

Health Care Assistant

School District Dual Credit Program

The 745-hour program is approximately a 25-week or six-month program (based on a typical 30-hour instruction week) designed to provide students with opportunities to develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to function effectively as direct client care providers and respected members of the health-care team, in community and facility settings. Under the direction and supervision of a health professional, graduates provide person-centred care aimed at promoting and maintaining the physical, emotional, cognitive, and social well-being of clients/residents. Upon successful completion of the program, graduates are prepared to work in any level of continuing care, including: home support, adult day care, assisted living, complex care (including dementia care units) and acute care.



Admission Requirements

- Mandatory high school graduation courses complete.
- Graduate high school upon completion of HCA program.

English requirements:

- A completed self-declaration, and

Native English speakers:

- A minimum grade of 60% in English 11; or a minimum score of 24/40 or Level 4 on the Language Proficiency Index (LPI); or a minimum grade of 50% in English 12 or English 12 First Peoples; or a minimum grade of 60% in OC's ABE ENGL 080; or a minimum grade of 60% in both OC's ABE ENGL 081 and 082 (Composition 011 is not acceptable).

Non-native English speakers:

Option A:

- The completed self-declaration confirming seven years of education in an English-speaking environment OR proof of four consecutive years of education in an English-speaking environment* at the secondary or post-secondary level

AND one of the following:

- A minimum grade of 60% in English 11; or a minimum score of 24/40 or Level 4 on the Language Proficiency Index (LPI); or a minimum grade of 50% in English 12 or English 12 First Peoples; or a minimum grade of 60% in OC's ABE ENGL 080; or a minimum

grade of 60% in both OC's ABE ENGL 081 and 082 (Composition 011 is not acceptable).

Option B:

- The completed self-declaration confirming less than seven years of education in an English-speaking environment AND less than four consecutive years of education in an English-speaking environment* at the secondary or post-secondary level

AND one of the following:

- Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) within the past two years; IBT with an overall score of 76 with no score lower than 20 in Speaking and Listening and no score lower than 18 in Reading and Writing;
- International English Language Testing System (IELTS) Academic or General within the past two years; with an overall score of 6 with a minimum of 6 in Speaking and Listening and no score lower than 5.5 in Reading and Writing;
- Canadian Language Benchmark Placement Test (CLB PT) within the past six months; with minimum scores of: Listening 7, Speaking 7, Reading 6, and Writing 6.
- Canadian English Language Proficiency Index Program (CELPIP):
 - a) Academic: Aggregate score of 4L or better, with 4L or better in Speaking and Listening and 3H or better in Reading and Writing
 - or
 - b) General: CELPIP 7 or better in Speaking and Listening and CELPIP 6 in Reading and Writing

Other requirements:

- It is recommended that students also complete grade 12 biology (human anatomy).
- Applicants must provide evidence of successful completion of a Red Cross Standard First Aid or St. John Ambulance Standard First Aid that includes Basic Life Support, CPR Level C no more than 12 months before admission.
- A criminal record check clearance from the B.C. Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General's Criminal Records Review Office. **Okanagan College's admission offices will provide applicants with instructions and forms for applicants to submit to the Solicitor General's Office and a deadline for the College to receive the clearance letter.** Applicants should only initiate their criminal record check when instructed by Admissions. Failure to provide a clearance letter by the deadline will result in a cancellation of the applicant's admission application.
- Applicants must provide evidence of a negative tuberculin test, taken no more than six months before the date of application (or evidence of appropriate follow-up if the test was positive.)
- Applicants must have successfully completed the provincially-approved FOODSAFE training program.
- Proof of meeting current immunizations / vaccinations as per health care organization policies / guidelines (or signed vaccination exemption form, except TB). Applicants are advised that, if they are unable to provide proof of immunization or immunity they may be restricted or even excluded from practice settings based on the Health Facility or Health Authority policies and procedures for non-immunized students on placement. This information will be collected on the first day of class by the instructor.

Attendance at a program orientation day is strongly recommended. Applicants will be notified of the exact date.

Applicants are advised that students in this program engage actively in laboratory practice, acting both as patient/client and as caregiver in simulated situations. Notwithstanding all specific program prerequisites, Okanagan College reserves the right to deny admission to any applicant when, in the opinion of OC, there is sufficient and substantiated evidence, medical or otherwise, to conclude that by granting admission OC would jeopardize the safety of clients under student care or would otherwise be negligent in providing for the

safety and well-being of clients, agency staff or other students.

Graduation Requirements

A minimum passing grade (P) for HCA 103 and HCA 107; and a minimum grade of 70% in all other courses in the program outline



Program Outline

[HCA 101](#) Interpersonal Communications

[HCA 102](#) Health: Concepts for Practice

[HCA 103](#) Personal Care and Assistance

[HCA 104](#) Healing: Common Health Challenges

[HCA 105](#) Home Support/Assisted Living

[HCA 106](#) Cognitive/Mental Health Care

[HCA 107](#) Clinical Practice

SD23 Pays:

- 2022-2023 Tuition: \$3013.62

Student Pays:

- Mandatory Fees \$ \$628.79 includes: Activity fee, Health & Dental, Student Association fee, Education Technology fee, Development fee
- Textbook: \$350
- Other requirements: Standard First Aid, Tuberculin Test, FoodSafe training: \$275 approximately

*All program costs are approximate and subject to change without notice

*Other Expenses - Students must provide a suitable uniform & duty shoes (approx. \$250), transfer belt, name tags and OC badge. Students are responsible for their own transportation.

Practicum, Extern and Clinical Experiences

Practicum, extern and clinical experiences are an integral part of health and social services programs. Locations are throughout the Okanagan Valley. Students must arrange for their own transportation to and from practicum, extern and clinical sites. In most cases, that means a driving license and access to a reliable vehicle is required. Travel expenses are the student's responsibility.

Hours vary from six to nine hours per day during the practicum for a total of 30 hours per week

Student for a Day

Arrange your shop tour or Student for a Day experience by contacting your school Career Coordinator.

CONTACTS:

Applications are available at your school Career Centre or www.dualcredit23.com

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