

Part and Full Time 2025 - 2026

PROGRAM LENGTH: 2 years (20 months)

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: The Social Work Program prepares students to help individuals, families, and communities improve problem solving and coping skills while connecting them to resources and services. This recognized two-year program emphasizes generalist knowledge, values, and skills for social work practice, with themes including cultural competency, addressing oppression, and holistic practice in northern and rural communities. The program combines core social work theory and practice courses with university-level courses in English, psychology, health education, sociology, political science, and an arts and science elective. Students typically complete these elective courses during the program, but they can be done before or after the core social work courses. Most of the program is delivered online, with two spring semester field placements in Year 1 and Year 2 (350 hours each year). Students apply theory to practice in supervised settings during their full-time practicums. They are responsible for travel and accommodation costs related to onsite sessions and practicums. Graduates are prepared for entry-level social work positions or further education, with eligibility for registration with the Alberta College of Social Workers.

PROGRAM OF STUDY:

Year 1

Term1: ENG1000 Introduction to English language & Literature
SOWK1010 Social Work Foundations- An Introduction to Social Work
SOWK1020 The Helping Process
SOCI1000 An Introduction to the Study of Society
PSYC1060 Psychology for Health Care Professionals

Term 2: ENG1011 Critical Reading & Writing: Prose Forms
HEED1010 Health Education: Personal Health & Wellness
PSYC2010 Developmental Psychology: Life Span
SOWK1030 Social Work Assessment
SOWK1040 Models & practice from Anti-Oppressive Perspective
SOWK1035 Practicum Prep I

Term 3: SOWK 1055 Social Work Practicum I (350 Hours)

Year 2

Term 4: UTOPTION Option University Studies
SOWK2010 Social Work with Communities & Organizations
SOWK2020 Social Work with Groups
SOWK2030 Social Work with Families
SOWK2035 Social Work Practicum Prep II

Term 5: SOWK2040 Social Policy
SOWK2050 Mental Health: A Multicultural Perspective
SOWK2060 Violence & Addictions: Issues in Social Work
SOWK2070 Current Selected Issues in Social Work
SOCI2750 Aging in Society

Term 6: SOWK2055 Social Work Practicum II (350Hours)

TRANSFERABILITY: A block transfer into the Bachelor of Social Work at the University of Calgary exists where students are able to transfer up to 2 years of coursework into the 3rd year of the BSW program. Athabasca University offers a 60 credit transfer toward the Bachelor of Professional Arts, Human Services. Articulation Agreement with Thompson Rivers University allows for a maximum of 60 transfer credits into the Bachelor of Health Science and Bachelor of General Studies. University credits (course by course) are transferable to a number of degree programs. The most current transfer information is available on-line at transferalberta.ca.

PROGRAM DELIVERY: This program is delivered online using Microsoft Teams and Brightspace and includes self-directed study, 2/3 face to face lab days (on campus), and field/practicum placements in both 1st (350 hours) and 2nd year (350 hours). In Social Work courses, attendance is mandatory. University Studies course attendance, although encouraged, is not mandatory.

To learn more about Microsoft Teams and to experience using it, check out this guide: <https://teamsdemo.office.com/#/>

To learn more about D2L/Brightspace, check out this guide: <https://www.northernlakescollege.ca/public/download/files/101449>

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS: Applicants must have the following courses or equivalents:

- 18 years of age with: 60% in English 30-1 or 70% in English 30-2 or 60% in ENG0190
- Or an assessed English equivalency
- All post-secondary transcripts must accompany the application.

APPLICANTS SEEKING ADMISSION

- Must be approved by the program coordinator prior to the commencement of Fall Term.
- **Note:** It is strongly recommended that students who enter this program have basic computer skills (including the ability to use the Internet, email, and word processor). Students without basic computer skills will be encouraged to attend a computer skills workshop prior to the start of the program.
- If English is a second language, students must complete a skills appraisal assessment.

OTHER INFORMATION: Information regarding any criminal record is required upon acceptance to the program to facilitate field placements. Field placement agencies may require a Police Information Check and an Intervention Record Check of students placed in their organizations. The inability to present clear checks may mean a student may not be able to complete the requirements of the program. Contact the program coordinator for further information. **NOTE:** Due to the nature of the program, students must not be abusing alcohol or drugs for at least 1 year prior to applying. In addition, students must not be abusing drugs for the duration of the program.

PROGRAM OFFERINGS: Year 1 and Year 2 offered at ANY NORTHERN LAKES COLLEGE CAMPUS LOCATIONS

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

YEAR 1

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|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Tuition | \$5,856.00 |
| Technology Fee | \$ 526.50 |
| Student Association fee | \$ 468.00 |
| TOTAL ESTIMATED COSTS: | \$6,850.50 |

YEAR 2

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Tuition | \$5,448.00 |
| Technology Fee | \$ 486.00 |
| Student Association Fee | \$ 432.00 |
| TOTAL ESTIMATED COSTS: | \$6,366.00 |

OFFERING DATES: Mandatory Orientation in Slave Lake

Term 1: September 2 – December 18, 2025

Term 2: January 2 – April 22, 2026

Term 3: May 1 – June 25, 2026

- **DEADLINES:** 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 forms are required at least 10 business days prior to the term start date.
- **APPLICATION:** Complete the Northern Lakes College application form available on the Northern Lakes College website. (<https://www.northernlakescollege.ca/apply-now/program-applications>).
- **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.
- **FORMS:** Applicants are advised to confirm that they meet the academic requirements of the program before completing the additional forms for admission to the program. ALL forms need to be submitted to Admissions Services. Look under "OTHER INFORMATION" on front of this sheet, for details on Criminal Record Checks.
- **FUNDING:** Applicants are encouraged to check on funding options early (minimum of 2 months prior to program start date). Counsellors can assist with identifying funding options and applying for sponsorship of fees and living costs. Specific awards related to this program include: CCEC partnership Bursary, Roland Gladue Memorial Scholarship, TransCanada Partnership Award. Please visit the NLC website scholarships and awards page to learn more.
- **ACCEPTANCE:** Applicants who meet the academic and other admission requirements will be accepted. These applicants will be accepted in the order of "first qualified, first served." In some cases, the spaces at a specific location may be full and accepted applicants will be placed on a waitlist. It may be possible to transfer to another location if there is space. 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 \$300.00 (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 students in an oversubscribed program, this includes our Social Work Diploma program. This non-refundable fee is due May 1 and is \$300.00 for domestic students and \$900.00 for international students. Again, once the term has begun this deposit fee will be applied towards the students' tuition.

- **REGISTRATION:** Attendance is required at an online Orientation session. Before Orientation, accepted applicants will receive information about the orientation date, technology sign on information, schedule for classes and other information to assist with planning for the start of term.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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

- Program Coordinator:** **Denise Smith** at 1-780-849-8668
email: smithd@northernlakescollege.ca
Questions about program content, admission requirements for the program -criminal record check, resume or other admission forms, etc.
- All Other Inquiries:** **Admissions Services 1-866-652-3456**
email: admissions@northernlakescollege.ca
Including General inquiries about College services & programs student housing, library, facilities