: (Yes or No)
Yes, for domestic students. No, for international students.

Required Minimum Grade: (overall and/or minimum within a course)
Students must achieve a minimum grade of "C+" in IHSW 101, SSWD 120, and SSWD 215. Students must achieve a minimum grade of 'C' in HDEC 100, HDEC 101, HDEC 104, IHSW 102, IHSW 103, IHSW 104, and IHSW 105.

Residency Requirement: (percentage of courses which must be taken at NLC)
50%; note that a minimum 60% or 'C' grade (60%) is required for courses to be considered for transfer into this program (A minimum grade of "C+" is required for courses being considered for transfer for IHSW 101, SSWD 120, and SSWD 215). The age of the course will also be considered in course transfer.

Required Courses: (list courses required to complete credential
and total hours for each course)

Semester 1

HDEC 100: Essential Skills for Human Service Workers (3 credits/45 hours)

HDEC 101: Human Development 1 (3 credits/45 hours)

IHSW 101: Introduction to Human Service Work (3 credits/45 hours)

SSWD 120: Ethics and Practice (3 credits/45 hours)

SSWD 215: Interpersonal Communications (3 credits/45 hours)

Semester 2

HDEC 104: Human Development 2 (3 credits/45 hours)

IHSW 102: The Indigenous Family and Parenting (3 credits/45 hours)

IHSW 103: Indigenous Wellness and Healthy Practices (3 credits/45 hours)

IHSW 104: Social and Health Issues in Indigenous Communities (3 credits/45 hours)

IHSW 105: Community Helping Project (3 credits/45 hours)