

Social Work, Diploma/Degree

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.

What you can be with your Social Work, Diploma/Degree:

Social Worker #4152	Youth Care Worker #4212	Like Skills Coach #4212	Community Facilitator #4212
Child Welfare Worker #4212	Fundraiser #5124	Mental Health Worker #4212	Case Manager #4212
Group Home Worker #4212	Health Coach #4212	Volunteer Coordinator #4212	Social Advocate #4152
Crisis Intervention Worker #4212	Transitional Housing Supervisor #4212	Community Disabilities Service Practitioner #4212	Addictions Counsellor #4153
Educational Counsellor #4143	Career Development Professional #4213	Educational Assistant #6472	Creative Writer/Columnist #5121
Advertising Copywriter #5121	Announcer #5231	Reporter/Journalist/Correspondent #5123	Editor #5122
Technical Writer #5121.1	Children's Aid Investigator #4152	Correctional Services Worker #4155.2	Parole/Probation Officer #4155.1
Legal Assistant #1242	Social Work Instructor #4131	Marriage & Family Counsellor #4153	Child Welfare Officer #4152
Special Needs Teacher #4142	Community Health Representative #4212	Foster Care Social Worker #4152	Case Work Consultant #4152
Rehabilitation Counsellor #4153	Immigration Consultant #4164	Recreation Coordinator #4167.5	Veterans Affairs Specialist #4212
Manager of Volunteer Resources #4212	Policy Analyst #4166	Community Centre Director #0314	Group home Manager #0314
Career Guidance Counsellor #4143	Community Centre Director #0314	Community Development Planner #4163	Public Administrator #0411

This career/job listing is only a sample of the possible career options; these are certainly not the only career/job options accessible with this degree/diploma. Some of the careers listed require further education. 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/>).

RDC Career Services can help you explore your interests, identify your goals, discuss your career options and job search strategies and discover how to make the most of your education. Email or give us a call to connect with a career counsellor.

RDC Department Information: Social Work, Diploma/Degree rdc.ab.ca/programs/arts

With additional education, I could be a:

Social Impact Assessor #4164	Demographer #2161	Health Care Service Statistician #4165	Demographic/Policy Analyst #4164
Government Policy Advisor #4146	Gerontologist #4169	Data Analyst #2172	Researcher #4164
Public Assistance Advisor #4164	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/Advisor
Management Consultant	Public Relations Consultant #5124	Job Analyst #1121	

Potential employers:

Non Profit Organizations	Prisons	Counselling Services	Court Systems
Educational	Employment Agencies	Foster Care Services	Governmental Agencies
Transitional Housing	Mental Health	Immigration Assistance	Women Services
Adoption & Child Care Agencies	Charity Services	Development	Libraries

Major Skills Obtained from a Social Work, Diploma/Degree Program

- Interpersonal communication skills (oral and written)
- Engage in ethical practice
- Knowledge of human development & behaviour
- Problem solving skills
- Able to observe, analyze, & interpret information
- Decision making
- Understanding of group dynamics
- Computer literacy
- Marketing
- Time management
- Critical and inferential thinking
- Planning and budgeting
- 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

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
 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/
 Alberta Health Services <http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/careers/careers.aspx>
 Alzheimer Society of Red Deer <http://www.alzheimer.ca/ab>
 Catholic Social Services <https://www.cssalberta.ca/>
 Central Alberta Women's Emergency Shelter <http://cawes.com/>
 Canadian Mental Health Association <http://www.cmha.ca/>
 The Golden Circle, Senior Resource Centre <http://www.goldencircle.ca/>
 Central Alberta Sexual Assault Support Centre <http://casasc.ca/>
 Volunteer Central <http://www.volunteercentral.ca/>
 Youth and Volunteer Centre <http://www.yvc.ca>