

Part Time and Full Time 2025-2026

PROGRAM LENGTH: 2 years (20 months)

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: The journey to addiction recovery requires the support of trained counsellors with knowledge and skills in the field. In this program, you will learn the theoretical knowledge and practical skills in assessment, treatment, prevention, and relapse. Graduates of the Addictions Counselling diploma program at Northern Lakes College will have the skills to provide counselling to individuals, groups, and families. This online program includes a 6-week practicum (work) placement in the Spring Semester in Year 1 and Year 2 of the program. If you are interested in the field of addictions, are compassionate, and like to help others, this program may be a good fit for you! This program can be taken full-time or part-time, depending on your unique needs. Northern Lakes College offers a high ratio of student-to-instructor time, affordable tuition, and quality programs.

PROGRAM OF STUDY:

YEAR 1

TERM 1

ADDP0110 Introduction to Addictions Studies (3)
ADDP0120 Introduction to Counselling Skills (3)
SOC1000 Introduction to the Study of Society (3)
ENGL1000 Introduction to English Language and Literature (3)
PSYC1060 Psychology for the Health Care Professional (3)
INDG2100 Introduction to Indigenous Issues (3)

TERM 2

ADDP0130 Assessment of Addiction (3)
ADDP0140 Counselling Theories and Approaches (3)
ENGL1011 Critical Reading and Writing: Prose Forms (3)
PSYC2010 Developmental Psychology: Life Span (3)

TERM 3

ADPR0110 Practicum I (6)

YEAR 2

TERM 4

ADDP0150 Prevention and Relapse (3)
ADDP0160 Working with Families (3)
LDER0180 Leadership in Helping Professions (3)
ETHI1000 Ethics in Helping Professions (3)
AFDN0150 Introduction to Pharmacology (3)

TERM 5

ADDP0170 Suicide and Mental Health in Addiction (3)
ADDP0180 Working with Groups (3)
HEED1010 Health Education: Personal Health and Wellness (3)
SOC12240 Sociology of Deviance and Conformity (3)
UTOPTION* UNIVERSITY TRANSFER COURSE (3)

TERM 6

ADPR0120 Practicum II (6)

TRANSFERABILITY: Some credits may be transferable into other programs at Northern Lakes College (e.g. Social Work and Practical Nurse). University credits are transferable to some post-secondary institutions in Alberta. Refer to the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. Block transfer of this 2-year diploma is available for entrance into year 3 of the 4-year Bachelor of Health Sciences degree program at the University of Lethbridge.

PROGRAM DELIVERY: This program is delivered online using Bongo and Brightspace. To learn more about Bongo and to experience using it, check out this guide: <https://www.northernlakescollege.ca/public/download/files/220409> To learn more about D2L/Brightspace, check out this guide: <https://www.northernlakescollege.ca/public/download/files/101449> *Please note that some courses in this program require mandatory attendance to evening classes.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

Academic Requirements (must be 18 years of age with):

Students must have a minimum of **60% in ENG 30-1 or 70% in ENG 30-2**. Successful completion of ENGL0190 or equivalent is also acceptable. Students from other institutions may have transcripts evaluated for advanced standing.

If academic requirements are not met, you may complete an ACCUPLACER assessment. Contact accuplacer_exam_scheduling@northernlakescollege.ca to book your ACCUPLACER test or admissions@northernlakescollege.ca for other Accuplacer inquiries.

For international students, refer to the International Student Guide.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS: It is strongly recommended that students have a home computer, webcam and access to high speed internet. Students without basic computer skills will be encouraged to attend a computer skills workshop prior to the start of the program. • Practicum agencies may require a Police Information Check and an Alberta Children's Services Intervention Record Check of students placed in their organizations. The inability to present clear checks may prevent a student from completing the program requirements. Contact the Program Coordinator for further information. • Because of the nature of the program, students must not be abusing alcohol or drugs for at least 1 year prior to applying. Additionally, students must not abuse alcohol or drugs for the duration of the program. •25% of the program must be taken at Northern Lakes College.

WORK EXPERIENCE: Student are required to complete practicums in a human service setting. There are two full-time practicums (total 480 hours) in the Spring Semester (Year 1 and Year 2) that are 240 hours (approximately 6 weeks in length). One of the two practicums must be directly related to the addictions field.

DEADLINES: Applications must be submitted at least 2 weeks prior to the term start date. Payment and course registration are required at least 10 business days prior to the term start date. If funding is required, applicants are advised to apply early. Students must start the program in September.

PERSONAL EMAIL ADDRESSES: Northern Lakes College uses email to quickly contact students. If possible, please provide an accurate and current email address where we can reach you.

COST ESTIMATES: **Note: All fees are subject to change.**

	Tuition	Student Association	Technology	est. TOTAL
Year 1	\$5292.00	\$486.00	\$432.00	\$6,210.00
Year 2	\$5280.00	\$486.00	\$432.00	\$6,198.00

Supplies, textbooks and other costs, (not payable to NLC)

Textbooks are not payable to Northern Lakes College. Please view our website for a list of applicable textbooks that must be purchased for the program.

OFFERING DATES:

Mandatory Orientation ONLINE: YEAR 1 students

Year 1

Term 1: September 2 – December 18, 2025

Term 2: January 2 – April 22, 2026

Term 3: May 1 – June 25, 2026

Year 2

Term 4: September 2 – December 18, 2025

Term 5: January 2 – April 22, 2026

Term 6: May 1 – June 25, 2026

APPLICATION PROCESS:

•**APPLICATION:** Complete and submit the Northern Lakes College application online on the college website www.northernlakescollege.ca

•**TRANSCRIPTS:** Provide an official high school and/or post-secondary transcript. This must be forwarded directly to Northern Lakes College, Admissions Services, from the granting institution (there may be a charge for this). When transcripts are received at NLC, they are reviewed to determine if the academic requirements for admission to the program are met.

ENGLISH ASSESSMENT: If the English requirement is not met then an equivalency assessment can be completed. The College uses ACCUPLACER for the English requirement. If testing is required, the applicant will be informed and they will need to make an appointment by calling Admissions. If academic requirements are not met, you may complete an ACCUPLACER assessment. Contact accuplacer_exam_scheduling@northernlakescollege.ca to book your ACCUPLACER test or admissions@northernlakescollege.ca for other Accuplacer inquiries.

- **ACCEPTANCE:** Applicants who meet the academic and other admission requirements will be accepted and offered a space in the program. These applicants will be accepted in the order of 'first qualified, first served.' Applicants will receive a letter informing them of their acceptance status.
- **TUITION & COMMITMENT DEPOSITS:** Accepted applicants in all career programs will be required to complete registration forms within one month of receiving their acceptance letter. This registration includes a \$100.00 (domestic student) or \$5,000.00 (international student) commitment fee deposit. This fee is **non-refundable & non-deferrable** and will be applied towards the terms' tuition. Applicants who do not pay their commitment deposit within 4 weeks of acceptance may forfeit their seat in the program. A Tuition Deposit is required for domestic students in an oversubscribed program, this includes our Addictions Counselling program. This non-refundable fee is due May 1 and is \$300.00. Again, once the term has begun this deposit fee will be applied towards the students' tuition.
- **FUNDING:** Applicants are encouraged to check on funding options early (minimum of 2 months prior to the program start date). Applicants should visit <http://studentaid.alberta.ca/> for loans, grants and provincial scholarships. Northern Lakes College also offers awards for our students. Specific awards related to this program include: CCEC Partnership Bursary, Roland Gladue Memorials Scholarship and the TransCanada Partnership Award. Please visit the Financial Aid, Scholarships and funding page on the Northern Lakes College website for more information.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

For any assistance, questions or concerns, the following college staff are available:

Program Coordinator: Denise Smith 1-780-849-8668
email: smithd@northernlakescollege.ca
Questions about program content, employment opportunities for the program

Other Inquiries: Admissions Services 1-866-652-3456
email: admissions@northernlakescollege.ca
Including general inquiries about College services & programs; student housing, library, facilities