A Listing of Aboriginal Health Careers

Education and Training Opportunities

Community Health Representative  Registered Nurse
Naturopath  Social Worker  Chiropractor  Pharmacist
Optometrist  Dental Hygienists  Physician  Dietitian
Dentist  Medical X-ray Technologist  Physical Therapist
Psychologist  Medical Laboratory Technologist  Midwife
Radiation Therapist  Speech Pathologist  Counsellors
TO THE READER – A NOTE CONCERNING TERMINOLOGY

Terms used in the entries for programs and schools are those used by the institutions in question, whether the terms were accurate or outdated. A sincere attempt was made to determine if each institution’s programs and services were inclusive of all Aboriginal Peoples (First Nations, Inuit and Métis) or designed to meet the specific needs of a specific community or nation.

This is a document in progress; a document to be continually reviewed, updated and revised, and shared. We welcome any additions, deletions or comments. Please send these to the attention of:

National Aboriginal Health Organization
Attention: Policy Research Unit
56 Sparks Street, Suite 400
Ottawa, ON K1P 5A9
Fax: (613) 237-1810
E-mail: lcree@naho.ca
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Section 1 – Education Training and Programs

Health Programs in Aboriginal Education Institutes
(Note that all listings are subject to change. In fact, many are reviewed and altered on a yearly basis.)

ANISHINABEK EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTE, North Bay, ON

- Native Community Care – Counselling and Development (Community Health Representative stream)

This is a two-year program offered at the Nipissing site. Graduates are eligible to work as Community Health Representatives (CHR) and in other related areas.

Contact:
Anishinabek Educational Institute
PO Box 711
North Bay, ON P1B 8J8
Phone: 1-800-334-3330
E-mail: foxpat@anishinabek.ca
Web site: www.anishinabek.ca

FIRST NATIONS TECHNICAL INSTITUTE (FNTI), Tyendinaga Territory, ON

- Social Service Worker – Welfare Administrator (part-time, three years)
- Native Child and Family Services – Community Worker (part-time, three years)
- Addictions (part-time, three years)

The programs offered by FNTI are rooted in First Nations knowledge and Indigenous experience. The programs listed here lead to a Diploma in Human Services and are delivered in 12 weeks of intense sessions over three years. Each session covers two college credits. A support system between sessions is provided. Courses are delivered at various sites throughout Ontario. The following learning approaches are used: self-directed learning; experiential learning; portfolio development; learning circles; and healing circles. Facilitators specialize in Native cultural issues as they relate to Aboriginal Human Services.

Contact:
First Nations Technical Institute
York Road
Tyendinaga Territory, ON K0K 1X0
Phone: (613) 396-2122 or 1-800-267-0637
E-mail: staceym@fnti.tyendinaga.net
Web site: www.tyendinaga.net/fnti

SIX NATIONS POLYTECHNIC, Ohsweken, ON

- Child and Youth Worker (three-year diploma, accredited by Niagara College)
- Native University Access Program (one year, with automatic admission to Brock University, McMaster University, University of Guelph, University of Waterloo, or Wilfred Laurier)

A Listing of Aboriginal Health Careers: Education and Training Opportunities 2003
University with a minimum average of 60 per cent - see Access and Transition Year Programs section
- Native Health Sciences (one year, see Access and Transition Year Programs section)
- Palliative Care (six Palliative Care courses plus one 30-hour elective at Six Nations Polytechnic)
- Paramedic (two-year diploma) and Advanced Paramedic (one day per week for nine months, limited to eight students)
- Personal Support Worker (an 18-week program accredited by Niagara College)
- Pre-Health Science (one-year certificate program)

Contact:
Six Nations Polytechnic
PO Box 700
Ohsweken, ON N0A 1M0
Phone: (519) 445-0023 Fax: (519) 445-4416
E-mail: learn@snpolytechnic.com
Web site: www.snpolytechnic.com

SEVEN GENERATIONS EDUCATION INSTITUTE, Fort Frances, ON
- Honours Bachelor of Social Work (five years part-time with Carleton University)
- Native Counsellor (16 months, with Sault College)
- Personal Support Worker (16 weeks, with Sault College)

Contact:
Seven Generations Education Institute
PO Box 297
Fort Frances, ON P9A 3M6
Phone: 1-800-668-6279 Fax: (807) 274-8761
E-mail: laurah@7generations.org
Web site: www.7generations.org

OSHKI-PIMACHE-O-WIN EDUCATION AND TRAINING INSTITUTE, Thunder Bay, ON
- Sexual Abuse and Restorative Justice Train the Trainer Program

This is a post-graduate certificate program for people experienced in this area. It consists of three intensive six-day modules combined with independent study and in-community work.

Contact:
Oshki-Pimache-O-Win Education and Training Institute
107 Johnson Ave., 2nd Floor
Thunder Bay, ON P7C 4Z2
Phone: (807) 346-2770
E-mail: lbanning@oshki.ca
Web site: www.oshki.ca

YELLOWQUILL COLLEGE, Winnipeg, MB
- Community Diabetes Worker (12 weeks)
- Community Health and Human Services (two years)
Yellowquill College has graduated more than 600 students in a variety of programs since founded in 1984 by the Dakota Ojibway Tribal Council.

The Community Program Management program is a combination of Social Development Management, First Nation Health Management and First Nation Home and Community Care Management programs previously offered at this college. The new program consists of 24 one-week modules with two weeks between modules. Participants study interpersonal communications, management, human resource management, financial planning, contemporary First Nation issues, policies and procedures, networking and marketing, etc.

The Community Health and Human Services program prepares students for careers as National Native Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program NNADAP (addictions) counsellors and Community Health Representatives. Two other specialization streams offered are Social Development (courses include counselling and addictions), and Community Wellness (courses include counselling, addictions and family violence).

The Community Diabetes Worker program consists of 12 modules, 40 hours per module, college certificate received upon completion. The program is aimed at both the health worker and the person with diabetes. Participants need a Grade 10 education or the equivalent. Curriculum content includes types of diabetes, symptoms, personal care techniques, nutrition, exercise, etc.

Contact:
Yellowquill College
831 Portage Ave.
Winnipeg, MB R3G 0N6
Phone: (204) 953-2800 Fax: (204) 953-2810
E-mail: administration@yellowquillcollege.mb.ca
Web site: www.yellowquillcollege.mb.ca

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SASKATCHEWAN INDIAN FEDERATED COLLEGE (SIFC), Saskatoon, SK

- Certificate of Indian Social Work (one year)
- Bachelor of Indian Social Work (four years)
- Masters of Aboriginal Social Work (12 months)
- Dental Therapy (two years)
- Bachelors degree in Environmental Health and Science Program
- Health and Science (four years)
- Program for Nursing within First Nations

The Canadian Association of Schools of Social Work accredits the Social Work degree program at SIFC. The “First Nations way of life is the substance that underlies the entire program.” its primary purpose is to develop practitioners who can assist First Nations people achieve self-determination. The Masters program, designed for applicants with a degree in social work, specializes in therapy and healing methods for individuals affected by residential school abuse. It has three streams: internship, project and thesis.

SIFC offers Indian Social Work programs in off-campus locations for communities who request this service and contract with the College. The College is also developing a degree program in health, social development, and social work, and is working with the province of Saskatchewan’s Indian Child and Family Services to develop a social work degree with a concentration in child welfare.

The two-year dental therapy program offered by the National School of Dental Therapy under the management of the SIFC allows graduates to practice basic dental health services and to engage effectively in dental health promotion. It is aimed at those wishing to serve Aboriginal communities; about 30 per cent of those graduating are Aboriginal.
The Bachelor of Science in Environmental Health and Science leads to a career as a public health inspector. Students admitted to the program may also apply to receive a Saskatchewan Health bursary in return for working in the province as a public health inspector.

See the Nursing listings for information on SIFC’s Nursing programs.

Contact:
Indian School of Social Work
Saskatchewan Indian Federated College
Saskatoon Campus
710 Duke St.
Saskatoon, SK S7N 0P8
Phone: (306) 931-1834 Fax: (306) 665-0175
Web site: www.sifc.edu.depsw.html

National School of Dental Therapy
710 – 15th Avenue East
Prince Albert, SK S6V 7A4
Phone: (306) 763-8800
E-mail: info@sifc.edu
Web site: www.sifc.edu

Environmental Health and Science Program
Department of Science
Rm. 118, College West Building
University of Regina
Regina, SK S4S 0A2
Phone: (306) 546-8556
E-mail: jgomes@sifc.edu
Web site: www.sifc.edu/science

SASKATCHEWAN INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGIES (SIIT), Saskatoon, SK

- Community Services: Personal Development (18 weeks)
- Community Services: Addictions (10 months full-time/3 years part-time)
- Community Services: Family Development (40 weeks)
- Community Health (one year full-time/three years part-time)
- Life Skills Coach Training (30 days)
- Home Health Aide/Long-Term Care Aide (eight months full-time/18 months part-time)

SIIT was established in 1976 and began serving the post-secondary training needs of 69 First Nations in 131 communities in Saskatchewan.

At present, SIIT has 1,700 students. One of the Institute’s focus areas is community services.

All students in SIIT Community Services programs study a common 18-week core program called Personal Development, which prepares students for further studies. This program facilitates healing from a First Nations’ perspective and allows students to develop their communications skills.

The Addictions certificate program focuses on the unique factors that impact on addictions for Aboriginal people. It includes a four-week practicum. Graduates are employed primarily as NNADAP addictions workers.
The Family Development certificate program includes a four-week practicum. Components include: family counselling, crisis intervention, family violence prevention, family wellness strategies, etc. Graduates work primarily with First Nations communities and agencies.

The Community Health program has an intake of Community Health representatives only. It is also available on contract by Tribal Council or First Nation. The program aims to enable CHRs to improve their skills in education, administration, treatment, and rehabilitation.

Life Skills Coach Training is presented in three phases: personal awareness and self-development; group dynamics and development; and community development. Graduates are awarded the SIIT Certificate of Completion. Note: this course is not accredited; instead, participants are taught the steps necessary to enter the accreditation process.

The Home Health Aide is trained to effectively care for seniors or other individuals with mental and physical challenges who would like to remain in their own homes. The Long-Term Care Aide provides similar services to individuals in institutional settings. Students learn nutrition, First Aid and CPR, human growth, and development, etc.

Contact:
Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies
Admissions Department
Suite 100-103A, Packham Ave.
Saskatoon, SK S7N 4K4
Phone: (306) 244-4444 or Toll-free: (SK) 1-877-282-5622 Fax: (306) 244-1391
Web site: www.siit.sk.ca

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**GABRIEL DUMONT TECHNICAL INSTITUTE, Prince Albert, SK**

- Home Care/Special Care Aide Program (30 weeks)

The Gabriel Dumont Institute is the only educational post secondary institute that is owned and run solely by Métis people. Among its other programs, the Institute offers the Home Care/Special Care Aide Program. The Gabriel Dumont Institute gives preference to Métis people in its admissions policies.

Students in the Home Care/Special Care Aide Program are trained in gerontology, personal care, and attending to individual psychosocial needs.

Contact:
Gabriel Dumont Technical Institute
48th-12th Street East
Prince Albert, SK S6V 1B2
Phone: (306) 657-2254 Fax: (306) 242-0002
Web site: www.gdins.org

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**BLUE QUILLS FIRST NATIONS COLLEGE, St. Paul, AB**

- Social Work Diploma (two years)
- Bachelor of Social Work Access Program (one year)

Programs at Blue Quills incorporate the concepts of *Nehiyaw Mamtonecihkan* (Indian thought) and *Monyiyaw Mamtonecihkan* (white academic thought).
Blue Quills offers a Social Work Diploma program through Maskwacis Cultural College. Students are educated in Cree language and culture, social work theory, counselling intervention, and advocacy. Courses are transferable to the University of Calgary for equal credit.

The College’s Bachelor of Social Work Access Program is targeted to First Nations and Métis from remote, rural communities outside Calgary, Edmonton and Lethbridge. Four themes make up the program: generalist practice in context; communication and information; diversity and oppression; and social work methods. All courses are culturally sensitive to rural and Aboriginal issues. Students may take a practicum placement in their own community with a flexible schedule.

Contact:
Blue Quills First Nations College
Box 279
St. Paul, AB T0A 3A0
Phone: 1-888-645-4455 Fax: (780) 645-5215
E-mail: registrar@bluequills.ca
Web site: www.bluequills.ca

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NECHI TRAINING, RESEARCH AND HEALTH PROMOTION INSTITUTE, Edmonton, AB

- Aboriginal Addictions Services Worker (five 6.5 day modules)
- Advanced Counsellor Training (five 6.5 day modules)
- Community Addictions Training (eight 5.5 day modules)
- Community Wellness Worker (10 6.5 day modules)
- Native Addictions Services (nine 6.5 day modules plus 240-hour practicum)
- Workshops in: Adult Children of Alcoholics, Gambling Treatment and Recovery Issues, and Family Violence (one day)

The Aboriginal Addictions Services Certificate, the Community Wellness Worker, and the Native Addictions Services Programs are accredited by Keyano College, Fort McMurray, AB.

Contact:
Nechi Training, Research, and Health Promotions Institute
Box 34007 Kingsway Mall
Edmonton, AB T5G 3G4
Phone: 1-800-459-1884
E-mail: nechi@nechi.com
Web site: www.nechi.com

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RED CROW COMMUNITY COLLEGE, Cardston, AB

- Adult Upgrading
- Arts and Science Bachelor of Social Work Degree
- University/College Entrance Preparation Program

The mission of Red Crow Community College is to provide education and training opportunities for adult Indians and non-Indian residents and employees of the Blood Reserve and surrounding areas. Programs are designed to reflect a rapidly changing world while maintaining the integrity of the Blood people.

Two programs help students to prepare for further post-secondary studies: Adult Upgrading and the University/College Entrance Preparation Program. The first is a pre-vocational training program while the second is aimed at enabling students to meet university and college admission requirements.
The College also offers a two-year general arts and science program of college and university level courses which are transferable to other institutions. Finally, a four-year Bachelor of Social Work degree is offered in conjunction with the University of Calgary.

Contact:
Red Crow Community College
PO Box 1258
Cardston, AB T0K 0K0
Phone: (403) 737-2400 Fax: (403) 737-2101
E-mail: redcrow@redcrowcollege.com
Web site: www.redcrowcollege.com

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MASKWACIS CULTURAL COLLEGE, Hobbema, AB

- Bachelor of Social Work (four years, including 2.5 years locally)

Maskwacis Cultural College provides students with the opportunity to realize self-determination as members of First Nations through the development of skills needed by First Nations communities. All programs allow students to learn both life skills (employment-related) and living skills (identity and culture-related) in a cultural environment.

The College offers a two-year Bachelor of Social Work (B.S.W.) that provides students with many skills and abilities within a cultural environment. Students will learn social work theory, interviewing/counselling methods, personal growth, research techniques, crisis intervention and prevention, social issues, and Cree culture and language. As the degree is four years in total, students can take 2.5 years at Maskwachees College and the final two years at the University of Calgary or at Hobbema through the University of Calgary’s Access Program.

Contact:
Maskwachees Cultural College
Box 360
Hobbema, AB T0C 1N0
Phone: (780) 585-3925 or 1-866-585-3925 Fax: (780) 585-2080
E-mail: mcc@wtc.ab.ca

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NICOLA VALLEY INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, Merritt, BC

- College Readiness (one year)
- Bachelor of Social Work (four years)

The Nicola Valley Institute of Technology is an Aboriginal-governed post-secondary educational institute. More than 90 per cent of the 227-member student body is First Nations. Courses promote traditional ways and some credits may be transferred to University of British Columbia, Simon Fraser, the University of Northern British Colombia, and many of the province’s community colleges.

The College Readiness program is designed to help adults obtain the prerequisites for Nicola Valley Institute of Technology and other post-secondary courses. Many College Readiness courses are offered during evening sessions. These courses are tuition-free and can be used to qualify a student for the BC Adult Dogwood Diploma – the adult equivalent of a high school diploma.

The Bachelor of Social Work program emphasizes skills and knowledge relevant to First Nations and mainstream individuals, families and communities. The principles of the program are justice, community healing and change. Elders are involved and part-time students are welcome. In terms of admissions, preference is given to students of

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Aboriginal origin. There is an accelerated option for students already holding a bachelor’s degree. The program is offered in cooperation with the University College of the Cariboo, Kamloops.

Contact:
College Readiness Program
Nicola Institute of Technology
4155 Belshaw St.
Merritt, BC V1K 1R1
Phone: (250) 378-3318 Toll-free (BC): 1-877-682-3300 Fax: (250) 378-3332
E-mail: mblanglois@nvit.bc.ca
Web site: www.nvit.bc.ca

Social Work Program:
Nicola Institute of Technology
4155 Belshaw St.
Merritt, BC V1K 1R1
E-mail: bbannerm@nvit.bc.ca
Phone: (250) 378-3319 Toll-free (BC): 1-877-682-3300 Fax: (250) 378-3332

INSTITUTE OF INDIGENOUS GOVERNMENT (IIG), Vancouver, BC

- Associate of Science Degree (two years)

IIG is an accredited, Indigenous-controlled, post-secondary institute dedicated to empowering Indigenous people through education. It was established in 1991 by the Union of British Columbia Indian Chiefs.

Through an agreement with Kwantlen University College, IIG offers a program leading to an Associate Degree in Science. Aboriginal philosophy and teachings are integral to the program. There is an emphasis on the responsible use of science and technology to address community concerns. This program also serves as the first two years of a bachelor’s degree in science at UBC, the University of Victoria, Simon Fraser University, University of Northern British Columbia, and most degree-granting institutions elsewhere.

Contact:
Institute of Indigenous Government
342 Water St., 3rd Floor
Vancouver, BC V6B 1B6
Phone: (604) 602-9555 Fax: (604) 602-3400
E-mail: iig@indigenous.ca
Web site: www.indigenous.ca

THE NATIVE EDUCATION CENTRE (NEC), Vancouver, BC

- Aboriginal Adult Basic Education (varies to meet the student’s needs)
- Aboriginal Land Stewardship (two year)

The NEC was established in 1967 in response to the migration of Aboriginal people from reserves and remote communities to the Vancouver area. All programs are based on these practices: respecting traditional knowledge; teaching First Nations spiritual and cultural values; and addressing the needs of First Nations communities.

The Aboriginal Adult Basic Education program includes courses that are transferable to colleges and universities. It consists of four levels; students enter the level that matches their skills. There is no tuition for this program.
The Aboriginal Land Stewardship program is not obviously a health career-related program, but it is included here since Aboriginal health depends at least partly on the relationship to the land. This program integrates traditional and contemporary approaches to land and resource management. Teaching methods emphasize the value of oral tradition, hands-on experience, and a spiritual understanding of the environment. NEC delivers the core courses. Electives are taken at local colleges, universities, or through distance education.

Contact:
The Native Education Centre
285 East 5th Ave.
Vancouver, BC V5T 1H2
Phone: (604) 873-3761
E-mail: admissions@necvancouver.org
Web site: www.necvancouver.org

FOUR QUARTERS INSTITUTE, Vancouver, BC

- Residential School Healing Facilitator Training (50 weeks)

Students enrolled in the Residential School Healing Facilitator Training program learn grief counselling, addictions, sexual abuse and family violence. After graduation, the practicum provides the first part of a three-year supervised work experience.

Like others at Four Quarters, this program is based on Indigenous principles and the Medicine Wheel. Students are taught many values including respect, harmony, independence, openness, strength, honesty and trust. High school graduates and mature students are eligible for admission into the program.

Contact:
Four Quarters Institute
Suite 209, 175 East Broadway
Vancouver, BC V5T 1W2
Phone: (604) 709-3600 Fax: (604) 709-3550
E-mail: fourqtrs@istar.ca

THE SAL’I’SHAN INSTITUTE, Chilliwack, BC

- Addiction Counsellor Training Program (six block courses, three weeks each)
- Community Health Worker (six block courses, three weeks each)

The Addiction Counsellor is a training program that teaches students about holistic health and normative behaviour, community health education, counsellor intervention, and other topics. Students enrolled in the Community Health Worker program also take a wide range of courses including major illnesses, personal growth and role helpers, as well as individual and family change.

Both programs are also offered at Naramata Centre of Continuing Education, which is located in Naramata, BC. The availability of these programs depends on the number of applicants. The Sal’i’shan Institute is registered, but not an accredited post-secondary institute.

Contact:
Sal’i’shan Institute
800 Wellington Ave.
PO Box 242
Chilliwack, BC V2P 6J1
Aboriginal-Specific Programs in Non-Aboriginal Institutes

**TOQEA’TU’KL KJIJITAQNN/INTEGRATIVE SCIENCE**
University College of Cape Breton, Cape Breton, NS

This four-year Bachelor of Science (Community Studies) program integrates modern western science and Mi’kmaq science and culture. The required courses include: Sense of Place, Emergence and Participation; Ways of Knowing: Cycles and Holism; and Wholeness; as well as courses in chemistry, math, physics, environment, environmental health, and geology.

Contact:
Mi’kmaq College Institute
PO Box 5300
1250 Grand Lake Rd.
Sydney, Cape Breton, NS B1M 1A2
Phone: 1-888-959-9995 Fax: (902) 562-0119
E-mail: Eleanor_Bernard@uccb.ca
Web site: www.uccb.ns.ca

**CERTIFIED HEALTH CARE AIDE**
New Brunswick Community College, Woodstock, NB

The New Brunswick Community College has delivered this certified six-month program with transferable credits to the Maliseet First Nation of Tobique. The college worked with the Maliseet First Nation-Tobique First Nation Wellness Centre to adapt the curriculum to make learning relevant to the students. Medicine Wheel teachings and alternative medicines were taught, along with core subjects. The course was available to people holding a general education diploma (GED) or those willing to upgrade and obtain one. Students must also agree to periodic drug testing. This course is not currently offered but may be offered, in future at this and other sites.

Contact:
New Brunswick Community College
100 Broadway St.
Woodstock, NB E7M 5C5
Phone: (506) 325-3914 Fax: (506) 328-8426
Web site: www.nbcc.nb.ca

**SOCIAL SERVICES AND GERONTOLOGY**
Cégep de Sept-Îles, QC

The Cégep offers a three-month program leading to a certificate in Social Services and Gerontology. Studies are full-time and in French. This and other programs are planned with the involvement of the Aboriginal community.

Contact:
Cégep de Sept-Îles
175, rue De La Vérendrye
FAMILY VIOLENCE INTERVENTION
Cégep de Sept-Îles, QC

This full-time, two-month program is offered to French-speaking Aboriginal people according to the community’s needs. It leads to a Certificate in Family Violence Intervention.

Contact:
Cégep de Sept-Îles
175, rue De La Vérendrye
Sept-Îles, QC G4R 5B7
Phone: (418) 962-9848 ext. 257 or ext. 298 Fax: (418) 962-2458
Web site: www.cegep-sept-iles.qc.ca/Kuei/

FIRST AID TRAINING
Cégep Abitibi-Témiscamingue, Rouyn-Noranda, QC

Advanced First Aid Program is a 45-hour credit course that can be offered in French or English to communities. It is the official training program recognized by Quebec’s Ministry of Health. This course was given to the Cree community of Mistassini five years ago and was very successful.

At a lower level, Sept-Îles offers a General First Aid, also in the two languages. Four years ago, the Cégep delivered this course to the Cree community of Nemaska.

Contact:
Project Head: Health, Security, Care
425, boul. Du College
Rouyn-Noranda, QC J9X 5E5
Phone: (819) 762-0931 ext. 1221 Cell: (819) 763-7582 Fax: (819) 762-8311
Web site: www.cegepat/soinsecurg

OFF-CAMPUS ABORIGINAL SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM
Carleton University, Ottawa, ON

This is a degree in Social Work (BSW Honours), offered in Aboriginal communities in partnership with First Nations Technical Institute in Tyendinaga, Ont.; Io Ha Hi:io Adult Education Centre in Akwesasne, Ont./Que.; Seven Generations Education Authority (Rain Lake) in Fort Frances, Ont.; and Moose Cree Education Authority in Moose Factory, Ont.

The program can be offered full-time or part-time depending on the community’s needs. Currently it is offered on a part-time basis only. Students enrolled part-time must attend a minimum of three weekends over a six-week period in order to receive a half-credit. For a full credit, students must attend a minimum of six weekends during a twelve-week period.

Contact:
Carleton University
School of Social Work
DRUG AND ALCOHOL COUNSELLOR
Fleming College, Peterborough, ON

This is a two-year program with a focus on abnormal psychology, addictions counselling and community development. Students are also required to do a work placement, which can be taken in many places across the province of Ontario.

Aboriginal students are encouraged to enroll in this program, as there is a need for addictions counsellors in First Nations communities. Upon graduation students are eligible to apply for a four-year degree in the same field at the University of Lethbridge.

Contact:
Fleming College
Brealey Building
599 Brealey Drive,
Peterborough ON K9J 7B1
Phone: (705) 749-5530 Fax: (705) 749-5540
Web site: www.flemingc.on.ca

INDIGENOUS ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES PROGRAM
Trent University, Peterborough, ON

The Indigenous Environmental Studies program is not obviously a health career-related program, but it is included here since Aboriginal health depends at least partly on the relationship to the land. This program provides an interdisciplinary approach to environmental issues affecting Aboriginal communities. It blends Indigenous and western perspectives and is mainly intended for students of Aboriginal ancestry. The program leads to a diploma after two years, with credits transferable to Trent’s bachelor degree programs.

Alternatively, students may elect to complete an Emphasis in Indigenous Environmental Studies as part of their degree program. The Emphasis is designed to provide students with a theoretical and practical framework for working on environmental and natural resources issues involving Aboriginal Peoples.

The director of the program is an Indigenous person.

Contact:
Indigenous Environmental Studies
Department of Native Studies
1600 West Bank Dr.
Trent University
Peterborough, ON K9J 7B8
Phone: (705) 748-1011, ext. 5044 Fax: (705) 748-1416
E-mail: les Simpson@trentu.ca
Web site: www.trentu.ca/nativestudies/programs
NATIVE COMMUNITY CARE – COUNSELLING AND DEVELOPMENT
Mohawk College, Brantford, ON

The Brantford Campus of Mohawk College is home to this two-year diploma program. The course was developed through extensive consultations with Native community workers and reflects “the realities of Native communities today.” The distance education mode of delivery is offered every other year; this mode includes five weeks of in-class sessions per semester. Graduates may work as Community Health Representatives, employment counsellors, or in other community support roles. The college gives preference to First Nations people applying to the program. Graduates of this program may continue their studies at Wilfred Laurier University at Brantford and Waterloo, Ont.

Contact:
Mohawk College
411 Elgin St.
Brantford, ON N3T 5V2
Phone: (519) 759-7200 Fax: (519) 758-6043
E-mail: maraclec@mohawk.on.ca
Web site: www.mohawk.on.ca

TSI NON:WE IONNAKERATSHA ONO:GRAHSTA’ ABORIGINAL MIDWIFERY PROGRAM
Maternal and Child Centre, Hagersville, ON

The Aboriginal Midwifery Training Program – Tsi Non:we Ionnakeratsha Ono:grahsta’ - is offered to members of Six Nations and other Aboriginal students. Students must have a high school diploma and be at least 21 years old.

The program is three years and includes both practical midwifery clinical experience and traditional teachings. Students take five 16-week clinical placements throughout the course. After the first term most of the course load will be clinical placements. During the program students will learn traditional teachings, anatomy and physiology, reproductive physiology, and the social and cultural dimensions of Indigenous health.

Contact:
Tsi Non:we Ionnakeratsha Ono:grahsta’
Aboriginal Midwifery Training Programme
c/o Maternal and Child Centre
R.R. 6
1350 Second Line
Hagersville, ON N0A 1H0
Phone: (519) 445-4922 Fax: (519) 445-4032

NATIVE COMMUNITY WORKER—TRADITIONAL ABORIGINAL HEALING METHODS
St. Clair College, Chatham and Windsor, ON

This two-year diploma program prepares students to work as Community Health Representatives or work elsewhere in the field of Aboriginal mental health. One of its goals is to develop an appreciation of Native culture and to enable Aboriginal students to explore their heritage. There is an emphasis on learning skills in the use of traditional healing methods and traditional ways of approaching problems. An Aboriginal
counsellor is available to support the students in the program. The program is offered full-time and part-time at both the Thames and Windsor campuses of St. Clair College.

Contact:
St. Clair College
2000 Talbot Rd. West
Windsor, ON N9A 6S4
Phone for Thames Campus: (519) 354-9100
Phone for Windsor Campus: (519) 966-1656
Web site: www.stclaire.on.ca

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NATIVE EDUCATION – COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
Georgian College, Barrie, ON

This two-year co-op diploma program is focused on the planning, development, administration, and evaluation of social and health services in Native communities. Graduates will be qualified for entry-level and administrative support staff positions. The program includes awareness of the student’s own identity and wellness journey; communications effectiveness; sensitivity towards cultural diversity, ethical professional practice, etc.

Contact:
Georgian College
1 Georgian Dr.
Barrie, ON L4M 3X9
Phone: (705) 728-1968 ext. 1317 Fax: (705) 722-5123
E-mail: bcharles@georgianc.on.ca
Web site: www.georgianc.on.ca

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INDIGENOUS WELLNESS AND ADDICTIONS PREVENTION (IWAP)
Canadore College, North Bay, ON

Graduates of the one-year program receive an IWAP certificate, while graduates of the two-year receive an IWAP diploma. During the program, students take part in Sacred Circles and sweetgrass smudgings. The four sacred medicines are used so that students can learn how to approach healing through traditional methods.

Contact:
Aboriginal Learning Unit
Canadore College
PO Box 5001, 100 College Dr.
North Bay, ON P1B 8K9
Phone: (705) 474-7601 ext.5820
E-mail: alu@canadorec.on.ca
Web site: www.canadorec.on.ca/services/alu

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NATIVE CHILD AND FAMILY WORKER
Sault College of Applied Arts and Technology, Sault Ste. Marie, ON

This two-year program prepares students for employment in community and family health services. Students learn psychology, sociology and other disciplines from an Aboriginal perspective. A community placement is offered in the fourth semester. Ojibway language courses are part of the program.
Sault College has articulation agreements with Algoma University and Laurentian University; students gain advanced standing for entrance to Lake Superior University’s Human Services program.

Contact:
Sault College of Applied Arts and Technology
443 Northern Ave.
Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A 5L3
Phone: (705) 759-2554 ext. 483
E-mail: Lisa.piotrowski@saultc.on.ca

NATIVE ADDICTION COUNSELLOR
Sault College of Applied Arts and Technology, Sault Ste. Marie, ON

This two-year diploma program prepares students to work in Native and non-Native services with a focus on chemical and gambling dependencies. Psychology, sociology and other disciplines are explored through an Aboriginal perspective. Graduates may obtain a second specialization in Child and Family Worker with an additional year of study.

Sault College has credit transfers with Algoma University and Laurentian University; students gain advanced standing for entrance to Lake Superior University’s Human Services program.

Contact:
Sault College of Applied Arts and Technology
443 Northern Ave.
Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A 5L3
Phone: (705) 759-2554 ext. 483
E-mail: Lisa.piotrowski@saultc.on.ca

NATIVE COMMUNITY WORKER – HEALING AND WELLNESS – ANISHNABEK STUDIES
Cambrian College of Applied Arts and Technology, Sudbury, ON

This is a four-semester diploma program aimed at those interested in an integrated approach to community healing, especially the reduction of family violence. Students are trained in the identification of individual, family and community needs, as well as in counselling. Ojibway and Cree language courses are included in the course schedule.

Contact:
Cambrian College of Applied Arts and Technology
1400 Barrydowne Rd.
Sudbury, ON P3A 3V8
Phone: (705) 566-8101 Toll-free (ON): 1-800-461-7145
E-mail: aei@anishnabek.ca
Web site: www.cambrianc.on.ca

NATIVE COMMUNITY CARE COUNSELLING – ANISHNABEK
Cambrian College of Applied Arts and Technology, Sudbury, ON
This four-semester diploma program is designed for people who wish to work as community health representatives, Native addictions workers or mental health workers. It prepares students to work in band-operated programs as well as in urban settings.

Contact:
Cambrian College of Applied Arts and Technology
1400 Barrydowne Rd.
Sudbury, ON P3A 3V8
Phone: (705) 566-8101 Toll-free (ON): 1-800-461-7145
E-mail: ae@anishnabek.ca
Web site: www.cambrianc.on.ca

NATIVE CHILD AND FAMILY WORKER – ANISHNABE STUDIES
Cambrian College of Applied Arts and Technology, Sudbury, ON

This five-semester program is designed for students who wish to work in the human services field as counsellors or in other support positions. The focus is on Child and Family Services in Native families and communities. The third and fifth semesters of the program are field placements.

Contact:
Cambrian College of Applied Arts and Technology
1400 Barrydowne Rd.
Sudbury, ON P3A 3V8
Phone: (705) 566-8101 Toll-free (ON): 1-800-461-7145
E-mail: mjra@cambriance.on.ca
Web site: www.cambrianc.on.ca

ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY SERVICES WORKER
Confederation College, Thunder Bay, ON

This is a two-year diploma program designed in partnership with Nishnawbe-Aski Nation representing 50 Aboriginal communities in Northern Ontario. The program is aimed at those working as community health representatives, addictions workers, mental health workers, etc. The program is delivered in modules consisting of two three-week courses each semester at the Thunder Bay campus; thus, students do not have to relocate to the city to complete the program and can remain in their employment. (The next planned intake for this course is fall 2003.)

Contact:
Confederation College
1450 Natina Dr.
PO Box 398
Thunder Bay, ON P7C 4W1
Phone: (705) 475-6106
E-mail: liason@confederationc.on.ca
Web site: www.confederationc.on.ca

INDIGENOUS WELLNESS AND ADDICTIONS PREVENTION
Confederation College, Thunder Bay, ON

This four-semester diploma program prepares students to help create and deliver community wellness programs and offer support to communities with intergenerational difficulties arising from historical
oppression and colonialism. The emphasis is on holistic healing approaches. (The program was formerly known as Native Mental Health Worker.)

Contact:
Confederation College
1450 Natina Dr.
PO Box 398
Thunder Bay, ON P7C 4W1
Phone: (705) 475-6106
E-mail: liason@confederationc.on.ca
Web site: www.confederationc.on.ca

NATIVE CHILD AND FAMILY WORKER
Confederation College, Thunder Bay, ON

This three-semester diploma program trains students to work with Aboriginal children, adolescents and their families as front-line workers or in middle-management positions. Prevention and rehabilitation are both emphasized.

Contact:
Confederation College
1450 Natina Dr.
PO Box 398
Thunder Bay, ON P7C 4W1
Phone: (705) 475-6106
E-mail: liason@confederationc.on.ca
Web site: www.confederationc.on.ca

ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
Assiniboine College, Brandon, MB

This two-year diploma program focuses on social and economic development in Aboriginal communities. Students specializing in social development will study family systems, abuse, addictions, and counseling.

Contact:
Assiniboine College
1430 Victoria Ave. East
Brandon, MB R7A 2A9
Phone: 1-800-862-6307
E-mail: info@assiniboine.net
Web site: www.assiniboinec.mb.ca

COMMUNITY SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
Assiniboine College, Brandon, MB

This is a 10-month certificate program focusing on First Nations and Métis issues. Upon completion, students may continue their studies in the Aboriginal Community Development diploma program listed above.

Contact:
Assiniboine College
ABORIGINAL FOCUS PROGRAMS
University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB

The University of Manitoba’s Aboriginal Focus Programs offer certificate, diploma and degree courses to adult students wishing to continue their education. This program is offered in partnership with Indigenous Peoples and incorporates Indigenous world views.

The Child Sexual Abuse Intervention and Treatment Certificate program gives students specialized counselling skills to help them deal with the trauma of child sexual abuse. Students enrolled in this course, must take 380 hours worth of courses, i.e. 15 courses including credits. In order to be eligible to take this course students must have already completed a practitioner level counselling skills training program. Also, students must be employed within a social services position or volunteer in a similar placement.

The Counselling Skills Certificate program has been created to provide culturally-appropriate counselling to Aboriginal communities. Students enrolled in this course must take 300 hours of classroom for 10 30-hour courses.

This one-year program is offered in 10 five-day modules. Students graduating with a C+ average may be eligible to transfer credit to the University of Manitoba’s Faculty of Social Work. Students may also transfer credit to the Brandon University First Nations and Aboriginal Counselling Degree Program. Students wishing to take this course must already be employed within a social services position.

Contact:
Aboriginal Focus Programs
University of Manitoba
Winnipeg, MB R3T 2N2
Phone: (204) 474-8039 Toll-free: 1-888-216-7011 ext. 8039
E-mail: awild@ms.umanitoba.ca
Web site: www.umanitoba.ca/coned/afp/

FIRST NATIONS AND ABORIGINAL COUNSELLING PROGRAM
Brandon University, Brandon, MB

This degree program takes four years, although accelerated completion in two years is an option for those students already holding a degree. Students of all ethnic backgrounds are welcome to the program, which emphasizes Aboriginal holistic approaches to counselling, healing and community. The program’s steering committee includes Elders and representatives from First Nations communities as well as academics and counsellors.

Contact:
Brandon University
270 18th St.
Brandon, MB R7A 6A9
Phone: (204) 727-9784 Fax: (204) 725-2143
E-mail: graveline@brandonu.ca
Web site: www.branconu.ca
Upon graduation, students are eligible to enroll into the Bachelor of Social Work program offered at the University of Calgary. It provides a cultural perspective and knowledge of health career options and consists of courses in biology, chemistry, math, physics, psychology, Indian language and Indian health. Offered by the Faculty of Science, the program leads to a Certificate in Indian Health Studies.

Contact:
General Enquiries
Faculty of Science
Rm. 237, Laboratory Building
3737 Wascana Pkwy
Regina, SK S4S 0A2
Phone: (306) 585-4199
Web site: www.uregina.ca/science

ABORIGINAL CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES (TWO YEARS)
Keyano College, Fort McMurray, AB

This two-year program prepares students for entry into professional health and related post-secondary studies. With the diploma, students may be eligible to enroll in the Bachelor of Humanities, to be offered in 2005. Applicants need Grade 12 English or equivalent and Grade 10 Math for this program. Students are encouraged to attend the pre-training program to obtain the First Aid requirement and do other preparations.

Contact:
Keyano College
8115 Franklin Ave.
Fort McMurray, AB T9H 2H7
Phone: (780) 791-4800 Toll-free 1-800-251-1408 Fax: (780) 791-1555
E-mail: Charles.Martin@keyano.ca
Web site: www.keyano.ca

ABORIGINAL CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES (ONE YEAR)
Keyano College, Fort McMurray, AB

This one-year certificate program is offered in partnership with the Little Shuswap Indian Band of Chase, B.C. Students may complete another year to receive a diploma in Aboriginal Child and Family Services. With the diploma, students may be eligible to enroll in the Bachelor of Humanities, to be offered in 2005. In addition, students may transfer credit to Athabasca University in Alberta or Brandon University in Manitoba.

Applicants need Grade 12 English or equivalent and Grade 10 Math for this program. Students are encouraged to attend the pre-training program to obtain the First Aid requirement and do other preparations.

Contact:
Keyano College
8115 Franklin Ave.
Fort McMurray, AB T9H 2H7
Phone: (780) 791-4800 Toll-free 1-800-251-1408 Fax: (780) 791-1555
E-mail: Charles.Martin@keyano.ca
Web site: www.keyano.ca
FIRST NATIONS FAMILY SUPPORT WORKER
Camosun College, Victoria, BC

This 10-month certificate program is open only to people with First Nations ancestry (including Status, non-status, Métis, Inuit and Native American). Classes are held at the college’s Lansdowne campus and at the all-Aboriginal Saanich Adult Education Centre. Graduates can receive transfer credit to the University of Victoria’s Child and Youth Care and Social Work degree programs, as well as to Camosun’s Community Support Worker program.

Contact:
Admissions/Registration
Lansdowne Campus
3100 Foul Bay Rd.
Victoria, BC V8P 5J2
Phone: (250) 370-3596
E-mail: admissions@camosun.bc.ca
Web site: www.camosun.bc.ca

ABORIGINAL DIPLOMA IN CHILD AND YOUTH CARE,
University of Victoria, Victoria, BC

This two-year program is developed in partnership with participating First Nations. It is community-based with an intergenerational focus involving Elders, and allows students to qualify for Early Childhood Certification in British Columbia and Saskatchewan. Since 1989, it has been offered in eight First Nations, although Métis, Inuit and international communities are also invited to participate. (See Section 7 for a complete discussion.)

See also the College Readiness Program at the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology in the next subsection on Access and Transition Year Programs.

Contact:
First Nations Partnership Programs
School of Child and Youth Care
PO Box 1700, Stn. CSC
Victoria, BC V8W 2Y2
Phone: (250) 721-7978 Fax: (250) 721-7218
E-mail: fnpp@uvic.ca
Web site: www.fnpp.org

Note: The following programs are of interest to Aboriginal people given that they focus on areas of interest to many Aboriginal communities and are delivered in a region with a large Aboriginal population:

Contact:
Keyano College
8115 Franklin Avenue
Fort McMurray, AB T9H 2H7
Phone: (780) 791-4800 Toll-free 1-800-251-1408 Fax: (780) 791-1555
E-mail: Charles.Martin@keyano.ca
Web site: www.keyano.ca

FIRST NATIONS Community Support Worker program.
This program is open only to people with First Nations ancestry (including Status, non-status, Métis, Inuit and Native American). Classes are held at the college’s Lansdowne campus and at the all-Aboriginal Saanich Adult Education Centre. Graduates can receive transfer credit to the University of Victoria’s Child and Youth Care and Social Work degree programs, as well as to Camosun’s Community Support Worker program.

Contact:
Admissions/Registration
Lansdowne Campus
3100 Foul Bay Rd.
Victoria, BC V8P 5J2
Phone: (250) 370-3596
E-mail: admissions@camosun.bc.ca
Web site: www.camosun.bc.ca

ABORIGINAL DIPLOMA IN CHILD AND YOUTH CARE,
University of Victoria, Victoria, BC

This two-year program is developed in partnership with participating First Nations. It is community-based with an intergenerational focus involving Elders, and allows students to qualify for Early Childhood Certification in British Columbia and Saskatchewan. Since 1989, it has been offered in eight First Nations, although Métis, Inuit and international communities are also invited to participate. (See Section 7 for a complete discussion.)

See also the College Readiness Program at the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology in the next subsection on Access and Transition Year Programs.

Contact:
First Nations Partnership Programs
School of Child and Youth Care
PO Box 1700, Stn. CSC
Victoria, BC V8W 2Y2
Phone: (250) 721-7978 Fax: (250) 721-7218
E-mail: fnpp@uvic.ca
Web site: www.fnpp.org

Note: The following programs are of interest to Aboriginal people given that they focus on areas of interest to many Aboriginal communities and are delivered in a region with a large Aboriginal population:
BACCALAUREATE OR DIPLOMA IN HEALTH SCIENCES
Medicine Hat College and University of Lethbridge, AB

The Diploma in Health Sciences is a three-year diploma in Addictions Counselling at Medicine Hat College. Students who wish to receive a Bachelor’s degree can complete the diploma in two years and then attend the University of Lethbridge to complete the degree. Students enrolled in this program will learn about issues such as substance abuse, gambling and eating or sexual disorders.

Contact:
Medicine Hat College
299 College Dr. SE
Medicine Hat, AB T1A 3Y6
Phone: (403) 529-3813
E-mail: info@mhc.ab.ca
Web site: www.mhc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/UT/Addictions.htm

FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDER PROGRAM
Lethbridge Community College, Lethbridge, AB

This 22-week program teaches students about the effects of exposure to drugs and alcohol and prepares them to work with people who have suffered irreversible brain damage. Students have to complete a 200-hour practical course in which they will be working with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder clients and support agencies. Upon graduation, students will receive a Credential of Academic Achievement attesting to their training to work within a variety of different fields, including family service agencies, education systems, the criminal justice system, child and youth care facilities, social work agencies, and rehabilitation services.

Contact:
Lethbridge Community College
3000 College Dr. South
Lethbridge AB T1K 1L6
Phone: (403) 320-3200 Toll-free 1-800-572-0103
E-mail: info@lethbridgecollege.ab.ca
Web site: www.lethbridgecollege.ab.ca

Access and Transition Program in Non-Aboriginal Institutes

HEALTH CAREERS ACCESS PROGRAM
Nunavut Arctic College, Iqaluit, NU

This eight-month program allows students to prepare for study in a health-related field such as nursing. It is open to people with a grade 10 diploma or equivalent and consists of courses in English, math, science and health careers.

Nunavut Arctic College also offers some adult upgrading and transition programs called Record of Achievement (ROA) at community learning centres. Lack of funding cancelled adult upgrading/academic studies in Iqaluit. The territorial student assistance program now funds only certificate and diploma programs.
Contact:
The Registrar
Nunatta Campus
Nunavut Arctic College
Box 600
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0
Phone: 1-866-979-7222 Fax: (867) 979-4579
E-mail: nunatta@nac.nu.ca
Web site: www.nac.nu.ca/programs/nursing

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF CAPE BRETON (UCCB)
Sydney, NS

Elmitek, also known as UCCB Access Program, is a one-year post-secondary program for Mi’kmaq students who want to make the transition into university studies.

Contact:
Mi’kmaq College Institute
PO Box 5300
1250 Grand Lake Rd.
Sydney, Cape Breton, NS B1M 1A2
Phone: 1-888-959-9995 Fax: (902) 562-0119
E-mail: Eleanor_Bernard@uccb.ca
Web site: www.uccb.ns.ca

TRANSITION YEAR PROGRAM
Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS

This is a one-year program for Aboriginal students who do not meet the regular requirements for university admission. Applicants ages 23 and older are especially encouraged to apply. Note: Métis and Non-Status Indians accepted into the program may qualify to receive a tuition waiver and bursary funding. In addition, if the Transition Year is successfully completed, continued financial assistance will become available.

Contact:
Transition Year Program
Dalhousie University
1459 LeMarchant St.
Halifax, NS B3H 3J5
Phone: (902) 494-3730
Web site: www.ayn.ca/pages/scholarships/transit.htm and www.dal.ca

ABORIGINAL BRIDGING YEAR PROGRAM,
University of New Brunswick (UNB), Fredericton, NB

The university’s Mi’Kmaq-Maliseet Institute offers this program to Aboriginal students who are not ready to enter the university’s degree programs. Students in this program must take four courses; one of these courses must be a university credit.

Contact:
INUIT PROGRAM – CEGEP ADAPTATION PROGRAM
Cegep John Abbott College, St. Anne de Bellevue, QC

The Inuit Program – Cegep Adaptation Program is one of a number of transition programs offered at John Abbott College. It allows Inuit students to adapt to CEGEP, beginning with an intensive three-week summer class that focuses on study skills and introduces them to southern, urban life.

In their first year as social science students, they take two sheltered and homogenous (Inuit only) English courses, as well as adjunct courses and study sessions linked to psychology and history. They have the option to take two Inuktitut courses, but may take French instead. The program includes opportunities that promote Inuit culture.

Contact:
Cegep John Abbott College
PO Box 2000
21275 Lakeshore Rd.
Ste. Anne de Bellevue, QC H9X 3L9
Phone: (514) 457-6610 Fax: (514) 457-4730
Web site: www.johnabbott.qc.ca

COLLEGE PREPARATION PROGRAM, KATIVIK SCHOOL BOARD POST-SECONDARY PROGRAM STUDENT SERVICES
Ste. Anne-de-Bellevue, QC

This three-week program helps Inuit students develop study skills and adjust to the college or university environment. Counselling is also available.

Contact:
Kativik School Board
Administrative Centre
2055 Oxford Ave.
Montreal, QC H4A 2X6
Phone: (514) 482-8220 Toll-free: 1-800-361-2244 Fax: (514) 482-8278
Web site: www.kativik.qc.ca

PATHWAYS FOR SCHOLASTIC DEVELOPMENT
Cégep de Sept-Îles, QC

Each semester Aboriginal students at the Cegep meet with professional services personnel to develop a success plan. Included in the plan are ideas on absenteeism, motivation, work, and intervention.
Contact:
Cégep de Sept-Îles
175, rue De La Vérendrye
Sept-Îles, QC G4R 5B7
Phone: (418) 962-9848 ext. 257 or ext. 298 Fax: (418) 962-2458
Web site: www.cegep-sept-iles.qc.ca/Kuei/

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TRANSITIONAL YEAR PROGRAM (TYP)
University of Toronto, Toronto, ON

This is a special access program for Black people, Aboriginal people and others who may have left school early because of social and economic difficulties, illness, or personal problems “mainly beyond their control.” The program is eight months and consists of academic courses developed specifically for TYP students. Students may get credits toward a University of Toronto Bachelor of Arts; they may also go on to post-secondary institutions and programs elsewhere. Aboriginal students can use the services of Aboriginal academic advisors.

Contact:
Office of Aboriginal Student Services and Programs
First Nations House
University of Toronto
563 Spadina Ave., 3rd Floor
Toronto, ON M5A 1A1
Phone: (416) 978-3570 Fax: (416) 978-1893
E-mail: TYP.info@utoronto.ca
Web site: www.utoronto.ca

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NATIVE UNIVERSITY PROGRAM – FIRST YEAR
Six Nations Polytechnic, Ohsweken, ON

This program is offered in conjunction with a consortium of five universities: Brock, Guelph, McMaster, Waterloo, and Wilfred Laurier. There are two streams: regular and science. Students who achieve an academic average of 60 per cent will gain automatic admission into second year at one of the participating universities.

Contact:
Six Nations Polytechnic
PO Box 700
Ohsweken, ON N0A 1M0
Phone: (519) 445-0023 Fax: (519) 445-4416
E-mail: learn@polytechnic.com
Web site: www.snpolytechnic.com

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NATIVE HEALTH SCIENCES
Six Nations Polytechnic, Ohsweken, ON

This one-year program is offered in co-operation with Mohawk College. It is a flexible program that allows Aboriginal students the opportunity to achieve college credits on a full- or part-time basis while attending classes at Six Nations. Courses completed with a minimum grade of 60 per cent are eligible for course
exemptions in diploma and certificate programs at Mohawk College. Graduates of the program with such a grade will gain direct entry into the Native University Program described above.

Contact:
Six Nations Polytechnic
PO Box 700
Ohsweken, ON N0A 1M0
Phone: (519) 445-0023 Fax: (519) 445-4416
E-mail: learn@polytechnic.com
Web site: www.snpolytechnic.com

**TEKARIHWAKE/TWO OPPORTUNITIES (HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICE STREAM)**
**Mohawk College, Hamilton, ON**

This is a one-year program intended to prepare students for successful participation in other programs at Mohawk College (Practical Nursing; Occupational Therapist Assistant/Physiotherapy Assistant, etc.) and elsewhere. The program incorporates Aboriginal and western perspectives.

Contact:
Mohawk College
135 Fennell Ave. W.
Hamilton, ON L8N 3T2
Phone: (905) 575-1212 Fax: (905) 575-2378
E-mail: Andersr1@mail.mohawkc.on.ca
Web site: www.mohawkc.on.ca

**NATIVE TRANSITIONS**
**Canadore College of Arts and Technology, North Bay, ON**

This program allows students to achieve the following goals: explore career options; acquire necessary prerequisites; prepare for access to some university programs; and strengthen academic, interpersonal, and learning skills. The Native Transitions stream consists of prescribed curriculum and focuses on study and organizational skills, English and writing skills, First Nations legends, and book study. The program length is one to four semesters. Students can access the cultural and social support services of the Aboriginal Learning Unit at the college.

Contact:
Aboriginal Learning Unit
Canadore College of Arts and Technology
100 College Drive
PO Box 5001
North Bay, ON P1B 8K9
Phone: (705) 474-7600 Fax: (705) 474-2384
E-mail: kerrl@canadorec.on.ca
Web site: www.canadorec.on.ca

**CUSTOMIZED LEARNING PACKAGES, ABORIGINAL LEARNING UNIT**
**Canadore College of Arts and Technology, North Bay, ON**
Canadore College offers a certificate in College Entrance Strategies (as well as continuing education, customized contract training services, and community-based post-secondary and certificate program delivery). Ideas for certificate or community-based program development are encouraged.

Contact:
Aboriginal Learning Unit
Canadore College of Arts and Technology
PO Box 5001,
100 College Dr.
North Bay, ON P1B 8K9
Phone: (705) 474-7600 Fax: (705) 474-2384
E-mail: alu@canadorec.on.ca/services/alu
Web site: www.canadore.on.ca

NATIVE ACCESS PROGRAM (GENERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES)
Lakehead University, Thunder Bay, ON

This program is designed for Aboriginal people who do not meet the criteria for regular or mature student admission. Applicants must be 21 or older and have been out of school for two or more years; they also need a recommendation from an Aboriginal organization. Upon completion of the program, students will be eligible to enter Lakehead’s first-year programs. Besides the usual academic courses, the program also includes Native access courses that help develop the students’ skills in time management, research, career planning, etc.

Contact:
Aboriginal Initiatives
Lakehead University
955 Oliver Rd.
Thunder Bay, ON P7B 5E1
Phone: (807) 343-8599 Fax: (807) 346-7757
E-mail: Nova.Lawson@lakeheadu.ca
Web site: www.lakeheadu.ca/~first nation/nap.html

ACCESS PROGRAM/SPECIAL PREMEDICAL STUDIES PROGRAM
University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB

The University of Manitoba’s Access Program facilitates degree-level studies for people who have missed out on the experience for personal and other reasons. Preference is given to Aboriginal Manitobans. Financial assistance may be available.

The Special Premedical Studies Program prepares Aboriginal Manitobans for entry to the health professions such as medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, and physiotherapy. Once a student is accepted into one of the professional health faculties, he or she joins the Professional Health Program. Financial assistance may be available.

Contact:
Aboriginal Recruitment Officer
424 University Centre
Winnipeg, MB R3T 2N2
Phone: 1-800-432-1960 ext. 9983
E-mail: admissions@umanitoba.ca
Web site: www.umanitoba.ca
COLLEGE PREPARATION FOR ABORIGINAL STUDENTS
Red River College of Applied Arts, Science and Technology, Winnipeg, MB

This program prepares Aboriginal students for further training at the college. Its length ranges from five to 10 months. This flexibility is aimed at accommodating individual student needs.

The program begins with a one-week orientation session focused on group building, studying skills, goal setting, and time management. Students take courses in math, communications, computer awareness, science, and pre-trades, and are assessed on a monthly basis. All instructors are Aboriginal and Aboriginal perspectives are integrated throughout the program. There is an emphasis on personal as well as academic needs.

Contact:
Red River College
2055 Notre Dame Ave.
Winnipeg, MB R3H 0J9
Phone: (204) 632-3960
Web site: www.rrc.mb.ca

TRANSITION YEAR PROGRAM
Keewatin Community College, The Pas, MB

This program is community-based and is targeted to Aboriginal and northern students who want to make the transition to post-secondary institutions. The affirmation of Aboriginal values, attitudes and behaviours is central to the program. The Transition Year Program is conducted in selected northern communities through an agreement between Keewatin, Inter-Universities North (IUN) and host communities. The program includes regular college and university courses as well as community and cultural involvement/awareness courses and guided study sessions.

Contact:
Keewatin Community College
Box 3000
The Pas, MB R9A 1M7
Phone: 1-866-627-8500
E-mail: admissions@keewatincc.mb.ca
Web site: www.keewatincc.mb.ca

UNIVERSITY TRANSITION COURSES
University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, SK

The College of Arts and Sciences has a summer program of about six weeks that is intended to aid Aboriginal students (only) in the transition to first-year arts and sciences courses. The program includes tutorial services, sessions on cultural and spiritual activities, conflict resolution, and campus tours. In addition, students take one of three introductory courses: First People’s Art History; Literature and Composition; and Introduction to Native Studies.

Contact:
Office of the Dean
Room 228
DESIGNATED SEATS
College of Arts and Science, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, SK

Each year, 15 departments within the College of Arts and Science reserve a number of seats for first-year Aboriginal students to take introductory courses. The purpose of this program is to help students in the transition to university studies. Students wishing to enroll in this program must ask for permission through the dean’s office. Aboriginal students have until Aug. 1 to apply for these spaces, after that time, the spaces will be open to all students.

Contact:
Office of the Dean
Room 228
Arts Tower
Faculty of Arts and Sciences
University of Saskatchewan
9 Campus Drive
Saskatoon, SK S7N 5N5
Phone: (306) 966-4754
E-mail: charlotte.ross@usask.ca
Web site: www.usask.ca

ABORIGINAL COLLEGE PREPARATION PROGRAM AND SCIENCE ACCESS PROGRAM
Mount Royal College, Calgary, AB

This program is aimed at students of Aboriginal ancestry who are preparing to pursue either a college diploma or a university degree. There are two main levels of study, depending on the student’s skills.

There is also a Science Access program for those interested in pursuing a science-related qualification. Core academic courses are supplemented by courses in Aboriginal culture and languages, and a college preparation course focusing on study skills, career exploration, and time management. Culturally-appropriate materials are incorporated into the curriculum wherever possible.

Contact:
Mount Royal College
Lincoln Park Campus
4825 Richard Rd. SW
Calgary, AB T3E 6K6
E-mail: admissions@mtroyal.ab.ca
Web site: www.mtroyal.ab.ca
TRANSITIONAL YEAR PROGRAM (TYP)
Grand Prairie Regional College, Grand Prairie, AB

The TYP is a culturally-sensitive program that allows Aboriginal people to develop their writing, study and organizational skills in preparation for further post-secondary studies. Cultural components include sweatlodges, visits with Elders and talking circles.

Contact:
Grand Prairie Regional College
10726 – 106 Ave.
Grand Prairie, AB T8V 4C4
Phone: 1-888-539-4772
Web site: www.grpc.ab.ca

ABORIGINAL UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE ENTRANCE PROGRAM (UCEP)
Concordia University, College of Alberta, Edmonton, AB

The Aboriginal UCEP Program is designed for a maximum of 44 students and lasts eight months. Courses and student events emphasize Aboriginal culture, and students have access to personal support counselling. Applicants to the program must have English and math skills at the Grade 10 level.

In 2001, Concordia’s UCEP and the University of Alberta’s Transition Year Program (TYP) for Aboriginal students embarked on a partnership aimed at developing a two-step university preparation program. The UCEP students will have increased exposure to TYP and the University through joint “pursuit of excellence” seminars. These include presentations by Aboriginal role models, peer support and mentoring with YP students, and cultural events.

Contact:
Concordia University
Aboriginal UCEP
Gold Bar Campus
10537 44 St.
Edmonton, AB T6T 1W1
Phone: (780) 413-7829 Fax: (780) 466-9394
Web site: www.ucep.concordia.ab.ca

FIRST NATIONS COLLEGE PREPARATION PROGRAM
Capilano College, North Vancouver, BC

The First Nations College Preparation program was developed in co-operation with the region’s First Nations. Its goal is to improve the participation and success rates of First Nations students making the transition to post-secondary institutions. The two-term program integrates social and educational aspects of successful college preparation.

Contact:
Capilano College
Foundation Division
Birch Building, Room 344
2055 Purcell Way
North Vancouver, BC V7J 3H5
FIRST NATIONS ACCESS TO UNIVERSITY, TRADES AND TECHNOLOGY (FNAUTT) – COLLEGE PREPARATION

University of College of the Cariboo/Secwepemc Education Institute,

This eight-month access program provides education from a First Nations perspective. It is aimed at First Nations adults with a Grade 11 or higher score on the Canadian achievement test and who want to enter university or other post-secondary programs. Academic, career and life planning courses are included in the program. All courses are accredited through the University College of the Cariboo.

Contact:
Secwepemc Education Institute
365 Yellowhead Hwy
Kamloops, BC V2H 1H1
Phone: 1-800-399-5565 Fax: (250) 828-9864
E-mail: fnaep@secwepemc.org
Web site: http://www.secwepemc.org/safe.html

FIRST NATIONS ACCESS CERTIFICATE

Yukon College, Whitehorse, YT

The First Nations Access Certificate allows students to obtain pre-requisites for vocational and technical courses, university or college programs, or to master academic skills to meet other needs. Students will be placed through the College Prep English Assessment Test and an interview. The program includes one English course and three other college prep courses.

Students complete a common Northern Studies core in the first year and a selected concentration in one of five areas: Native Studies, Northern Justice and Criminology, Northern Science, Northern Outdoor, and Environmental or General Studies in the second year.

Contact:
Yukon College
500 College Dr.
Whitehorse, YT Y1A 5K4
Phone: (867) 668-8741
E-mail: sbeairst@yukoncollege.yk.ca
Web site: www.yukoncollege.yk.ca

Professional Health Career Programs
With Aboriginal Initiatives

CHIROPRACTIC

Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College (CMCC) is the only school of its kind in Canada. It offers a four-year program, following the completion of at least three years of undergraduate study, leading to the Doctor of Chiropractic.
Although the College’s materials state that race, age, etc. are not factored in its admission policies, CMCC does have a designated tuition scholarship for Aboriginal students. This is a four-year renewable tuition scholarship for an Aboriginal student who has the highest overall admission score among the eligible applications received.

Contact:
Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College
1900 Bayview Ave.
Toronto, ON M4G 3E6
Phone: (416) 482-2340
E-mail: admissions@cmcc.ca
Web site: www.cmcc.ca

DENTISTRY AND RELATED PROGRAMS

Some, but not all, of the programs listed below have initiatives that support the admission of and successful program completion by Aboriginal people. Interestingly, all programs with such initiatives are located in universities and colleges in the prairie region.

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA, Winnipeg, MB

The University of Manitoba has a two-year diploma program in Dental Hygiene. Entry into the program follows one year of university studies.

Applicants who meet all of the academic admission requirements but are not competitive in the regular applicant category will be considered if they are of Native ancestry (or have two years experience in a related health field).

Contact:
School of Dental Hygiene
D-35, 780 Bannatyne Ave.
Winnipeg, MB R3E 0W2
Phone: (204) 789-3683
E-mail: avignes@ms.umanitoba.ca
Web site: www.umanitoba.ca

SASKATCHEWAN INDIAN FEDERATED COLLEGE

Saskatchewan Indian Federated College has a two-year program in Dental Therapy described in a previous sub-section of this report.

UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN, Saskatoon, SK

A Doctor of Dental Medicine (DMD) degree program of four years duration is available at the University of Saskatchewan, following two years of pre-dentistry studies.

There is a separate admissions category in which three places are reserved for persons of Aboriginal descent. These applicants must also meet the regular minimum requirements for admission to the college.

Contact:
Admissions
College of Dentistry
University of Saskatchewan
Room B526
Health Sciences Bldg.
107 Wiggins Rd.
Saskatoon, SK S7N 5E5
Phone: (306) 966-5119
E-mail: denistry.admissions@usask.ca
Web site: www.usask.ca/dentistry

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA, Edmonton, AB

The University of Alberta has a four-year program in dentistry leading to the Doctor of Dental Surgery degree. It also offers a Dental Hygiene Diploma and a Bachelor of Science degree with a Dental Hygiene Specialization. The two latter programs are linked; after three years, the diploma is awarded and the degree is granted if the student successfully completes a fourth year.

In each of these programs, one seat per year is set-aside for a qualified student of Aboriginal ancestry.

Contact:
Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry
2-45 Medical Sciences Bldg.
Edmonton, AB T6G 2H7
Phone: (780) 492-1319
E-mail: Eleanor.mcisaac@ualberta.ca
Web site: www.med.ualberta.ca/ugme/doctorofdentalbrochure.cfm
Also contact:
Co-ordinator of the Native Health Careers Program
Phone: (780) 492-9526
E-mail: anne-marie.hodes@ualberta.ca

UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA (UBC), Vancouver, BC

UBC has two streams for students wanting to earn the Bachelor of Dental Science (BDSc) degree. The first option, for recent high school graduates or students with less than six university credits, takes four years of full-time study. This stream leads to both the BDSc and a Diploma in Dental Hygiene. The second option is for graduates of an accredited North American Dental Hygiene Program. They may take the Dental Hygiene completion course in one year full-time or two years part-time. This program leads to a degree in Bachelor of Dental Science.

UBC also offers programs leading to: the Diploma in Periodontics, the Master of Science in Dental Science and the PhD in Dental Science.

UBC would like to increase accessibility for Aboriginal Peoples (Indian, Inuit, Métis). Therefore, if an Aboriginal student with a 67 per cent average would like to enter into a first year program, he or she is encouraged to apply to the university programs. The application will be considered on an individual basis by the faculty and a representative from the First Nations House of Learning. The student will also have to show the University two letters of reference highlighting the students potential for academic success.

Contact:
Admissions and Student Affairs
Faculty of Dentistry
The University of British Columbia
278 - 2199 Wesbrook Mall
Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z3
Phone: (604) 822-8063 Fax: (604) 822-8279
E-mail: fodadms@interchange.ubc.ca
Web site: www.ubc.ca
**DIETETICS**

Note that the terms Registered Dietitian (RD) and Professional Dietitian (PD) are protected by law through legislation in each province so that only qualified practitioners can use these titles. The term Nutritionist is not protected by law in all provinces.

The Dietitians of Canada has more than 20 networks, including the Aboriginal Nutrition Network for dietitians and nutritionists working in Aboriginal communities or those with an interest in Aboriginal nutrition. Services of the Network include an annual meeting, membership roster for networking, online discussion group, and two newsletters per year.

**UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN, Saskatoon, SK**

This college offers a four-year Bachelor of Science in Nutrition. It reserves two equity spaces for Aboriginal students from Saskatchewan and one space for an applicant with special circumstances. The program has a work experience component: a 36-week professional practice course is taken in the fourth year of the program and offers work experience at health districts and tribal councils.

Contact:
College of Pharmacy and Nutrition  
University of Saskatchewan  
Rm. 116 Thorvaldson Building  
110 Science Pl.  
University of Saskatchewan  
Saskatoon, SK S7N 5C9  
Phone: (306) 966 5836/5826 Fax: (306) 966 6377  
E-mail: berenbaum@sask.usask.ca  
Web site: www.usask.ca/pharmacy-nutrition/undergradprograms/bscnutrition.shtml

**MEDICINE**

Canada’s Faculties of Medicine trains physicians to provide primary health care for Canadians. The need for Aboriginal physicians is great with the ratio at one Aboriginal physician for every 33,000 Aboriginal people (the ratio is 1:115 for the non-Aboriginal population). Many of the country’s Aboriginal physicians are members of Canadian Aboriginal Leaders in Medicine, which has an annual gathering.

Faculties of Medicine are very hierarchal, with considerable power accruing to the Dean. Therefore, it is useful to have a dean onside in lobbying for set-aside seats or other initiatives.

**QUEENS UNIVERSITY, Kingston, ON**

Queens University has recently decided to set aside four positions for qualified Aboriginal people to apply through an alternate method. Aboriginal students must submit an application to the Chairperson of the Admissions Committee, stating their Aboriginal ancestry, academic and personal background, and interest in medicine. Students should also include a letter from a First Nations community member or organization, showing support for the student’s desire to enter medical school. A panel of representatives, including people from the Admissions Committee and Aboriginal communities will review the applicants’ information.

Contact:  
School of Medicine  
Queens University  
Kingston, ON K7L 3N6
UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA, Ottawa, ON

This undergraduate, four-year program offers students training to acquire skills for prevention and management of severe health problems. Students will receive training in ambulatory, primary, secondary and tertiary settings. The grade-point average set for admissions will vary depending on order of priority. The order is: Franco-Ontarians, Aboriginal students, residents of under-serviced areas, bona fide residents of the Ottawa-Outaouais region, those of the province of Ontario, then those from other provinces.

Contact:
Faculty of Medicine
Ottawa University
Phone: (613) 562-5459 or (613) 562-5800 ext. 8202
Fax: (613) 562-5452
E-mail: kdimock@uottawa.ca
Web site: www.medicine.ottawau.ca

MCMASTER UNIVERSITY, Hamilton, ON

McMaster University offers a three-year intensive program leading to the doctor of medicine degree. The university has just adopted a new policy for the admission of Aboriginal students to the undergraduate program in medicine. Aboriginal applicants will meet the regular admission requirements with modifications:

- The autobiographical statement will be evaluated by an Aboriginal Admissions Subcommittee
- The subcommittee will interview Aboriginal students
- The Aboriginal Admissions Subcommittee will participate in the final decision on admission

Contact:
MD Admissions Office
McMaster University, HSC 1M7
1200 Main St. W.
Hamilton, ON L8N 3Z5
Phone: (905) 525-9140 ext. 22235 Fax: (905) 546-0349
E-mail: mdadmit@mcmaster.ca
Web site: www.fhs.mcmaster.ca/mdprog/

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO, Toronto, ON

The four-year program consists of preclerkship in the first and second year, followed by two years of clerkship training. Five positions each year may be made available to Aboriginal applicants.

Contact:
Associate Dean, Undergraduate Medical Education
MSB 2111
The Medical Science Building,
1 Kings College Circle, Room 2124
University of Toronto,
Toronto, ON M5S 1A8
Phone: (416) 978-4934 Fax: (416) 978-4194
E-mail: rick.frecker@utoronto.ca
Web site: www.library.utoronto.ca/medicine
UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA, Winnipeg, MB

People from the Native populations of Manitoba or those sponsored by the University of Manitoba Access Program (listed previously) are eligible to apply for admission in the special consideration category. (This category also includes members of the armed forces and people who already work in other health professions.) In 2001, eight out of 35 applicants to the special consideration category were admitted to the Faculty of Medicine.

The University of Manitoba has a Special Premedical Studies Program and a Professional Health Program. The Special Premedical Studies Program prepares Aboriginal Manitobans for entry to the health professions such as Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy, and Physiotherapy. Once a student is accepted into one of the professional health faculties, he or she joins the Professional Health Program. Financial assistance may be available. A goal at the university is to have an Aboriginal professional school population that is representative of Manitoba’s as a whole (about 15 per cent). In addition, partnerships with Aboriginal communities are planned. In 2001/2002, 26 Aboriginal students were enrolled in the Professional Health Program.

Contact:
Assistant Dean for Admissions
Faculty of Medicine
753 McDermot Ave., Rm. S-204
Winnipeg, MB R3E 0W3
Phone: (204) 789-3499 Fax: (204) 789-3929
E-mail: Registrar_med@umanitoba.ca
Web site: www.umanitoba.ca/faculties/medicine

UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN, Saskatoon, SK

The College of Medicine has an Aboriginal Equity Access Program for Saskatchewan residents of Aboriginal descent who wish to enter the Doctor of Medicine program. Three first-year spaces are reserved. While applicants are required to meet the same requirements for other Saskatchewan residents, they compete only with each other, not the entire applicant pool.

Contact:
College of Medicine
107 Wiggins Rd.
Saskatoon, SK S7N 5E5
Phone: (306) 966-6135 Fax: (306) 966-6164
E-mail: registrar@usask.ca
Web site: www.usask.ca/medicine

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA, Edmonton, AB

Since 1988, the University of Alberta’s Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry has an Office of Aboriginal Health Care Career Programs to assist Aboriginal students gain admission and graduate from the Faculty. As of 2001, 23 Aboriginal physicians from Inuit, Métis, and 10 First Nations backgrounds have graduated. Two spaces are set aside per year. If these are not filled in a particular year, they are carried over to the next year. Applicants can come from any part of Canada, although preference may be given to Alberta residents. Applicants must meet all the regular admission requirements to the faculty.

Contact:
Coordinator, Aboriginal Health Care Careers Program
Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry
2-45 Medical Sciences Building
Edmonton, AB T6G 2H7
Phone: (780) 492-9526 Fax: (780) 492-9531
NURSING AND RELATED PROGRAMS

UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA, Vancouver, BC

UBC’s Faculty of Medicine has just committed six of its 128 seats for Aboriginal applicants. Beginning in 2004, the program will be offered at the University of Northern British Columbia in Prince George and, in 2008, the University of Victoria. UBC has also implemented a First Nations residency program in the Department of Family Practice where Aboriginal students can complete their training in Aboriginal communities. First Nations, Métis and Inuit applicants can contact the Community Liaison Co-ordinator at the Institute for Aboriginal Health at the number and e-mail below for further information.

Contact:
Aboriginal Program Co-ordinator
Institute for Aboriginal Health and Faculty of Medicine
2194 Health Sciences Mall
Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z3
Phone: (604) 822-5677 Fax: (604) 822-2495
E-mail: jrandrew@interchange.ubc.ca
Web site: www.med.ubc.ca

MIDWIFERY

UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA, Vancouver, BC

This is a four-year, full-time course. The first two years of the Bachelor’s Degree in Midwifery will consist of on-campus courses and the last two years will consist of clinical courses. In the final year of the course, students will be expected to travel to complete their clinical placement, which could be located anywhere in the province.

UBC admits Aboriginal students with an average of 67 per cent or higher.

Contact:
T201-2211 Wesbrook Mall
Vancouver, BC V6T 2B5
Phone: (604) 822-7444 Fax: (604) 822-7466
E-mail: elaine.carty@ubc.ca
Web site: www.ubc.ca

NURSING AND RELATED PROGRAMS

(Note that all identified Nursing and related programs are listed in this section, including those that are Aboriginal-focused and offered at a non-Aboriginal institution.)

NUNAVUT ARCTIC COLLEGE, Iqaluit, NU

In conjunction with Dalhousie University in Nova Scotia, Nunavut Arctic College offers a four-year Bachelor of Science in Nursing (Arctic Nursing) program. Students may exit the program after three years with a Diploma in Nursing awarded by the college. These programs are designed to educate Inuit as nurses and to prepare students to respond to the health care needs of the people of Nunavut. The curriculum emphasizes Inuit culture.
Admission is subject to space availability and academic criteria. Priority will be given to eligible beneficiaries of the Nunavut Land Claims.

Contact:  
Nunatta Campus  
Nunavut Arctic College  
Box 600  
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0  
Phone: (866) 979-7222  
E-mail: nunatta@nac.nu.ca  
Web site: www.nac.nu.ca/programs/nursing.htm

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO, Toronto, ON

The Bachelor of Science in Nursing is a two-year degree that focuses on theory, research and practice relevant to health care of people with acute and chronic conditions. Students wishing to enroll in this course must have already completed 10 university courses with a 3.0 GPA. Aboriginal applicants who are eligible for funding by the government of Canada may qualify for available positions.

Contact:  
Faculty of Nursing  
50 St. George St.  
Toronto, ON M5S 3H4  
Phone: (416) 978-2865 Fax: (416) 978-8222  
E-mail: Nursing@utoronto.ca  
Web site: www.nursing.utoronto.ca

LAKEHEAD UNIVERSITY, Thunder Bay, ON

The Native Nurses Entry Program is a nine-month program intended to prepare students for successful completion of the four-year nursing degree program. Besides academic courses, the program includes courses in communications, professional orientation and study skills/logical reasoning. There is also a two-week field experience.

Those considered for admission to the program include mature students, health care workers (community health representatives and registered nursing assistants) with a minimum of Ontario Grade 10, and individuals with one year of study at the college level in a field related to nursing.

Many of the students in the program live at the Native students’ residence, Kashadaying. They receive personal and academic support from Native Support Services, and social and cultural support from the Native Student Centre (feasts, powwows and an Elders’ program).

The Nursing Program itself sets aside 15 seats each year for Aboriginal students.

Contact:  
Office of the Registrar  
Lakehead University  
Thunder Bay, ON P7B 5E1  
Phone: (807) 343-8446 Toll-free (ON, MB, SK): 1-800-465-3959 Fax: (807) 343-8246  
Web site: www.lakeheadu.ca

RED RIVER COLLEGE, Winnipeg, MB

The Southern Nursing Program is an access program for low-income residents of Manitoba who have not had the opportunity to become nurses because of social, cultural, geographic, or economic factors. People
who are Aboriginal, Métis, or Inuit are encouraged to apply for admission. Once accepted, students become part of the College Preparation for Nursing Program, a one-year certificate program. This program prepares students to enter the Joint Baccalaureate Nursing Program, which leads to the bachelor’s degree in Nursing.

Contact:
Access Model Programs
F210-2055 Notre Dame Ave.
Winnipeg, MB R3H 0J9
Phone: (204) 632-2180 Fax: (204) 633-1437
E-mail: pstevens@rrc.mb.ca
Web site: www.rrc.mb.ca

UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN, Saskatoon, SK

Students enrolled in this four-year degree program can do courses in Saskatoon and Regina. Students may enroll on a part-time basis as long as they complete the program within seven years.

Aboriginal students enrolled in this program are encouraged to take advantage of the support offered by the Native Access Program to Nursing. Academic assistance, tutors, personal counselling, and Elders are all part of the program. Aboriginal students can also attend the orientation program and the one-week CPR/First Aid training offered through the Access program.

Contact:
College of Nursing
107 Wiggins Rd.
Saskatoon, SK S7N 5E5
Phone: (306) 966-6221 Fax: (306) 966-6621
Web site: www.usask.ca/nursing/

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA, Edmonton, AB

The Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree takes four years to complete. Mature students must be aged 24, residents of Alberta, the Yukon or the Northwest Territories. Up to three additional spaces per year are available for Aboriginal students wanting to enter the program.

(The Faculty also offers Masters and PhD degrees, and programs for RNs wanting to upgrade to bachelor’s status.)

Contact:
Academic Planning and Undergraduate Programs
Faculty of Nursing
3rd Floor Clinical Sciences Building
University of Alberta
Edmonton, AB T6G 2G3
Phone: (780) 492-9546 Toll-free: 1-888-492-8089 Fax: (780) 492-4844
E-mail: undergraduate@ua-nursing.ualberta.ca
Web site: www.nursing.ualberta.ca

NORQUEST COLLEGE, Edmonton, AB

Norquest has a Practical Nursing program focused on Aboriginal practice and health concerns and work with Aboriginal clients. Its duration is 56 weeks and is first being delivered in Hobbema, Alta., with subsequent programs being offered in other Aboriginal communities. Two awards are available for students in the program.

Contact:
Northern Lakes College, in partnership with the Little Shuswap Indian Band of Chase, B.C., offers a one-year Licensed Practical Nurse program. Upon completion of this program, students may enter the one-year Emergency Medical Technician/Paramedic program. In the third year, they may take a Bachelor of Science in Nursing, while in the fifth year, they may complete a Community Health Nurse specialization.

Students may transfer credit to the University of Alberta and Grant McEwan University College. Applicants are required to have a Grade 11 science, Grade 10 math, and other non-academic pre-requisites. Students should attend the pre-training program to receive their First Aid training and do other preparation.

Contact:
Admissions and Liaison
Northern Lakes College
PO Box 3211
Timmins, ON P4N 8R6
Phone: (705) 235-7222 or (705) 235-3211 ext.222 Fax: (705) 235-7279
E-mail: info@northernc.on.ca
Web site www.northernc.on.ca

Gabriel Dumont Technical Institute, Prince Albert, SK

The Gabriel Dumont Technical Institute is the only post-secondary institute that is owned and run solely by Métis. The Institute offers the Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) program. The program is 57 weeks and begins in September or March (the starting dates alternate). The LPN prepares students for work in hospitals, home care, community health centres, and long-term facilities. Graduates receive a dual certification from both the Dumont Technical Institute and Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology. The Gabriel Dumont Institute gives preference to Métis people in its admissions policies.

Contact:
Gabriel Dumont Technical Institute
48th-12th St. E.
Prince Albert, SK S6V 1B2
Phone: (306) 657-2254 Fax: (306) 242-0002
Web site: www.gdins.org

University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB

The University of Manitoba Bachelor of Nursing is a four-year program. Through the Access program, it is offered to students who traditionally might not have had the opportunity to receive post-secondary education because of social, economic and cultural barriers, lack of formal education, or due to living in remote areas. Preference is given to Aboriginal people, Northern residents of Manitoba, and/or low-income earners. Only Manitoban residents can apply.

Contact:
ACCESS Programs
University of Manitoba
505 University Centre
KEYANO COLLEGE, Fort McMurray, AB

This is a four-year nursing program, although students may leave after three years with a diploma through the Diploma Completion Option. Four positions will be made available to applicants of Aboriginal ancestry (Indian, Inuit and Métis).

Contact:
Keyano College
8115 Franklin Ave.
Fort McMurray, AB T9H 2H7
Phone: (780) 791-4800 Toll-free: 1-800-251-1408 Fax: (780) 791-1555
E-mail: Bev.Maron@keyano.ca
Web site: www.keyano.ca

UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA, Vancouver, BC

UBC’s Multiple Entry Option program gives students three different education options. Students entering into the program from high school take four years to complete the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree. The first two years of the program are based on academic from science and humanities courses while the final two years are concerned with nursing education and practice. The second option offers students with advanced standing or previous bachelor degrees to complete the course in two years. The third option is offered to registered nurses who wish to attend full-time or part-time studies. The full-time program takes 12 months for RNs to complete or a maximum of six years part-time.

UBC admits all Aboriginal students with an average of 67 per cent and higher.

Contact:
University of British Columbia
School of Nursing
T201-2211 Wesbrook Mall
Vancouver, BC V6T 2B5
Phone: (604) 822-7420 Fax: (604) 822-7466
Web site: www.nursing.ubc.ca

AURORA COLLEGE, Yellowknife, NT

Aurora has a two-year program in Northern Nursing. It emphasizes traditional knowledge and healing practices and includes clinical practicum throughout the Northwest Territories. Upon successful completion of the program, students are eligible to write the Canadian Registered Nurse Examination administered by the Northwest Territories Registered Nurses Association.

Aurora also has an 11-month program in Licensed Practical Nursing, a one-year Nursing Access program, and a 16-month Nurse Practitioner program for RNs, offered through an agreement between the college and the Centre for Nursing Studies in St. John’s, Nfld.

Aurora College has a course for faculty called Living a Life: A Nursing Perspective on Aboriginal Health, designed by two Elders. There are plans to make this a required course in the Bachelor of Nursing program.

Contact:
Aurora College
5004-54th St.
NUTRITION

UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN, Saskatoon, SK

The Bachelor of Science in Nutrition degree is a four-year program offered by the University of Saskatchewan. Of the 80 places in the BSN program, two Saskatchewan resident spaces are reserved for Aboriginal students under the Education Equity Program for Aboriginal Students. One additional person may be considered for admission under special circumstances or compassionate reasons.

Contact:
College of Pharmacy and Nutrition
Rm. 116
Thorvaldson Building
110 Science Place
Saskatoon, SK S7N 5C9
Phone: (306) 966-6327 Fax: (306) 966-6377
E-mail: undergrad-pharmacy-nutrition@usask.ca
Web site: www.usask.ca/pharmacy-nutrition

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO, Toronto, ON

The Master of Science in Occupational Therapy (M.Sc.O.T.), offered by the University of Toronto is for students already holding a four-year bachelor’s degree. The M.Sc.O.T. takes 24 consecutive months to complete, including fieldwork placements. The course incorporates research and professional issues.

One position in this program is reserved for a student of Aboriginal ancestry.

Contact:
Chairperson, Faculty of Occupational Therapy
265 McCaul St.
Toronto, ON M5T 1W5
Phone: (416) 978-2765 or (416) 978-5936 Fax: (416) 978-4363
Web site: www.library.utoronto.ca/ot/

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA, Edmonton, AB

The Bachelor of Science in Occupational Therapy is a four-year program offered to students with a minimum of two years of university-level coursework (preferred courses are listed on the Faculty’s Web site).

Two positions in the Occupational Therapy program are available to people of Aboriginal ancestry who meet the minimum admission requirements outlined above.

Contact:
Office of Professional Programs and Teaching
UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA, Vancouver, BC

The four-year Bachelor of Science in Occupational Therapy (B.Sc.O.T.) currently offered by the University of British Columbia is being suspended in 2003-2004. This is part of a move by all Canadian universities towards offering master’s degrees only in occupational therapy offered by the University of British Columbia. Previously, applicants to the B.Sc.O.T. program were required to have four years of post-secondary education.

The University of British Columbia would like to increase accessibility for Aboriginal peoples (Indian, Inuit and Métis). Therefore, if an Aboriginal student with a 67 per cent average would like to enter into a first-year program, he or she is encouraged to apply to university programs. The application will be considered on an individual basis by the faculty and a representative from the First Nations House of Learning. The student will also have to show the University two letters of reference highlighting the student’s potential for academic success.

Contact:
University of British Columbia
T325-2211 Wesbrook Mall
Vancouver, BC V6T 2B5
Phone: (604) 822-7392 Fax: (604) 822-7624
Web site: www.rehab.ubc.ca/

PHARMACY

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO, Toronto, ON

The University of Toronto offers a four-year program leading to the degree of Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy. Applicants from qualified persons of Aboriginal ancestry will receive special admission consideration; that is, their applications will be reviewed separately from the mainstream applicants. This includes people of Métis, Indian, and Inuit heritage. In addition, a scholarship of $1,000 is available for one Aboriginal student entering the first year.

Contact:
Faculty of Pharmacy
University of Toronto
19 Russell St.
Toronto, ON M5S 2S2
Phone: (416) 978-3967 Fax: (416) 978-8511
E-mail: adm.phm@utoronto.ca
Web site: www.utoronto.ca/pharmacy

UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN, Saskatoon, SK

The Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy (BSP) degree is a four-year program offered by the University of Saskatchewan. Of the 80 places in the BSP program, two Saskatchewan resident spaces are reserved for Aboriginal students under the Education Equity Program for Aboriginal Students. One additional person may be considered for admission under special circumstances or compassionate reasons.
Physiotherapy Program

University of Toronto, Toronto, ON

The four-year Bachelor of Science in Physical Therapy program involves evidence-based practice, critical thinking, self-directed learning, and the integration of basic and clinical sciences.

Students can enter the University of Toronto’s two-year Master of Science in Physical Therapy Program upon completion of a four-year degree including prerequisites. A non-academic assessment will be given to all students applying to the program. One position each year may be made available to a student of Aboriginal ancestry.

Contact:
Department of Physical Therapy
Faculty of Medicine
University of Toronto
256 McCaul St.
Toronto, ON M5T 1W5
Phone: (416) 978-2765 Fax: (416) 978-4363
E-mail: physther.facmed@utoronto.ca
Web site: www.utoronto.ca/pt

University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, SK

The university’s Aboriginal Equity Program allows two students of Aboriginal descent (Indian, Inuit, or Métis), who meet the mandatory requirements, to enter the School of Physical therapy. These two positions are open to residents of Saskatchewan, the Yukon, the Northwest Territories, and Nunavut. The degree program includes two years of pre-Physical Therapy courses and three years of Physical Therapy.

Contact:
School of Physical Therapy
University of Saskatchewan
1121 College Dr.
Saskatoon, SK S7N 0W3
Phone: (306) 966-6585
E-mail: bev.cuzner@usask.ca
Web site: www.usask.ca/phyther

University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB

Beginning in September 2003, the University of Alberta will replace its current undergraduate degree in physical therapy with an entry-level Masters of Physical Therapy (MPT). This program will be one and a half years long, including clinical placements in regional, national, and international locations. Students are responsible for the costs associated with these placements.
Two positions are available to students of Aboriginal ancestry as defined in the Constitution Act 1982, Part 2, s. 35.2 (First Nations, Inuit and Métis). All Aboriginal applicants meeting the minimum academic and interview requirements will be ranked among themselves until the two positions are filled. Aboriginal applicants who are competitive within the 70 general positions will be admitted in this group.

Contact:
Office of Professional Programs and Teaching
Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine
350 Corbett Hall
Edmonton, AB T6G 2G4
Phone: (780) 492-5949 Fax: (780) 492-1626
E-mail: Natalie.craig@ualberta.ca
Web site: www.rehab.ualberta.ca

SOCIAL WORK

DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY, Halifax, NS

Dalhousie offers a two-year Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) for students with an undergraduate or as a three-year program for qualified applicants who have one year of university. The program is available part-time. The Masters of Social Work (MSW) may be taken in 11 months or part-time over three years.

The School has an Educational Equity Program that applies to applicants from the Maritime region (Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and PEI) who are Aboriginal, Acadian, black, or have a disability. The Equity Program applies to both the BSW and the MSW.

Contact:
Maritime School of Social Work
6414 Coburg Rd.
Halifax, NS B3H 3J5
Phone: (902) 494-3760 Fax: (902) 494-6709
E-mail Joan.Trueman@Dal.ca
Web site: www.dal.ca/socialwork

ST. THOMAS UNIVERSITY, Fredericton, NB

The Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) is a four-year program that teaches students about understanding the causes of Canada's social problems, theories of social intervention, skills development, social policy, and professional ethics. Students enrolled in this course must take two field placements, which will provide students with extensive practical experience.

The BSW has an Affirmative Action policy that allows for historically disadvantaged groups to gain access to the university. This includes: blacks, Aboriginals, people with disabilities, and people who have had to rely on social services agencies for the basic necessities.

Contact:
Professional Studies Building Rm. 311
St. Thomas University
51 Dineen Dr.
Fredericton, NB E3B 5G3
Phone: (506) 452-0540 Fax: (506) 452-0611
E-mail: Jknox@stu.ca
Web site: www.stthomasu.ca
MCGILL UNIVERSITY, Montreal, QC

The Certificate in Aboriginal Social Work Practice prepares Aboriginal students for social work practice in their own communities. Courses are designed to reflect the socio-cultural characteristics and specific social service needs of Aboriginal communities.

The Certificate in Northern Social Work Practice is available only in the North and is for Inuit community workers employed by Nouveau Quebec. It is offered through McGill’s Centre for Continuing Education.

Contact:
School of Social Work
Wilson Hall, Rm. 300
3506 University St.
Montreal, QC H3A 2A7
Phone: (514) 398-7070 Fax: (514) 398-4760
Web site: www.arts.mcgill.ca/programs/socialwork

CARLETON UNIVERSITY, Ottawa, ON

Carleton University offers the Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) and the Masters of Social Work (MSW), both on a full- and part-time basis (the BSW is four years full-time). The curriculum focuses on inequalities in society. Two practical courses and a research project are included in the BSW program. Some courses are scheduled in the evenings to accommodate mature students with children.

Carleton University and the School of Social Work have adopted a mission statement expressing a commitment to education equity for persons from groups that have been disadvantaged historically, including Aboriginal people. This commitment is being implemented through the following:

- Continuing curriculum development and review
- Faculty hiring
- Diversification of field practical courses
- Support for new research by students and faculty
- A review of the school’s admissions policies and procedures

Contact:
School of Social Work
506 Dunton Tower
Carleton University
Ottawa, ON K1S 5B6
Phone: (613) 520-5601 Fax: (613) 520-7496
Web site: www.carleton.ca

LAURENTIAN UNIVERSITY, Sudbury, ON

The Honours Bachelor of Social Work Degree – Native Human Services is a four-year program aimed at producing qualified social workers for First Nations and other communities. Students may complete the last two years of their program through distance education on a part-time basis, after they have done the first two years full-time. Accelerated options may be available for students already holding a degree or those experienced in human services work.

Contact:
Native Human Services
University of Sudbury
Laurentian University
935 Ramsey Lake Rd.
Sudbury, ON P3E 2C6
UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA, Winnipeg, MB

The Faculty offers a fully-accredited, four-year Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) program, including at least one year of university studies in any faculty. Students with more than one year of studies may complete the program earlier. The BSW may be completed on a full- or part-time basis or by distance education and is delivered at two satellite sites: inner city Winnipeg and Thompson, Man. Delivery at these sites is directed at Aboriginal people, immigrants, and others who qualify for affirmative action.

Applicants may identify themselves as Aboriginal, Access program participants, visible minorities, immigrants, refugees, and/or persons with disabilities. Up to one-third of all places in the program will be reserved for qualified applicants in this category. There are 13 places available for Aboriginal people.

The Northern Bachelor of Social Work Program (NBSWP) offered at Thompson is for students from Northern Manitoba who meet Access Program criteria, including at least six months residency north of the 53rd parallel, a minimum age requirement of 21, and demonstrated need (personal, financial, etc.) that would hinder attendance at the main campus. About 18 to 20 students are accepted into the program each year.

The Faculty also has a Master of Social Work (MSW) program that requires a minimum of 12 months to complete. The principle of affirmative action is applied in the admissions process. Applicants who meet affirmative action criteria and who possess a grade point average between 2.5 and 2.94 will also be considered on the basis of their non-academic components.

Contact:
Faculty of Social Work
University of Manitoba
Winnipeg, MB R3T 2N2
Phone: (204) 474-9356 Fax: (204) 474-7594
E-mail: sdeane@ms.umanitoba
Web site: www.unmanitoba.ca

UNIVERSITY OF REGINA, Regina, SK

The Faculty has programs leading to the Certificate of Social Work, Bachelor of Social Work and Master of Social Work, which can be done on a full- or part-time basis. Social work courses are offered in Regina, Saskatoon and Prince Albert.

The Faculty has a number of places allotted to people who self-identify as Aboriginal people, persons with disabilities, or members of a visible minority. Students in these categories must meet the admission requirements for the Faculty.

SASKATCHEWAN INDIAN FEDERATED COLLEGE, SK
See first subsection on Aboriginal Education Institutes for information on SIFC’s accredited social work programs.

BLUE QUILLS FIRST NATIONS COLLEGE, AB
See first subsection for information on the College’s diploma and access programs that includes Status, Non-Status Indians, Métis and Inuit peoples.
RED CROW COMMUNITY COLLEGE, Regina, AB
See first subsection for information on RCCC’s social work programs, delivered through a partnership arrangement with the University of Calgary; RCCC is a member of the American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC).

Contact:
Faculty of Social Work
Red Crow Community College
Regina, SK S4S 0A2
Phone: (306) 585-4118 Fax: (306) 585-4872
E-mail: angela.martin@uregina.ca
Web site: www.uregina.ca

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF THE CARIBOO, Kamloops, BC
The four-year Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) program is offered at the main campus at Kamloops. (It is also offered to First Nations students at the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology in Merritt, BC. See entry in Section 3.

The School has an equity admissions policy that reserves one-quarter of all positions to qualified applicants from minority populations (e.g. Aboriginal peoples, people of colour, people with disabilities).

UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN BRITISH COLOMBIA, Prince George, BC
UNBC offers a Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) Program and a Master of Social Work program, the latter on a part- as well as full-time basis. Admission to the BSW takes place in the third year of university studies. Both programs focus on social work in Northern and remote areas, Aboriginal Peoples, women, etc. Applicants who do not meet the academic requirements for admission may be considered under affirmative action. In addition, UNBC offers a certificate in Métis Studies.

Contact:
Faculty of Health and Human Services
Social Work Programme
3333 University Way
Prince George, BC V2N 4Z9
Phone: (250) 960-6629 Fax: (250) 960-5536
E-mail: Vicki@unbc.ca
Web site: www.unbc.ca

UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA, Victoria, BC
The School offers Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) and Master of Social Work programs through on-campus and distance education. Courses may also be offered by special arrangement in First Nations community-based initiatives. The BSW program has specializations in First Nations, and First Nations Child Welfare; both of these options are open only to Aboriginal students.

One of the masters program is to acknowledge Aboriginal ways of knowing. It also aims to foster social work research and practice by Aboriginal peoples.

Contact:
School of Social Work
PO Box 1700
Victoria, BC V8W 2Y2
Phone: (250) 721-6275 Fax: (250) 721-6228
E-mail: lbrown@uvic.ca
Web site: www.uvic.ca/socw
AURORA COLLEGE, Yellowknife, NT

The Social Work Diploma Program is designed to be of particular relevance to the Northwest Territories and its social issues, cultural groups, delivery systems, and resources. It is intended for students who will be working in the North after graduation, as well as those continuing on with social work studies, and is designed for adult, multi-cultural learners.

Aurora College also offers: Criminal Justice (community health); Community Development; Social Work Access Year; Natural Resources (environmental health issues); Recreation Leadership (community/personal health); and Aboriginal Language and Culture Instructor (public schools), all relevant to community and individual health.

Contact:
Aurora College
5004-54th St.
Northern United Place
PO Bag Service 9700
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2R3
Phone: (867) 777-7800
Web site: www.auroranet.net.ca

YUKON COLLEGE, Whitehorse, YT

A four-year program leading to a Northern Human Service Worker/Bachelor of Social Work degree is offered to Aboriginal students in co-operation with the Yukon First Nations and the University of Regina.

Contact:
NHSW/BSW Program
Yukon College
Box 2799
Whitehorse, YT Y1A 5K4
Phone: (867) 668-8845
E-mail: info@yukoncollege.yk.ca
Web site: www.yukoncollege.yk.ca

NUNAVUT ARCTIC COLLEGE, Arviat, NU

Arctic College offers a two-year diploma program in Social Services, with a potential to transfer credits to the University of Calgary or University of Regina. Current courses offered by Arctic College are: Alcohol and Drug Counsellor, Environmental Technology Diploma/Certificate Program, School Community Counsellor Program, Career Development Certificate, Community Health Representative, and a Bachelor or Diploma Program in Nursing.

Contact:
HEAD OFFICE
Nunavut Arctic College
PO Box 230
Arviat, NU X0C 0E0
Toll-free: 1-866-988-4636
General email inquiries: info@nac.nu.ca
General regional inquiries: Kitikmeot@nac.nu.ca, Kivalliq@nac.nu.ca, Nunatta@nac.nu.ca

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY, St. John’s, NF

A Listing of Aboriginal Health Careers: Education and Training Opportunities 2003
Memorial University offers a two-year diploma in Social Work for Labrador Inuit and Aboriginal students. Students interested should check the Web site for availability of the Labrador Community Health diploma and the Native and Northern Teacher Training Programs. This campus offers the services of an Aboriginal Liaison Officer to assist Inuit students.

Med Quest is a successful summer program organized by the Faculty of Medicine. It is six one-week sessions where students are introduced to careers such as medicine, nursing, pharmacy, occupational therapy, physiotherapy and speech/language pathology. The Labrador Inuit Association sponsors students to attend. The program’s effectiveness of recruiting rural students in pursuing health careers is shown by nearly 50 students who subsequently entered health sciences careers.

Contact:
St. John’s Main Campus
Memorial University of Newfoundland
St. John’s, NF A1C 5S7
Phone: (709) 737-8000 Fax: (709) 737-4569

COLLEGE OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC, Happy Valley-Goose Bay, NF

This campus offers Health Sciences Programs (i.e. physiotherapists assistant, medical radiography, occupational therapist assistant, respiratory therapy, diagnostic ultrasonography), Access and Natural Resources. Special services to students include an Inuit Education Co-ordinator, an Aboriginal Liaison Officer and Community Relations Officers.

Contact:
Happy Valley-Goose Bay Campus
PO Box 1720, Station B
Happy Valley-Goose Bay, NF A0P 1E0
Phone: (709) 896-6300 Fax: (709) 896-3733
Web site: www.northatlantic.nf.ca
Section 2 – Scholarships and Bursaries for Aboriginal Students in Health Career Education and Training Programs

THE NATIONAL ABORIGINAL ACHIEVEMENT FOUNDATION (NAAF)

The NAAF offers a large number of scholarships and bursaries to Aboriginal students (First Nations [Status and Non-Status], Inuit and Métis) from all over Canada. Many are specific to health. These awards include:

Aboriginal Health Careers Program
Aboriginal students pursuing health sciences studies at a post secondary institute may be eligible for assistance through this program. Students will be judged on the following criteria:
- academic performance (students must have at least an 80 per cent average)
- financial need
- faculty assessment
- commitment to their studies and a career in health
- potential to succeed

The amount students receive depends on the numbers applying and the availability of funding. Application forms are available online at the National Aboriginal Achievement Awards Web site. The deadline for these awards is May 1 each year.

Business, Sciences and General Education Program
This award varies from $1,000 to $8,000 value. Aboriginal students may be eligible to apply for assistance if they are in educational programs such as Business, Science, Law, Engineering, Information Technology, Education, Social Work, and the Social Sciences. Applicants will be made a priority if they are in a business and science program or heirs of Aboriginal veterans. Applications and other required materials are due June 1 each year. Applications will not be accepted until two weeks before the deadline.

Aboriginal Social Work Scholarship
This award was established by Diana Fowler Leblanc to help assist Aboriginal students to pursue Social Work studies at a post secondary institution. Preference will be given to:
- mature students planning to enroll or already enrolled in a social work program and
- students in financial need.

National Aboriginal Achievement Awards – Special Youth Award
Aboriginal youth between the ages of 15 and 24 may be nominated for this award. A resume and two letters of support should be included with the application. The recipient of this award will receive $10,000 at the nationally-televised awards ceremony, which will go towards their educational or career goals.

Indian and Inuit Health Careers Program Scholarship
Several scholarships of $1,000 are available to Aboriginal students taking courses within a health-related program such as Medicine, Nursing, Dentistry, Hospital Administration, Pharmacology, Radiology, Nutrition, Lab Technology, Psychology, etc. Applications must be submitted by May 15. Previously administered by the Indian and Inuit Health Careers Program, contact NAAF for eligibility criteria.

Indian and Inuit Health Career Program Bursary
Aboriginal students pursuing a career in a professional health careers program may be eligible to apply for this award. Students may not be eligible for this bursary if they have received financial assistance from any
Applications must be submitted by May 1 each year. Previously administered by the Indian and Inuit Health Careers Program, contact NAAF for eligibility criteria.

Other awards include:
- CIBC Achievers
- Shell Aboriginal Awards
- 3M Canada Aboriginal Health Education Awards
- Sun Life Careers in Health Awards
- BP Canada Aboriginal Young Achievers Scholarship
- TD Bank Financial Group Scholarships
- Weyerhaeuser Aboriginal Scholarship

Students applying for more than one scholarship or bursary through the National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation should specify which awards they would like to be considered for, but only include one application, unless otherwise stated.

Contact:
The National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation
70 Yorkville Ave.
Suite 33A
Toronto, ON M5R 1B9
Phone: (416) 925-0775 Toll-free: 1-800-329-9780 Fax: (416) 926-7554
E-mail: naaf@istar.ca
Web site: www.naaf.ca

CANADIAN MEMORIAL CHIROPRACTIC COLLEGE, ON

Four-year renewable scholarship is available for an Aboriginal student. See Section 1 for program details.

SPECIAL INCENTIVES PLAN, NORTHLANDS COLLEGE, SK

The Special Incentives Plan of Northlands College provides additional financial assistance to full-time students whose needs are not being met by government student loans programs. To qualify, a student must be a Non-Status Indian, Métis, or a Northerner, which includes Status Indians.

Health-related programs offered at the College include: Home Care/Special Care; Emergency Medical Technician; Advanced Medical Technician; Home Management; Practical Nurse; Youth Care Worker; and Chemical Dependency Worker.

Contact:
Administration Office
Box 1000
Air Ronge, SK S0J 3G0
Phone: (306) 425-4480 Fax: (306) 425-3002
Web site: www.northlandscollege.sk.ca

PRACTICAL NURSING AWARDS, NORQUEST COLLEGE, AB

There are two awards available for students in the Practical Nursing program (see Section 1 for program details): Clinical Excellence Award and Canadian Licensed Practical Nurse Association Outstanding Student Nominee Award.

ABORIGINAL SCHOLARSHIP, UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
A scholarship of $1,000 is available for one Aboriginal student entering the first year of the Pharmacy program. See program details in Section 2.

**CANADIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION (CMA)**

The Dr. John Big Canoe Memorial Scholarship is valued at $2,000. The scholarship is awarded in memory of Dr. John Big Canoe, an Aboriginal physician who died in a boating accident in 1994 at age 33.

The scholarship is awarded to an undergraduate Aboriginal student enrolled in the last or second-to-last year of study in a Canadian school of medicine and who has demonstrated both strong academic performance and outstanding contributions to the Aboriginal community.

The CMA also offers Special Bursaries for undergraduate Aboriginal medical students in amounts ranging from $750 to $4,000 per recipient. Sixteen awards were given in 1998. The CMA special bursaries are awarded on the basis of financial need and are provided towards the end of the academic year. In addition to receiving financial assistance, special bursary recipients will receive memberships in the CMA (national), a provincial or territorial division of the CMA, and the Native Physicians Association in Canada (NPAC).

Contact:
Manager
Canadian Medical Foundation
1867 Alta Vista Dr.
Ottawa, ON K1G 3H7.
Phone: (613) 731-8610, ext. 2291 Toll-free: 1-800 663-7336, ext. 2291 Fax: (613 565-7704)
Web site: www.cma.ca

**ABORIGINAL NURSES ASSOCIATION OF CANADA**

Since 1985, the Aboriginal Nurses Association of Canada (A.N.A.C.) has administered the Baxter Corporation-Jean Goodwill annual scholarships to Aboriginal nursing students. These two scholarships are each worth $2,500 and are awarded to Aboriginal nursing students who plan to pursue their professional careers in the north.

Students must specialize in: community health nursing, outpost nursing, or midwifery. Also eligible are graduate nurses already serving in isolated communities, who are accepted into one of the above specialized training programs, or people who are or will be enrolled in a bachelor level nursing program.

Within 10 months of completing his or her program of study, the successful applicant must obtain employment in an isolated northern native community, or provide documentation that he or she has made reasonable efforts to do so.

A.N.A.C. has compiled a useful Scholarship Database for Aboriginal Students that can be accessed through its Web site at www.surf.ca/anac/scholarships.php.

Contact:
Aboriginal Nurses Association of Canada
56 Sparks St, Suite 502
Ottawa, ON K1P 5A9
Phone: (613) 724-4677 Fax: (613) 724-4718
Web site: www.anac.on.ca
Section 3 – Special Projects And Programs Related To Health Career Education And Training

ABORIGINAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING STRATEGY, ON

This initiative was created with the help from the Aboriginal Education Council and the Ontario Ministry of Education. The Aboriginal Education Strategy (AETS) was meant to:

- improve the number of Aboriginal students in post-secondary institutions in Ontario
- raise awareness of Aboriginal cultures and issues
- increase Aboriginal participation in decision-making about the post-secondary education of Aboriginal people

Seven Aboriginal organizations, representing First Nations, Inuit, Métis as well as Aboriginal women (specific) participated in drafting the strategy. Valued at $34 million, AETS was in operation for a seven-year period through the 1990s.

ABORIGINAL RECRUITMENT COORDINATION OFFICE (ARCO), ON

Funded by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, ARCO is an Ontario-based organization offering support to First Nations communities that offer health and social services to students taking health-related education programs at a post-secondary institute. Communities can participate by targeting youth through initiatives such as:

- health career fairs
- community health career workshops
- student essay writing models
- tours of health facilities
- curriculum enhancement
- health career needs assessments

A maximum of $5,000 is available to communities who apply for funding. Also, ARCO encourages Aboriginal students who have graduated from a health services program to find employment within Aboriginal communities and organizations.

The Summer Student Employment is another of ARCO’s programs. This program provides Aboriginal students enrolled in a health program a chance to work in:

- health promotions activities
- the development of health career related resource material
- research projects
- on-the-job training

The Role Model Program is offered by the Indian and Inuit Health Careers Program through ARCO. This regional project encourages Aboriginal students to stay in school, become a role model and work towards the promotion of Aboriginal health.

Contact:
Aboriginal Recruitment Coordination Office
1000 Chippewa Rd.
Thunder Bay, ON P7J 1B6
Phone: (807) 624-2110 Toll-free: 1-800-346-9318 Fax: (807) 623-0644
ABORIGINAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATION INTERNSHIP, WINNIPEG REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY, MB

The Winnipeg Regional Health Authority (WRHA) has an internship program for First Nations, Inuit, non-status Indian, and Métis people who are interested in pursuing a career in health administration.

Successful candidates are hired for a one-year term and participate in a program that features mentorship, coaching and project assignments. The program prepares them for entry-level management roles.

Ideal candidates have a university degree or college diploma, although an equivalent combination of education and experience will be considered. Also desirable is a knowledge of the diverse Aboriginal cultures, values, and traditions in Manitoba and an understanding and appreciation of Aboriginal healing systems and their applicability throughout the health care system. The salary is $35,000.

Contact:
Regional Director
Aboriginal Human Resources Initiative
Winnipeg Regional Health Authority
Suite 1800-155 Carlton St.
Winnipeg, MB R3C 4Y1
Fax: (204) 926-7107

SIX NATIONS 2020 VISION, ON

In June 2002, Chief Roberta Jamieson of Six Nations of the Grand River launched the 2020 Vision Project in Brantford, ON. This project has the goal of recruiting increased numbers of Aboriginal people from Ontario into careers in medicine and nursing by the year 2020.

2020 Vision has two Working Groups: the Designated Seats Working Group and the Political Working Group. At present, the Designated Seats Working Group is collecting relevant data to forward to the Political Working Group to be used in lobbying efforts.

A conference celebrating Aboriginal health education achievements is being planned for 2003.

Contact:
Grand River Post Secondary Education Office
PO Box 339
Ohsweken, ON NOA 1M0
Phone: (519) 445-2219 Toll-free: 1-877-837-5180 Fax: (519) 445-4296
E-mail: grpseo@worldchat.com
Web site: www.grpseo.org

FIRST NATIONS AND INUIT COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES (FNICH) ACCREDITATION PROGRAM, CANADIAN COUNCIL ON HEALTH SERVICES ACCREDITATION (CCSHA)

Accreditation is a voluntary, non-government process that helps organizations improve and maintain their standards and enhance accountability. This program was approved in March, 2002 following a process that involved First Nations and Inuit co-ordinators and providers of community health services, an Elder, Health Canada (FNIHB) funding partners, and the Canadian Council on Health Services Accreditation (CCHSA).
It incorporates references to First Nations and Inuit values and beliefs related to wellness, healing and health.

As of January 2002 eight health centres are either preparing for their first accreditation survey or have already been accredited. The accreditation program is described in the video, Telling Our Own Stories (see entry 2, Section 2).

In addition, the CCHSA Board has designated one of its rotating client member seats to a First Nations and Inuit representative. (Members serve three-year terms.)

Contact:
Manager, Emerging Markets
Canadian Council on Health Services Accreditation
1730 St. Laurent Blvd., Suite 100
Ottawa, ON K1G 5L1
Phone: (613) 247-3005 Fax: (613) 738-3755
E-mail: davc@cchsa.ca
Web site: www.cchsa.ca

FIRST NATIONS AND INUIT ADDICTION SERVICES (FNIAS), ACCREDITATION PROGRAM CANADIAN COUNCIL ON HEALTH SERVICES ACCREDITATION (CCSHA)

The FNIAS program was first implemented in 2000 and is targeted towards National Native Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs (NNADAP) and Youth Solvent Abuse Centres (YSAC). As of January 2002 twelve NNADAP and seven YSAC centers are either preparing to have their first accreditation survey or are already accredited.

Contact:
Manager, Emerging Markets
Canadian Council on Health Services Accreditation
1730 St. Laurent Blvd., Suite 100
Ottawa, ON K1G 5L1
Phone: (613) 247-3005 Fax: (613) 738-3755
E-mail: davc@cchsa.ca
Web site: www.cchsa.ca

INDIANS INTO MEDICINE (INMED), UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA, USA

Indians into Medicine (INMED) is an educational program at the University of North Dakota that offers academic, personal and financial support to students who wish to pursue health careers. INMED was created in 1973 as a response to these factors:

- lack of health professionals in Aboriginal communities
- lack of Aboriginal health professionals
- lack of proper health care for Aboriginal peoples

This program is offered in areas that have great Aboriginal health needs. Students can take a variety of different health-related specialties including nursing and clinical psychology. The impact of INMED is noticeable; 20 per cent of the Aboriginal physicians in the United States have graduated from this program.

In addition, INMED offers a summer enrichment program that assists students at the junior high, high school and medical preparatory levels in such areas as math and science skills. Students are provided with
information on health sciences and health careers. More than 100 students attend the summer programs. Besides academics, the summer program includes field trips, recreation, powwows, and Aboriginal awareness workshops.

Contact:
University of North Dakota
Grand Forks, ND
USA, 58202
Phone: (701) 777-2011 Toll-free: 1-800-CALL-UND
E-mail: web@und.edu
Web site: www.und.edu/naprograms/

MINI-MEDICAL SCHOOL, UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO, ON, AND MCGILL UNIVERSITY, QC

These courses are not specific to Aboriginal people, but they are interesting in that they give anyone who is interested the opportunity to learn about many facets of health. The University of Toronto course consists of six evening classes of two hours each. Topics covered include: anatomy; genetics; brain function; heart disease; cancer prevention; and depression and anxiety. Visits to labs are included.

There is a high demand for mini-medical schools. The first one at the University of Toronto in the fall of 2002 attracted 500 participants and a waiting list of 200. Participants include people who want to maintain or improve their health as well as those interested in becoming medical students.

PHYSICIAN RECRUITMENT PROGRAM, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, GOVERNMENT OF MANITOBA, MB

This program is not Aboriginal-specific, but it is of interest given its goals. This program aims to increase the number of medical school graduates and retain as many as possible. The number of places in the medical school program at the University of Manitoba has been increased from 70 to 85. In addition, student doctors are offered grants in exchange for promising to practice in Manitoba for one year following graduation. About 100 student doctors are participating in the $2 million program in 2002; 12 have agreed to work in rural areas.

SASKATCHEWAN INDIAN FEDERATED COLLEGE (SIFC) SCIENCE, MATH AND HEALTH CAREERS SUMMER CAMP, SK

SIFC’s Science, Math and Health Careers Summer Camp aims to motivate Aboriginal youth to explore careers in the health professions; lower their apprehensions about science and math learning in general; and ease the transition between community and university environments (see discussion in Section 8). Traditional Aboriginal math and science components are included.

Students from a variety of First Nations backgrounds are welcome to apply. Ninety students – three camp sections over 14 days – will be selected. Up to two Aboriginal participants will be selected from each province with the remainder from Saskatchewan.

Accommodations and meals are provided while transportation to and from the University of Regina are the responsibility of the student’s band, sponsor or recommending educational institution. Plans for a province-wide summer science festivals (2003) will focus on whole families and using pre-service teachers as facilitators.

Contact:
Saskatchewan Indian Federated College
ONTARIO MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND LONG-TERM CARE’S FREE TUITION PROGRAM

Although not targeted at Aboriginal people, this program has the potential to recruit and retain Aboriginal physicians, particularly in underserviced areas of the province. Final year medical students, residents, and recently-graduated physicians are eligible for the program. Participants must complete a full-time return-of-service commitment in an approved community. The length of service required is equivalent to the number of years for which tuition is paid. The minimum length of service is three years, while the maximum is four.

Successful applicants may be eligible to participate in other incentive programs including:
- Underserviced Area Program (UAP) Incentive Grants
- Northern Group Funding Plans (Alternative Payment Plan)
- Community Sponsored Contracts (Alternative Payment Plan)

Contact:
Free Tuition Program Co-ordinator
Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care
North Region, Health Care Programs
159 Cedar St., Suite 406
Sudbury, ON P3E 6A5
Phone: (705) 564-7280 Fax: (705) 564-7251
E-mail: Susan.mills@moh.gov.on.ca
Web site: www.gov.on.ca/health
Guide to Planning Career Days


This guide provides information on how to organize a career development day for Aboriginal youth. Its primary audience is guidance and education counsellors. Some of the central tasks explained are:

- creating a working committee
- prioritizing the participants, and
- developing community interest and support.

Telling Our Own Stories: The First Nations and Inuit Health Services Accreditation Programs

This 18-minute video describes the formation of the First Nations and Inuit accreditation programs. It is targeted to organizations that wish to join the accreditation program.

Contact:
Canadian Council on Health Services Accreditation
1730 St. Laurent Blvd, Suite 100
Ottawa, ON K1G 5L1
Phone: (613) 738-3800 Fax: (613) 738-1244
E-mail: guig@cchsa.ca
Web site: www.cchsa.ca

Guarding The Unborn Spirit: It Takes All Nations

This video was produced by the Association of Iroquois Allied Indians to promote awareness about Fetal Alcohol Syndrome and how it impacts children throughout their lives.

Contact:
Kem Murch Productions Inc.
330 Central Ave.
London, ON N6B 2C8
E-mail: kemmurch@execulink.com

Video Documentaries – First Nations Partnership Programs in Canada, Early Childhood and Youth Care

*Highlights* (Nine minutes)
*The Generative Curriculum Model No. 1* (19 minutes)
*The Generative Curriculum Model No. 2* (24 minutes)
*The First Nations Partnership Programs* (44 minutes)

Prices: $78 for entire set plus $5 for shipping and handling

Contact:
First Nations Partnership Program
School of Child and Youth Care
University of Victoria
PO Box 1700, Stn. CSC
Improving School Success for First Nations Students – Annotated Bibliography

A project of the British Columbia Ministry of Education, the bibliography includes the following sections:

- What is known about the success of First Nations students?
- What is known about the causes of success and failure of First Nations students in school?
- What is known about learning to read and First Nations students?
- What is known about school retention and First Nations students?
- What is known about the relationship between teaching methods and the success of First Nations students?
- What is known about the relationship between curriculum content and First Nations students’ acceptance of public school goals?

The bibliography is available at www.bced.gov.bc.ca/abed/readings/iss/biblio.htm

Spirit of Dedication – A Film About Community Health Representatives

Produced by the National Indian and Inuit Community Health Representative Organization (NIICHRO), this 30-minute film depicts three CHRs from different First Nations communities. Each CHR reflects on what being a CHR means to them as they tend to the health needs of their community. (Visit NIICHRO’s Web site for information on other health resources.)

Contact:
National Indian and Inuit Community Health Representative Organization
Box 1019
Kahnawake, QC J0L 1B0
Phone: (450) 632-0892 Fax: (450) 632-2111
E-mail: niichro@niichro.com
Web site: www.niichro.com

The Canadian Aboriginal Medical Student’s Guide to Scholarships, Awards and Bursaries

This 223-page book is edited and published by Métis physician Gilles Pinette.

Contact:
Dr. Gilles Pinette
Makinak Publishing
PO Box 48101 RPO Lakewood
Winnipeg, MB R2J 4A3
Phone: (204) 791-6253
ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS

HEALTH INFORMATION SERVICES

Health record technicians review medical records for completeness and accuracy; assign codes to the information recorded; and file, store and retrieve information as required. College courses are required for this position. Alternatively, there is a two-year distance course offered by the Canadian Hospital Association for people already working in medical records.

HEALTH SERVICE ADMINISTRATOR

Health service administrators are responsible for the management of hospitals, long-term care facilities and other health care institutions. Most employers require certification by the Canadian College of Health Service Executives. Health administration usually requires a combination of education and experience, so those with graduate degrees in health management often start in a junior administrative position to gain on-the-job experience. Note that the health administration program in this document is not university-accredited.

HEALTH RECORD ADMINISTRATOR

Health record administrators design and implement systems for documenting, storing and retrieving medical information. Most health record administrators work in an office environment in hospitals and clinics. Health record administrators must complete a formal program of studies at a recognized college or university.

MEDICAL TRANSCRIPTIONIST

Medical transcriptionists are medical language specialists who process medical reports by health care professionals. Medical transcriptionists employed in clinics may have additional administrative duties.

HEALTH PARAPROFESSIONS

COMMUNITY HEALTH REPRESENTATIVE (CHR)

The CHR’s role is to provide preventative health care and education to individuals, families and groups in the community. CHRs frequently work under the direction of nurse managers or the chief and council. Educational requirements for CHRs vary across the country.

COUNSELLORS

Clients may have one or more of the following kinds of clients: families; people with addictions; people with mental illness or unresolved emotional issues; people with disabilities; children; and students. Training is available at colleges, Aboriginal educational institutes and universities. Qualifications vary depending on the field of counselling, although most professional counsellors are required to have at least a master’s degree in the social sciences or education. Some counsellors may be certified psychologists or clinical social workers.
EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN – PARAMEDIC (EMT)

EMTs provide urgent medical attention at accident scenes or other sites and during the pre-hospital period, as prescribed by emergency department physicians. College diplomas are required.

HOME HEALTH AIDE OR PERSONAL SUPPORT WORKER

Home health aides are also called home support workers. They provide care for people at home or in institutions during periods of disruption, disability, or illness recovery. Some courses are available for home health aides at various community colleges.

OPHTHALMIC DISPENSER

Ophthalmic dispensers are trained to fit eyeglasses and contact lenses according to the prescriptions of ophthalmologists or optometrists. These skills are acquired through a combination of training and apprenticeship.

HEALTH PROFESSIONS

AUDIOLOGIST

The audiologist specializes in the prevention, identification and assessment of hearing problems. They counsel those with hearing problems and determine if hearing aids are necessary. A bachelor’s degree is necessary to practice audiology. On-the-job training is also important.

CHIROPRACTOR

Chiropractors are health professionals who work in clinics. Chiropractic involves the assessment of conditions related to the spine, nervous system and joints and the treatment and prevention of these conditions, mainly through adjustment of the spinal column. In Canada, they are trained through a four-year program at the Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College in Toronto, although many programs in the United States are recognized in Canada.

DENTISTRY AND RELATED

There are a range of professions that support good dental health. These include dentistry (dental medicine or dental surgery), dental hygiene, dental assisting, and denturists. The roles and responsibilities of each profession varies:

- dentists examine, diagnose and treat dental health problem
- dental hygienists treat gum and teeth problems and educate people about dental health
- dental assistants aid dentists and dental hygienists and maintain dental offices
- denturists fit and repair dentures

Dentists receive university educations, as do dental hygienists. Dental assistants and denturists train at colleges.

DIETITIAN

Dietitians and nutritionists plan, organize and supervise food and nutrition programs. They evaluate the nutritional status of individuals and may do nutritional research. They may be self-employed or work in institutional or community food services or clinics. Dietitians require a master’s or bachelor’s degree in nutrition or a related field as well as one to two years of supervised practical training and licensure with a regulatory body.
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH OFFICER

The environmental health officer’s job is to protect human environments and improve community health status through preventative measures. They supervise food processing and handling, milk processing, water processing, etc. and usually work for government health departments or agencies. Most hold degrees and pursue certification as environmental health officers on the job.

NATUROPATH

Naturopaths operate on the premise that disease results when people fail to live in harmony with natural biological laws. They emphasize health maintenance through health education in nutrition, mental hygiene, physical fitness, and other aspects of care. In Canada, naturopaths train for four years (or two in the accelerated program) at the Ontario College of Naturopathic Medicine in Toronto. Upon completion, graduates are awarded the degree of Doctor of Naturopathic Medicine.

NURSING AND RELATED

Registered Nurses (RNs) are graduates of recognized education programs focused on the promotion, maintenance and restoration of health. Nurses train at colleges or universities. The Bachelor of Nursing is gradually replacing the RN qualification. Some provinces already require that nurses hold a bachelor’s degree in order to practice. Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN) are graduates of approved practical nurse programs. They care for sick people and people with disabilities under the direction of an RN and/or physician.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST

Occupational therapists plan, direct and implement therapeutic programs for people with physical or emotional disabilities. These programs are designed to restore and maintain functional skills. Occupational therapists are degree graduates of universities.

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY INSPECTOR

Occupational health and safety inspectors ensure that places of employment provide safe and healthy working conditions to their employees. They also ensure compliance with laws and regulations governing workplace safety. Occupational health and safety inspectors may train at colleges or universities.

OPTOMETRIST

Optometrists examine and diagnose patients’ eyes to determine visual efficiency and the prescription of treatment (excluding surgery) to correct or improve vision. Two schools in Canada offer the necessary education: the University of Waterloo (in English) and the University of Montreal (in French).

PHARMACIST

Pharmacists prepare and dispense drugs on the prescription order of physicians or dentists. They also educate patients about the proper use of prescription drugs. They undergo the required training at universities.

PHYSICAL THERAPIST OR PHYSIOTHERAPIST

Physical therapists are university graduates with a degree in physical therapy. Their work involves the rehabilitation of patients to their fullest physical, medical and functional potential.

PHYSICIAN
Physicians provide primary care to patients and are licensed to practice medicine. After four years of medical education following the completion of an undergraduate degree, physicians may specialize in one or more of a large number of areas including: family practice, obstetrics and gynecology, pediatrics, radiology, oncology, etc.

**PROSTHETIST AND ORTHOTIST**

Training for this profession is offered at three colleges in Canada (George Brown, Toronto; BCIT, Burnaby, BC; and Montmorency, Laval, QC). Prosthetists and orthotists work from a physician’s prescription to design, make and fit prosthetic (artificial limbs) and orthotic (braces and supports) appliances for people with disabilities. Graduates may specialize in prosthetics, orthotics, or both.

**PSYCHOLOGIST**

Psychologists do research on human behaviour and/or treat people through psychological therapy (which is drug-free). Most psychologists specialize in one area, such as child psychology. They have a master’s degree, which is necessary for accreditation, although increasingly the Ph.D. is required. Other occupations include psychiatrist, psychometrician, and psychology research assistant.

**SOCIAL WORKER AND RELATED**

Social workers provide support to individuals, families and communities as they deal with stress, transition, and a range of social problems. They may do research and/or design and implement programs. Social workers are graduates of accredited university degree programs. There are other occupations related to this profession, such as social service worker or child and youth worker, which involves college or Aboriginal education institute training.

**SPEECH PATHOLOGIST**

The role of the speech pathologist (or speech therapist) is to diagnose and treat speech, language and voice disorders. Speech pathologists also engage in speech and language related research. A bachelor’s degree is required.

**TECHNICAL HEALTH PROFESSIONS**

**CARDIOLOGY TECHNOLOGIST**

Cardiology technologists are responsible for the operation of the electrocardiography, a machine that assesses heart muscle health. They also use other devices to test and assess cardiac patients. They have college training.

**DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHER (ULTRASOUND TECHNOLOGIST)**

Most diagnostic medical sonographers work with diagnostic imaging departments of hospitals, operating ultrasound equipment. They have college training.

**DIETARY TECHNOLOGIST**

Dietary technologists assess the nutritional needs of clients. With adequate work experience, they may assume responsibility for operating a food service department or managing a private practice. They have college training.
ELECTRONEUROPHYSIOLOGY (EEG) TECHNOLOGIST

EEG technologists operate equipment that is used for the diagnosis of brain conditions like epilepsy, tumour, etc., for making prognosis in coma cases and premature babies, and in determining brain death or other brain patterns. They have college training.

MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNOLOGIST

Medical laboratory technologists carry out a variety of tests and procedures that assist physicians in the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of disease. They may specialize in various areas. They have college training.

MEDICAL X-RAY TECHNOLOGIST

Medical X-ray technologists operate X-ray equipment to produce images used in medical diagnoses. They have college training.

RADIATION THERAPIST

Radiation therapists administer prescriptions of treatment (chemotherapy, cobalt, etc.) for cancer patients. They have college training.

RESPIRATORY THERAPIST

Respiratory therapists work under a physician’s direction to plan and implement respiratory therapy for patients with heart and lung ailments. They have college training.
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