



Counselling & Career Centre



What can you do with your Social Work Diploma?

About Social Work

Social workers address barriers, inequities and injustices in society. They respond to personal and social challenges, building on capacities, facilitating and advocating for change. Social workers are trained to 'help people help themselves'. The focus of social work is on the interactions between people and their social environment. The Social Work program looks at how to help people meet the demands of daily life. It looks at how social work seeks to improve people's problem-solving and coping skills, and links them with systems that offer resources, services, and opportunities. It is desirable that you have some life experience and a great deal of self-awareness before coming into the program. Students who take some time to gain practical experience and enhanced insights prior to entering the program are likely to be the most successful.

Career/Job Opportunities

Social work as a career offers many possibilities to people who want to make a difference in the quality of life for individuals and society. Social workers are commonly viewed as those who work directly with people who are disadvantaged and troubled. While this is true, it is only part of the picture.

The information provided in this handout will give you ideas as to some of the careers/jobs that are associated with your diploma/degree, as well as careers that may not be as directly related to your program of study. This is only a sampling of the jobs options available to you if you have the appropriate skills and experience.

If you would like to explore your interests, identify your goals; discuss your career options and job search strategies and discover how to make the most of your education, we encourage you to either drop by the Counselling and Career Centre in room 1402 or call 403-343-4064 to make an appointment with the Career and Employment Services Coordinator.



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For career information, enter the four digit number listed below in the Alberta Learning Information Services Website (www.alis.alberta.ca) or the National Occupational Classification Website (<http://www5.hrsdc.gc.ca/NOC/>).

With your education in Social Work you could be a:

Social Worker #4152	Youth Care Worker #4212	Life Skills Coach # 4212	Community Facilitator #4212
Child Welfare Worker #4212	Fundraiser #5124	Mental Health Worker #4212	Case Manager #4212
Group Home Worker #4212	Meals-on-Wheels Coordinator#4212	Volunteer Coordinator#4212	Social Advocate #4152
Crisis Intervention Worker #4212	Halfway House Supervisor #4212	Veteran's Affairs Field Officer#4212	

You can look for work outside of your area of study, depending on your experience and interests, possible job titles include:

Occupations In Business:

Insurance Agent #6231	Investment Advisor # 1112/1114	Consumer/Marker Researcher # 4163	Entrepreneur/ Venture Capitalist
Actuary # 2161	Recruiter # 1223	Community Liaison Officer	Customer Service Trainer
Quality Control/ Quality Assurance Specialist	Employee Benefits Counsellor		



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Occupations in Education:

Academic Advisor # 4143	Career Advisor	Teacher's Assistant # 6472
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Occupations in Communications:

Writer/ Author/ Columnist # 5121	Editor # 5122	Communication Specialist	Technical Writer #5212
Reporter/Journalist/ Correspondent # 5123	Broadcaster # 5231		

With Additional Education you can get jobs in:

Law and Criminal Justice as:

Lawyer # 4112	Legislative Assistant # 1222	Paralegal # 4211	Children's Aid Investigator # 4152
Correctional Services Worker	Probation Officer #4155	Legal Recruitment Consultant	Education Solicitor

Family and Social Services as:

Family Counsellor/ Family Therapist # 4153	Child Welfare Officer # 4152	Substance Abuse Counsellor # 4153	Special Needs Instructor # 4215
Crisis Intervention Counsellor	Foster Care Social Worker # 4152	Case Work Consultant # 4152	Rehabilitation Counsellor # 4153
Refugee/ displaced	Recreation & Events	Veterans Affairs	Volunteer Services



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persons officer #4164	Coordinator # 4167	Specialist # 4212	Director # 0314
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Public Health and Program Administration as:

Psychiatric Social Worker # 4152	Planner # 4164	Community Centre Director # 0314	Medical Social Worker # 4152
Family Planning Counsellor # 4153	Public Administrator # 0411	Geriatric Social Worker # 4152	Occupational Therapist # 3143
Group Home Manager # 0314	Career Guidance Counsellor # 4143	Community Centre Director #0314	Community Development /Specialist/Planner # 4163

Social Scientific Research and Advising as:

Social Impact Assessor # 4164	Demographer # 2161	Health Care Service Statistician# 4165	Demographic/Policy Analyst # 4164
Government Policy Advisor # 4164	Gerontologist # 4169	Data Analyst # 2172	Researcher # 4164
Public Assistance Advisor #4164			

Occupations in Business:

Social Survey Director # 0411	Special Events Coordinator # 1226	Corporate Social Responsibilities Officer	Public Policy Researcher # 4164
Benefits Officer #1432	Human Resources Specialist # 1121	Women's Organization Analyst/Adviser	Management Consultant # 1122



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Human Resources Trainer	Human Resources Manager # 0112	Public Relations Consultant # 5124	Job Analyst # 1121
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Types of Employers (Not a Comprehensive list)

Advertising & Marketing	Community Services	Consulting Firms	Correctional & Rehabilitation Centers
Non Profit Organizations	Prisons	Adoption & Child Care Agencies	Charity Services
Counselling Services	Court Systems	Development Organizations	Educational Institutions
Employment Agencies	Environmental Advocacy Groups	Foster Care Services	Governmental Agencies
Halfway House	Health Services	Immigration Assistance	Insurance Companies
Newspaper & Magazines	Public Relations Officer	Religious Organization	Research Centers
Women's Service	Law Offices	Libraries	Medical Centers
International Relief Agencies	UNICEF	Mental Health	Canadian Forces

Skills of Social Work Majors

- Interpersonal communication (oral and written)
- Engage in ethical practice
- Problem solving, decision making and team-playing skills
- Concern for and sensitivity to others
- Able to promote healthy relationships
- Understanding of group functioning and dynamics
- Aptitude for leadership
- Understanding of learning disabilities, physical disabilities, psycho-social concerns of children, adolescents, adults and in the elderly.



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- Ability to plan and carry out long term projects
- Ability to write grant proposals
- Conduct research related to human development and behaviour
- Design and construct surveys/interviews/research
- Interviewing, surveying and sampling
- Conducting field studies
- Identifying value systems
- Utilizing statistical analysis
- Determine the significant aspects of a multi-dimensional problem
- Ability to explain psychological/social work research and possibly psychological tests
- Ability to formulate and defend positions
- Ability to maintain composure in stressful situations
- Ability to make critical observations, evaluations and appropriate decisions
- Investigation skills in investigating allegations of abuse, neglect, or violations of rights
- Knowledge of community resources
- Managing personnel, programs and budgets
- Provide services in areas of advocacy, community organization, addressing issues regarding "at risk" populations, social policy and social justice
- Teaching & training skills
- Computer skills (data processing & analysis)

Potential Employers in Central Alberta:

Alberta Health Services – Addictions AADAC 106, 4920 51 Street Red Deer, AB T4N 6K8 403-340-5274	Accredited Supports to the Community Box 3940, 4322-50 Ave Olds, AB T4H 1P6 403-556-4110	Alzheimer Society 1-4805 48 Ave Red Deer, AB T4N 3T2 403-346-2540	Big Brothers & Big Sisters Red Deer 4633 49 Street Red Deer, AB T4N 1T4 403-342-6500
Canadian Cancer Society 4730A Ross Street Red Deer, AB T4N 1X2 403-347-3662	Career Assistance Network 18-4712 50 Street Red Deer, AB T4N 1X2 403-341-7811	Catholic Social Services 5104 48 Ave Red Deer, AB T4N 6K8 403-346-7055	Central Alberta Woman's Emergency Shelter (CAWES) 4808 51 Ave Red Deer, AB T4N 4H2 403-347-2480



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Canadian Mental Health Association
5017 50 Ave
Red Deer, AB
403-342-2266

Golden Circle
4620 47A Ave
Red Deer, AB
T4N 3R4
403-343-6074

Direwood Treatment Centre
33 Dixon Crescent
Red Deer, AB
T4R 2H4
403-342-7907

Heritage Family Services
300-4825 47 Street
Red Deer, AB
403-343-3422

Heritage YAC (Youth Assessment Centre)
26 Gunn Street
Red Deer, AB
403-342-2610

Alberta Employment & Immigration
109 Provincial Building 4920-51 Street
Red Deer, AB
T4N 6K8
403-340-2541

John Howard Society
4916 50 Street
Red Deer, AB
T4N 1X7
403-343-1770

McMan Youth Family & Community Service Association
4624 49 Street
Red Deer, AB
403-309-2002

Michener Services: Morningside Agency
Box 5002
Red Deer, AB
T4N 5Y5
403-340-5873

MS Society
105-4807 50 Ave
Red Deer, AB
T4N 4A5
403-346-0290

Ponoka Neighbourhood Place
5110 49 Street
Ponoka, AB
T4J 1E1
403-704-1146

Red Deer Child Care Society
4620 47 Ave
Red Deer, AB
T4N 6C3
403-314-0716

Red Deer Native Friendship Society
200-5405 50 Ave
Red Deer, AB
T4N 4B7
403-340-0020

Suicide Information & Education Services
Suite D, 4808 51 Ave
Red Deer, AB
T4N 4H3
403-342-4966

Community Information & Referral Society
4728 Ross Street
Red Deer, AB
T4N 1X2
403-346-4636

Youth and Volunteer Centre
4633 49 Street
Red Deer, AB
T4N 1T4
403-342-6500



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General Job Search Websites:

- Red Deer College- www.rdc.ab.ca/employment
- Cit of Red Deer- <http://www.reddeer.ca/default.htm>
- Service Canada: Job Bank - www.jobbank.gc.ca
- Red Deer Job Shop – www.reddeerjobshop.ca
- Wowjobs: One Click All Jobs - www.wowjobs.ca
- Provincial Government of Alberta- <https://www.jobs.alberta.ca/>
- Federal Government of Canada- www.jobs.gc.ca
- Canadian Forces- www.forces.ca
- Alberta Health Services- www.healthjobs.ab.ca
- Albertajobs.com – www.albertajobs.com
- Eluta: The Search Engine for New Jobs in Canada – www.eluta.ca
- Hireground Careers – www.hgcareers.com
- Monster: Your calling is calling – www.monster.ca
- Workopolis.com: Canada’s Biggest Job Site - www.workopolis.com

Professional Associations and Sites of Interest

- International Federation of Social Workers www.ifsw.org
- Canadian Association of Social Workers www.casw-acts.ca
- Canadian Association of Rehabilitation Professionals www.carpnational.org
- British Columbia Association of Social Workers www.bcasw.org/
- Alberta College of Social Workers www.acsw.ab.ca/news
- Clinical Social Work Federation www.cswf.org/
- National Organization of Forensic Social Work www.nofsw.org/

RDC Department Information

Social Work Department -

http://www.rdc.ab.ca/academic_calendar/program_course_listing/certificate_and_diploma_programs/Pages/social_work.aspx

For More Info

Please contact the Career & Employment Services Coordinator

Counselling & Career Centre - Room 1402

403.343.4064

employmentservices@rdc.ab.ca

Information adapted from

<http://www.mcgill.ca/files/caps/english.pdf>

<http://www.uncwil.edu/stuaff/career/majors/english.htm>

<http://www.uwec.edu/career/students/major/english.htm>

<http://www.worldwidelearn.com/online-education-guide/arts-humanities/english-major.htm>

<http://www2.yk.psu.edu/common/degrees/undergrad/bacc/english/engmajor.shtml>