

Community Services - Developmental Services Worker



Confederation College is located in the city of Thunder Bay, a culturally diverse community that serves as the education and government hub of northwestern Ontario. Located in the heart of one of the finest outdoor recreation and tourism destinations in Canada, Confederation College students enjoy the benefits of living and learning in a community that provides a rich lifestyle right at your doorstep.

At Confederation College we change lives through learning. We are committed to meeting the needs of our learners, employers and communities, and we are here to help you succeed in meeting your life goals. To arrange for a Thunder Bay campus tour call (807) 475-6110 or [book a tour online](#).

CAMPUSES

Thunder Bay »

1450 Nakina Drive
P.O. Box 398
Thunder Bay, ON
Canada P7C 4W1

Dryden »

Fort Frances »

Geraldton »

Kenora »

Marathon »

Red Lake »

Sioux Lookout »

Wawa »

ADMISSIONS

The minimum admission requirement for a postsecondary program is an Ontario Secondary School Diploma, or its equivalent, with minimally 2 senior credits at the college, college/university or university preparation level. Some programs have additional admission requirements. For specific admission requirements, please see the program descriptions included in this publication, visit the [Admissions website](#) or contact our Admissions Office at (807) 475-6213.

SERVICES FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS

Click the title to visit Department webpage:

Admissions & Recruitment »	(807) 475-6213
Career & Placement Services »	(807) 475-6193
Centre for Continuing Education »	(807) 475-6550
Counselling Services »	(807) 475-6110
Distance Education »	1-800-563-9435
Financial Aid »	(807) 475-6637
Fitness Centre »	(807) 475-6239
General Inquiry »	(807) 475-6110
Health Centre »	(807) 475-6169
International Students »	(807) 475-6175
Learning Centre »	(807) 475-6618
Library Learning Commons »	(807) 475-6219
Negahneewin College of Academic & Community Development »	(807) 475-6465
Oshki Anishnawbeg Student Assoc. »	(807) 475-6314
Registration Services »	(807) 475-6265
Residence/Housing »	(807) 475-6381
Student Union »	(807) 475-6226

Developmental Services Worker



The Developmental Services Worker supports individuals who have a range of physical, mental or developmental abilities. The role of the graduate has expanded considerably in order to implement the concepts of inclusion to support individuals in the community.

If you're interested in a career working with persons with disabilities, the Developmental Services Worker program is the place to start. This rewarding and challenging two-year course, will provide plenty of opportunity for academic achievement, as well as personal and professional satisfaction. In addition to classroom instruction, you can look forward to field placements with the five major agencies in Thunder Bay, as well as with both Boards of Education.

Admission Requirements

- Ontario Secondary School Diploma (or equivalent) with courses from the College (C), University (U), University/College (U/C), or Open (O) preparation levels.
- or successful completion of the Mature Student Assessment.
- or appropriate credits from the Academic and Career Entrance program (ACE).

And Course Required: Grade 12 College or University preparation English.

If you do not meet these admission requirements, we encourage you to consider our [College Access](#) or [General Arts and Science programs](#); if you successfully complete one of these programs, you will be eligible to apply to programs in the [Community Services](#) area.

FIRST SEMESTER

Course Number	Title	Credits
CS 007	Persuasive Writing	3
DS 127	Developmental Disabilities	3
DS 129	Facilitative Techniques	3
DS 238	School Based Support Strategies	3
DS 341	Health and Wellness for DSW	3
PY 063	Child Development	3
	Total	18

SECOND SEMESTER

Course Number	Title	Credits
CS 223	Communications for Community Services	3
DS 131	Interpersonal Effectiveness	3
DS 232	Field Placement I	21
DS 234	Introduction to Applied Behavioural Analysis	3
DS 349	Augmentative Communication and Assistive Technology	3
	Total	33

THIRD SEMESTER

Course Number	Title	Credits
DS 133	Pharmacology	3
DS 236	Developmental Disabilities II	3
DS 343	Behavioural Support Strategies	3
DS 345	Dual Diagnosis	3
DS 347	Community Based Support Strategies	3
SS 116	Social Welfare	3
	Total	18

FOURTH SEMESTER

Course Number	Title	Credits
DS 452	Field Placement II	24
DS 456	Counselling Skills	3
SY 066	Sociology Of Community: The Aboriginal Context	3

Course Number	Title	Credits
GE ...	General Education Elective	3
	Total	33



Course Descriptions

Persuasive Writing

CS007

With a thematic focus on current issues, this course will help learners to express themselves clearly, correctly and persuasively in written form. Learners will also engage in analytical reading and critical thinking through assigned readings and discussions on a variety of topics. The course will also help learners to effectively compile and present research in essay form according to the APA style of documentation.

Communications for Community Services

CS223

In this course, students will enhance their communication skills as needed in the community services field. They will acquire the skills necessary to write memos, letters, email, reports and proposals, and presentations that meet the professional standards in the community services field. As well students will prepare in their employment search by writing resumes, cover letters and preparing for interviews.

Developmental Disabilities

DS127

This course will provide the student with multi-disciplinary information about developmental disabilities. Emphasis will be placed on understanding the causes of and conditions of disabilities as well as the current paradigms of practice.

Facilitative Techniques

DS129

Students will be provided with an understanding of the principles and applications of techniques designed to assist persons who have been labeled. The focus will be hands on learning about how to improve accessibility, along with how to modify tasks/activities for improving all aspects of daily living.

Interpersonal Effectiveness

DS131

In this course students will examine interpersonal/inter-professional effectiveness and self awareness. Students will be introduced to skills critical to their ability to effectively interact with others. Students will be provided with the opportunity to apply professional development in the area of effective interpersonal skills and intrapersonal awareness.

Pharmacology

DS133

Students will learn a variety of pharmacology competencies as well as the related theory for specific body systems and the drugs that affect each system. The students will be required to demonstrate procedures for the administration of medications through practical applications within the classroom. Considerations for administering medications for individuals with a disability will be the focus.

Field Placement I

DS232

Students will be involved in a school based placement for 15 weeks. The school environment will provide the student with an opportunity to observe and practice the competencies that are required in the role of an Educational Assistant/ Special Support Person.

Introduction to Applied Behavioural Analysis

DS234

Students will demonstrate a variety of applied behavioural analysis theoretical and practical strategies to assist individuals to develop behaviour and skills in an environment that is the least restrictive.

Developmental Disabilities II

DS236

This course will build on the students' knowledge of disabilities and the current issues of importance in the field. Community services and resources will also be explored.

School Based Support Strategies

DS238

Students will examine the learning styles of students with special needs. Included for study are approaches to inclusive education, instructional strategies, adaptation of learning activities and observational skills.

Health and Wellness for DSW

DS341

Students will learn a variety of health care competencies as well as the related theory for healthy living. The students will be required to demonstrate competencies through practical applications within the classroom.

Behavioural Support Strategies

DS343

Students will assess, design, implement and evaluate behavioural plans when supporting individuals with challenging behaviour. Emphasis will be on the application of advanced applied behavioural analysis skills, learned in Introduction to Applied Behaviour Analysis.

Dual Diagnosis

DS345

Students will be provided an overview of mental health diagnosis and the interventions/treatments currently used to promote successful inclusion in the community. As well, the student will learn about the nature of dual diagnosis and the need for coordinated system of supports and services for individuals with a disability.

Community Based Support Strategies

DS347

In this course students will examine person centered approaches in order to support individuals with skills to live as independently as possible. Specific best practices in planning and support will be covered. This course will be delivered via Distance Education. Please contact the bookstore at 475-6225 to purchase the required textbook.

Augmentative Communication and Assistive Technology

DS349

Students will examine typical and atypical language development, augmentative communication, best practices in the field of Autism and the use of assistive technology. This course will use a blend of theory with hands on development of techniques necessary to support persons at home, work or in school.

Field Placement II

DS452

Students will be involved in 15 weeks of placement in community based agencies. These agencies will provide the student experience in some of the following areas: brain injuries, dual diagnosis, PDD, aging and community supports. Student will be in field placement for three days a week with supervision from agency mentors and faculty supervisors.

Counselling Skills

DS456

In this course students will be provided with the opportunity to develop basic professional "helping skills". This is an introductory course where students will learn a critical set of competencies for use in their field of practice. Students will be challenged to apply theoretical concepts in classroom role plays and skill building exercises.

Child Development

PY063

This course explores life from a chronological perspective including an Aboriginal development life cycle worldview, beginning with and concluding with adolescence. Each developmental period will be examined in relation to physical, motor, cognitive and social-emotional aspects of development. This course will examine the interaction between internal and external factors that effect development.

Social Welfare

SS116

This course presents a critical analysis of the evolution of the social welfare system and the current needs of Canadian citizens. Attention is given to the history of society's response to meeting human needs, from varying philosophical and theoretical perspectives. Students will research current social issues and understand how ideology/philosophy shapes our perception and the services offered to different client populations.

Sociology Of Community: The Aboriginal Context

SY066

This course provides students with an introduction to contemporary issues within Aboriginal families and communities in Northwestern Ontario (NWO) and Canada. Students will examine traditional and contemporary representations of Indigenous cultures. They will investigate the unique socio-political relationships between Canada and Aboriginal peoples with an emphasis on the colonial, legal and political histories. In examining the contributions, challenges and aspirations of Aboriginal families and communities, students will be encouraged to reflect on their own cultural expression and experience in NWO. This course is one of the offerings for those working towards their Aboriginal Canadian Relations Certificate. No text required.
