

# DISCOVERY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## SCHOOL OF HUMAN SERVICES

### *Social and Community Service Worker*

#### Curriculum Guide

Development Date: August 2022

Revision Dates: September 2022; December 2022; June 2023; July 2023.

#### PURPOSE

This Social & Community Service Worker program is designed to provide students with the skills, knowledge and attitudes required to work as a personal service/support worker in a variety of community settings for adult populations. Graduates are prepared to work in areas such as community social service agencies, support services, group home settings, client homes, and day programs.

#### PROGRAM DESIGN

This program may be offered in these delivery formats:

- In person in the classroom at a DCC campus with work experience placements in the community.
- A combination of in person classroom learning and in person online learning (synchronous) with work experience placements in the community.

<b>Social &amp; Community Service Worker Certificate:</b>	<b>Weeks</b>	<b>Hours</b>	<b>Delivery methods</b>
GO 901 Get Oriented	1.0	20	In class or online
IT 701 Introduction to Microsoft Computer Skills	3.0	60	
ES 501 Employability Skills	1.0	20	
Foundational Certificates for SCSW*	2.4	48	In class
Communication for Supportive Care	3.6	72	In class or online
Personal Growth	1.2	24	
Human Development – Late Adulthood	2.4	48	
Mental Health for Supportive Care	3.8	76	
Professional Growth	1.8	36	
Supportive Care Theory and Application	2.2	44	
Enhanced Supportive Care and Practice	6.4	128	
Activity, Lifestyle & Fitness	1.2	24	
Work Experience – Practicum	4.0	100	On site
<b>Totals</b>	<b>34.0</b>	<b>700</b>	

\*The Foundational Certificates course includes:

- FoodSafe level 1 (8 hrs)
- Standard First Aid with CPR C/AED (16 hrs)
- Provincial Violence Prevention (8 hrs)
- Gentle Persuasive Approach (8 hrs)
- Learning Hub Certification (8 hrs)

**PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Upon successful completion of this program, graduates will possess the skills, knowledge, attitudes, and behaviours that will enable them to:

- Explain key concepts related to an overview of the profession of social and community service worker, particularly the range of responsibilities and competencies required.
- Use communications skills to facilitate effective working and personal relationships with individuals with co-workers and individuals who require support.
- Describe adult human development.
- Compare and contrast typical and abnormal adult human development.
- Analyze and use best practices in support of a variety of common mental health issues and psychiatric illnesses.
- Describe and use best practice for supporting persons living with common illnesses in the community.
- Use practical first aid, CPR, violence prevention, gentle persuasive approach, and person being served safe handling skills.
- Use standard office systems and financial processes appropriate in the classroom and in the workplace.

**Career Occupation**

The Social and Community Service Worker program prepares students for career occupations as social and community service workers who may assist clients to deal with personal and social problems. They may be employed by social service agencies, mental health agencies, group homes, shelters, and substance abuse centres (NOC 2021 42201).

---

**ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

Applicants must meet these requirements prior to acceptance into the program:

- Grade 12 graduation from BC secondary school or equivalent\*, or equivalent\* from another school system, or be a mature applicant (19 years of age on the first day of class)
- If a mature applicant, then provide proof of completion of grade 10 English from a BC secondary school or equivalent\* from another school system or complete one of the following assessments:
  - Accuplacer:
    - Next generation reading minimum score of 230.
    - Next generation writing minimum score of 230.
  - Canadian Language Benchmark Placement Test (CLB PT) within the last year:
    - Listening 6
    - Speaking 6
    - Reading 6
    - Writing 6
  - International English Language Testing System (IELTS) – academic or general test within the last two years:
    - Overall score of 5.5 with a minimum of 5.5 in speaking, listening, reading, and writing
  - Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL):
    - Overall score of 46-59
      - Reading 8-12

- Writing 18-20
  - Speaking 16-17
  - Listening 7-11
- Signed consent for a criminal record check under the Criminal Records Review Program (CRRP)

Applicants must meet with a DCC official and complete required documents.

**\*Equivalent:**

For detailed information about equivalencies please speak with your DCC Admissions Advisor. Entrance requirements may be met with evidence of secondary and post-secondary studies at an equivalent level, and/or with successful assessment testing.

**Important Note:**

The Social & Community Service Worker program is not equivalent to, or recognized as, a BC Health Care Assistant Program. Graduates are not eligible for registration with the BC Care Aide & Community Health Worker Registry (BCCACHWR).

**Criminal Records Checks**

For the CRC with the Ministry of Justice of British Columbia, DCC will submit an on-line application to the Criminal Record Review Program (CRRP). The status of the CRC does not automatically prevent an applicant from attending this program. However, any CRC that reveals “relevant” offences may limit work experience options.

A satisfactory criminal record check is one that shows no convictions for any offences reviewed under the Criminal Records Review Act by the Ministry of Justice of British Columbia, as well as no outstanding criminal charges.

**Immunizations**

Some work experience hosts require that students have a negative TB skin test or chest x-ray. It is the student’s responsibility to book this test at least six weeks before their work experience. Not having this test may restrict your choice of work experience host.

You should have a negative skin test dated within six months of the work experience placement. If you had a positive skin test (10 mm of induration or greater) at your last test, then a negative chest x-ray within one year of the placement is required.

**METHODS of EVALUATION**

Student progress and success will be assessed regularly throughout the program. This will be accomplished using a variety of evaluation tools. Assessment items used are fully described in course outlines.

The passing grade for all courses is 70%, or a pass in courses that are graded with a pass/fail. Students are required to pass all courses at each level of the program before moving on to work experience. Each course within a program must be passed to graduate.

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

Course information will be given to students at the beginning of each course.

For online learning students will require a suitable device such as a laptop computer (preferably using Windows operating system), and access to internet services. We recommend a laptop with a keyboard (not just a touch screen) and additional devices such as a cell phone or tablet to use as a reading device for digital textbooks.

This program is offered in a cohort instructor led learning format. Primary methods of instruction include lectures, demonstrations, discussion, practice, individual guidance, and small group instruction. We use MS Teams and Moodle to host content, evaluate, and guide students; and MyLab IT to host some content.

#### Work Experience – Practicum Placement

Students are encouraged to assist in finding work experience placements.

Work experience placements will be at a variety of sites in the community. Please note that students may have to travel outside of their home community to attend their work experience placement. Students must be able to attend their placement as scheduled; this may be on days, evenings, or weekends. Students will be required to supply their own transportation to their placements and to assume any other related costs.

Students must have successfully completed all courses in the program prior to attending their work experience. While on their work experience students must portray a professional image.

There may be off-site field trips arranged during the program as opportunity and resources allow. Students will be required to supply their own transportation for these.

#### Schedules

Schedules may vary, and students must be prepared to attend in person and online classes as scheduled. Schedules will be distributed at the beginning of the program. Class times may be subject to change. Students must be able to attend all classes: either in the campus classroom or in the online classroom, and at a host facility for work experience.

#### Resources and Equipment

The required textbooks and e-books for this program will be distributed as needed during the courses. The instructor will provide other resources such as online handouts, study aids, and other electronic resources as needed.

Classes will take place either in the virtual online classroom or in a campus classroom. DCC uses Office 365 Teams environment as the online platform. All students will receive a free license and access to student software while enrolled in this program.

#### Student Competencies

To meet program goals and learning outcomes, students will participate in a problem solving, case study, learner centered approach to education. You will be supported in this learning environment as a responsible, self-determining person, able to engage in cooperative, collaborative, team-oriented learning.

Elements of performance and learning activities will include:

- Care of yourself and fostering of your physical, intellectual, emotional, and spiritual growth.

- Care of your client and support of individuals needs.
- Professional practice in a safe, ethical manner that recognizes the boundaries established by various community support agencies.
- Professional communication with clients, families, colleagues, and members of the care team.
- Knowledge of community mental health issues and principles of rehabilitation.
- Knowledge of human development throughout the lifespan.

Competencies within these areas are integrated throughout the teaching and learning activities of this program.

#### Recommended Student Characteristics

Students must be genuinely concerned for and interested in helping and supporting people in need. You should be self-motivated, responsible, sensitive, and responsive to your own and others' needs. You should also be willing to engage in reflection on your own personal and professional development and in appropriate and relevant self-disclosure with class participants. Students must be willing and able to participate in class activities and discussions as speakers and active listeners. You should enjoy reading and study and be able to write and record your thoughts and information gathered.

#### Revisions

Information contained in this curriculum guide is correct at the time of publication. Content of courses and programs is revised on an ongoing basis to ensure relevance to changing educational, employment, and marketing needs.