

Part and Full Time 2025 - 2026

PROGRAM LENGTH: 135 hours (45 hours per course)

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: Launch Your IT Career with NLC's Computer Network Specialist Certificate Program! Step into the rapidly expanding world of information technology with our Computer Network Specialist Certificate program. This program is designed to equip you with the skills to build, maintain, and support small business networks. Graduates are well-prepared for roles such as Technical Support, Network/Systems Analyst, or Information Technology Support/Administrator. Additionally, dual-credit opportunities are available, allowing you to get a head start on your career while completing your high school education.

PROGRAM OF STUDY:

Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
ENGL1110 Business Communications (3)	CNET1050 Field Service Fundamentals (3)	CNET0100 Employment Practicum (4)
CNET1000 PC Service Fundamentals (3)	CNET1060 Networking Tools & Techniques (3)	
CNET1010 Cyber Security Essentials (3)	CNET1070 Server Technologies (3)	
CNET1020 Desktop & Mobile Operating Systems (3)	CNET1080 Cloud Fundamentals (3)	
CNET1030 Network Essentials (3)	CNET1040 Web, Mail & Database Server Essentials (3)	

TRANSFERABILITY: Students may seek transfer of courses into similar programs at other institutions.

PROGRAM DELIVERY: This program uses a supported distance learning model. This includes regularly scheduled classes and/or tutorial sessions using Bongo and D2L Brightspace, self-directed study, and field/practicum placements. Attendance in live classes is encouraged, but not mandatory. Students can access a campus for additional supports. This program is supported in a Windows® environment and uses Microsoft® software and programs.

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>

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES: Target occupations for graduates of this program include Technical Support, Network or Systems Administrator, Information Technology Support/Administrator.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS: A minimum of 50% in English 30-1 or 65% in English 30-2 or credit in ENGL 0190, and a minimum of 50% in Math 20-1 or 65% in Math 20-2 or credit in Math 0190. 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. Computer skills and access to reliable high-speed internet.

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

	Tuition	Student Association	Technology	est. TOTAL
Term 1	\$2,730.00	\$202.50	\$180.00	\$3,112.50
Term 2	\$2,730.00	\$202.50	\$180.00	\$3,112.50
Term 3	\$728.00	\$54.00	\$48.00	\$830.00
				\$7,055.00

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. Book List available on the website – Programs & Courses – Business & Administrative Studies – Computer Network Specialist Booklist

Program Offering Dates:

Term 1: September 2 – December 18, 2025

Term 2: January 2 – April 22, 2026

Term 3: May 1 – June 25, 2026

Orientation for the program will occur via NLC Live Online on **September 2, 2025**. Orientation letters will be sent out to students from the program area. A fall semester start is recommended.

DEADLINE: Applications must be submitted **at least 4 weeks prior to the term start date**. Applications received with less than 4 weeks from the term start date will be processed for the next available start date. Payment and course registration are required at least 10 business days prior to the term start date. Applicants are accepted and reviewed on a continuous basis. Applicants are advised to apply early, at least 3 months prior to the program start date, to allow time to complete application processes and arrange funding. Space is limited in some programs, so applicants are accepted on a first-qualified, first-accepted basis.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

- **APPLICATION:** Complete and submit the Northern Lakes College application (on the college website - follow: <https://www.northernlakescollege.ca/apply-now/program-applications>. Applications may also be submitted directly through Apply Alberta www.ApplyAlberta.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.
- **ACCEPTANCE:** Applicants who meet the academic requirements will be accepted and offered a space in the next available offering of the program. Applicants will receive a letter informing them of their acceptance status.
- **REGISTRATION & COMMITMENT FEE:** 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 to your tuition once the term begins.
- **FUNDING:** Applicants are encouraged to check on funding options early (minimum 2 - 3 months prior to program start date) and are responsible for forwarding any sponsorship letters to Admissions as soon as possible. Part-time students of this program may be eligible to receive Learner Income Support through Government of Alberta, Human Services. For more information about this funding, please visit our website (Prospective Students-> Financial Aid-> Grants). Specific awards related to this program include: CCEC Partnership Bursary, Diane Garratt Bursary, AHSF – Dr. McPherson Award, AHSF – Laurence Decore Award, AHSF-Louise McKinney, Roland Gladue Memorial Scholarship, TransCanada Partnership Award, and Shell Awards. Please visit the NLC website scholarships and awards page to learn more. <https://www.northernlakescollege.ca/awards>
- **PERSONAL EMAIL ADDRESSES:** Northern Lakes College uses email to quickly contact students. If possible, please provide an accurate email address where we can reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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

Program Coordinator: Chelsey Kinney 1-780-849-8681

email: kinneyc@northernlakescollege.ca

Questions about program content, employment opportunities, classroom activities

Other Inquiries: Admissions Services 1-866-652-3456

email: admissions@northernlakescollege.ca

General inquiries about College services & programs; student housing, library, facilities