

Health Care Assistant

Diploma

Program Objective

With the aging population and the demand for the best quality of life, the healthcare industry is facing a growing shortage of well-trained personnel. Throughout the North American healthcare industry, there is an acute need to increase the size of the workforce, as well as to raise the skill level of that workforce.

This program is designed to provide the knowledge and practical skills training required for an employment-ready trained graduate as a Health Care Assistant / Long Term Care Aide / Resident Care Aide.

Program Notes

Financial assistance may be available to qualified students.

Tuition includes *Mosby's Canadian Textbook for the Support Worker* and student workbook, *Nursing Skills* DVDs, set of scrubs, transfer belt, name tag, and *WHMIS* and *Back Talk* booklets.

Trainees must attend and successfully complete all workshops, required lab and open hours, Personal Care and Assistance skills, and courses in order to be placed in Clinical Training.

Graduation requirements:

To obtain a diploma and certificate(s) students must:

- Receive a score of 75% in each course.
- Attend at least 90% of all classes.
- Master all Personal Care and Assistance skills
- Receive a Pass on the Clinical Placement evaluation by achieving at least 3 points, on a 5-point scale, on each criterion.

Method of Delivery

Combination of:

- Instructor-led
- Integrated Learning™ System training facilitated by Academy of Learning College facilitators.
- Clinical Placements

Career Opportunities

Training in the Health Care Assistant Program provides the opportunity for students to develop basic nursing and social service training skills necessary for employment in one of the following settings:

- community health care agencies
- long-term health care facilities
- retirement homes, group homes
- private hospitals, private duty
- adult daycares
- hospices
- complex care

Duties and Responsibilities

Health Care Assistants are expected to co-operate with all members of the health team, practice universal precautions, maintain a clean working environment, assist with care plans, effectively perform basic nursing skills, and observe intelligently and report accurately on residents of care facility.

Personal Attributes Required

Students should be caring, dependable, empathetic, trustworthy, self-motivated, inspirational, conscientious, polite, respectful, culturally diverse, tolerant, patient, reliable, and punctual. They need to possess an interest in working as an integral part of a health care team, with a genuine desire to work and care for the elderly as well as others in the community who need assistance and care support.

Admission Requirements

Mandatory Requirements:

- Adequate Level of Physical Health
- Grade 12 diploma or equivalent or Mature Student Status (19 years of age or older)
- Proof of meeting English Language Competency Requirements: English 10 or equivalent (for native speakers of English); Standardized English language proficiency test score (for non-native speakers of English)
- Ministry of Justice Criminal Record Check with Vulnerable Adult Clearance
- Proof of TB test and other vaccinations
- Foodsafe Level 1

Preferred Requirements:

- Successful completion of Accuplacer testing
- Completion of Wonderlic SLE admission test with minimum score of 18
- N-95 Mask Fit Testing which may be mandatory based on facility requirements
- Desire to work as an integral part of the healthcare team
- Keen interest and knowledge of healthcare services
- Excellent organizational, time-management, and interpersonal skills
- Attitude that is caring, gracious and professional
- Value for confidentiality and demonstrates discretion
- Two letters of reference speaking to personal character
- Commitment to supporting the campus' educational standards and guidelines

Competencies upon Completion

Core Courses

- Introduction to the HCA Profession
- Communication Skills
- Physiology and Development
- Healing Basics
- Healing Mobility and Home Support
- Assisted Living
- Health Challenges
- Healing Needs
- Job Search and Résumé Writing
- Clinical Placements

Media Component

- DVD clips from WorkSafeBC
- Nursing Skills Video for students to keep

Workshops

- In-house workshops reinforce the skills taught and encourage confidence in students.
- Workshops are:
 - Teamwork
 - Stress and Time Management
 - Assertive Communications
 - Medical Terminology
 - WHMIS (certificate)
 - First Aid and CPR, Level 3 (certificate)
 - Food Safe (certificate)
 - Home Support Worker (certificate)
 - Caring for the Cognitively Challenged (certificate)
 - HCA Medication Administration (certificate)

Clinical Placement

- One or more practice placement(s) in Home Support and/or Assisted Living
- A practice placement focused on specialized Dementia Care
- One or more practice placement(s) in a Multi-level or Complex Care facility

Clinical Skills Evaluation:

- Students must receive a score of at least 3.0 on each criteria, on a scale of 1.0 – 5.0, in order to successfully complete the Clinical Placement portion of the program.