

# SOCIAL SERVICES WORKER - INDIGENOUS SPECIALIZATION (SSIS)

Come and join us in this journey where you will transcend into a professional Social Service Worker, with Indigenous Specialization. You will learn Social Service Worker skills, ethics, theory, Anishnabek/Indigenous Teachings and have access to Elders and Knowledge Keepers. You will have much opportunity to practice your skills while be guided through the process. As you grow and transcend in the program, you will be well prepared to serve your communities in a good way.

## Impact the lives of Indigenous individuals and communities.

This program delivers a client-centred approach that is culturally-relevant and prepares both Indigenous and non-Indigenous students to work in the human services field. Become an effective counsellor through case studies and real counselling sessions, communications seminars, theoretical concepts, guest speakers, and fieldwork that is culturally aware and respectful of the realities faced by Indigenous peoples.

You'll learn to demonstrate consistent ethical, legal, and professional responsibility while adhering to social work values and principles. The Indigenous specialization sets you apart in the social services field with enhanced knowledge and the wisdom to help create a culturally safe environment for clients.

## Program highlights

- Learn interprofessional skills from Anishnabeg holistic perspective
- 2 placements with community organizations
- Recognized by Ontario College of Social Workers & Social Service Workers
- Qualified as a Registered Social Service Worker in Ontario after graduation
- Graduates have skills and knowledge to work effectively within Indigenous communities
- Option to earn a second diploma in another community services program in just 1 year when you graduate

## Program of study for 2024-25 Academic Year

Semester 1		Credits
ENG 1002	College Communications	3
IND 1003	Introduction to Indigenous Studies	3
PSY 1003	Concurrent Disorders, Mental Health & Addictions	3
WES 1010	Professional Com/ Giigadowin I	3
WES 1111	SWPractice/Oshkaabewis I	4
WES 1002	Anishnabeg/Indigenous Social Services I	3
One General Education Course. <sup>1</sup>		3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>22</b>
Semester 2		
ENG 1242	Speaking/Writing Comm. Services I	3
WES 1003	Anishnabeg/Indigenous Family and Community Dynamics	3

WES 1211	SWPractice/Oshkaabewis II	4
WES 1241	Professional Com/Giigadowin II	3
WES 1295	Field Work I	2
One General Education course. <sup>1</sup>		3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>18</b>
Semester 3		
WES 1004	Anishnabeg/Indigenous Social Services II	3
WES 1063	Anishnabeg/Indigenous Social Work Practice III	4
WES 1251	Ethics	3
WES 2053	Community Development	3
WES 2320	Group Dynamics	3
One General Education course. <sup>1</sup>		3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>19</b>
Semester 4		
WES 2491	Field Work II	20
<b>Credits</b>		<b>20</b>
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>79</b>

<sup>1</sup> For more information regarding General Education courses, click here (<https://cambriancollege.ca/general-education-electives/>).

## Admission requirements

or 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)

## Additional admission requirements

To participate in field placements, students will need Synergy Basic clearance including: First Aid, CPR C, CPIC Vulnerable Sector Check, WHIMIS, AODA, Workplace Health & Safety, Workplace Violence & Prevention, and a WSIB Student Agreement

- Additional medical clearance may be required for some placement sites which support vulnerable populations, including: MMR, TB Step 1 and 2, Varicella, Tetanus/ Diphtheria (Td), Pertussis, Polio, and Hepatitis B.

See the Field Placement manual for more information.

## Program delivery

### 2024-2025

#### Fall term start

SEMESTER 1: Fall 2024  
SEMESTER 2: Winter 2025  
SEMESTER 3: Fall 2025  
SEMESTER 4: Winter 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/>) details for further information.

## **Employment opportunities**

Graduates may seek employment for casework and counselling positions within:

- First Nations
- Indigenous sector and communities
- Long term care and older adult services
- Residential services and Treatment Centre's
- Children, youth family, and Elders services
- Women's and LGBTQ2S+ services
- Justice and victims services
- Health, mental health, and addiction services
- Immigration and refugee services
- Employment and education programs
- Government

## **Contacts**

**Tammy Cayer-Dokis**

Program Coordinator

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### **INTERNATIONAL ADMISSIONS**

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