

PERSONAL SUPPORT WORKER (PSPG)

Improve the dignity and quality of others' lives as a PSW

The perfect storm of an aging population, shorter hospital stays, and a shortage of specialists make the personal support worker (PSW) profession in demand. Our tailored, accelerated program prepares you to be confident, able, and job-ready in just 8 months. By combining classroom learning with hands-on training, you'll gain the skills needed to promote independence and quality of life for those who live in a facility or community setting.

First, you'll learn to assist clients with daily living activities by getting hands-on experience in our 1,200-square-foot apartment simulation lab and nursing skills lab. The second semester is a clinical consolidation and preceptorship, where you will polish your skills with 270 hours in a health care setting under the guidance of experienced PSWs and a faculty member. Upon completion, you'll become a confident, caring, and job-ready PSW.

This program includes 28 weeks of instruction, complemented by two weeks of academic breaks, for a total duration of 30 weeks. Whether you're a domestic or international student, this 8-month program provides a meaningful pathway into the growing health care field, allowing you to make a lasting difference in the lives of others.

Program highlights

- Be job-ready in just 8 months
- Hands-on training in 1,200-square-foot apartment simulation lab and nursing lab
- 270 hours of real-world experience in a clinical setting
- Grads can pursue a nursing diploma through Cambrian's PSW to Practical Nursing Pathway program

Program of study for 2025-26 Academic Year

Semester 1		Credits
ENG 1242	Speaking/Writing Comm. Services I	3
HEA 1110	Clinical Readiness & Preparedness	1
PSW 1165	Relational Communications	3
PSW 1164	Foundations of PSW	3
PSW 1169	Empowering Health Practice I	6
PSW 1170	Human Body and Disease I	3
	Credits	19
Semester 2		
PSW 1167	Lifespan Health and Wellness	3
PSW 1240	PSW Practice Theory to Care	6
PSW 1269	Empowering Health Practice II	5
PSW 1270	Human Body and Disease II	3
	Credits	17
	Total Credits	36

Admission requirements

For graduates of the new curriculum (OSS): Ontario Secondary School Diploma (30 credits) or equivalent or mature student status, including:

- Any grade 12 English (C) or (U)
- Any grade 11 (C), (U), or (M) or grade 12 mathematics (C) or (U)

Additional admission requirements

At registration students must provide the following to Synergy:

- Proof of current immunization
- Proof (original certificate) of CPR HCP and Standard First Aid
- Original copy of an Adult Criminal Record Check with Vulnerable Sectors Check
- Complete Cambrian College WHMIS, AODA, General Safety Awareness course (online approximately \$10)
- Mandatory N95 Mask Fit testing (valid for 2 years)

Recommendations

- Any grade 12 Biology (U)

Program delivery

2025-2026

Fall term start

SEMESTER 1: Fall 2025
SEMESTER 2: Winter 2026

Winter term start

SEMESTER 1: Winter 2026
SEMESTER 2: Spring 2026

Spring term start

SEMESTER 1: Spring 2026
SEMESTER 2: Fall 2026

Specific program pathways

College or university degree opportunities

If you are a graduate of this program, you may continue your studies at a college or university and you may receive credit(s) for your prior college education. Refer to Cambrian's college and university agreement (<https://cambriancollege.ca/supports-services/articulation-agreements/universities-in-canada/>) details for further information.

Graduates from this program (or equivalent) may be eligible for advanced standing in the Practical Nursing (<https://cambriancollege.ca/programs/practical-nursing/>) program and apply for direct entry into semester two. Students looking to take advantage of this pathway, must complete the PSW to PN Nursing Transformation pathway (<https://ontariolearn.com/pswtopn/>) through Ontario Learn, prior to requesting admission to the Practical Nursing program.

Employment opportunities

Graduates are prepared for employment opportunities in:

- Community settings
- Long-term care facilities
- Hospital settings

Contacts

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2 Personal Support Worker (PSPG)

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INTERNATIONAL ADMISSIONS

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