Bachelor of Social Work

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology

(A joint BSW degree with Thompson Rivers University)

Application & Admissions Package

How to Apply:

1. Apply to NVIT online using Education Planner BC
    a. Visit: https://apply.educationplannerbc.ca
    b. Create an Account
    c. Select NVIT
    d. Submit an Application to the program
        i. Program – Bachelor of Social Work
        ii. Location – Merritt* or Vancouver**
        iii. Term
        iv. Full-Time Study or Part-Time Study
    e. OR submit a paper application form available here: https://www.nvit.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/Application-for-Admission-Form.pdf

*Merritt Cohort – this is a hybrid offering. Students have the flexibility to attend online or in person in Merritt. Students living outside the Lower Mainland/Vancouver areas, in particular, Merritt and interior/rural areas, are prioritized for the Merritt Cohort.
**Vancouver Cohort – this is an in-person cohort offering only for the Lower Mainland/Vancouver catchment areas. Students are required to attend in person at the Burnaby campus. Some electives may have a hybrid/online option. All core courses are in person.

2. Complete all components of the enclosed application. Send your completed application to:

    advising@nvit.ca

Application Deadline

Please.remember.ALL.necessary.documentation.must.be.submitted.by.the.deadline¿

January 31st annually

Late applications will be considered if there are seats available.

Anticipated Start Date:

September Fall Semester annually

Once application packages are completed and submitted it will take 6 – 8 weeks to have them assessed. Please submit your full application as soon as possible.

Once a complete application has been received and transcript(s) evaluated by the Admissions Department, the package will be forwarded to the Bachelor of Social Work Department for evaluation. The BSW Department will assess the application based on admission statement, related experience indicated on the resume, grade point average and equity seating priorities (Indigenous applicants are considered priority) to determine whether the applicant will be granted a seat in the program. Once a decision has been made, students will be notified and will receive instructions on how to register. Due to the competitive nature of recent intakes, you may be contacted regarding a date you will be required to register by. If registration is not confirmed by that date, your seat offer will be rescinded.

If you have further questions regarding the admissions process, please do not hesitate to contact us at advising@nvit.ca or book an appointment with an Academic and Financial Planner here: bit.ly/NVIT-AFP

Program specific questions can be directed to socialwork@nvit.ca

Academic Requirements for Admission

To be eligible for admission to the Bachelor of Social Work program, applicants must have a minimum of 54 credits, however, 60 credits of transferable coursework is preferable.

Credit/Transfer credit over **15 years will not be eligible** for Bachelor of Social Work admission without specific relevant Department Chair approval **prior** to application package submission.

The credit requirements for admission can be met by:

1. **NVIT Indigenous Human Services Diploma**
    a. Minimum 2.67 (B-) GPA from the Indigenous Human Services Diploma.
    b. The full 60 credits from the Indigenous Human Services Diploma are applied to the BSW program.
    c. To apply IHMS 320 as SOCW 320 and IHMS 353 as SOCW 353 transfer credit, grades must meet the required minimum C grade to be applied.
    d. Please see attached Appendix documentation for how the Indigenous Human Services Diploma ladders into the BSW requirements.

2. **General University Studies**
    a. Minimum of 54 University Transferable credits, maximum of 60 University Transferable credits.
    b. This must include:
        i. 3 credits of academic English composition – ENGL 110 at NVIT or equivalent or 6 credits of English Literature.
        ii. SOCW 200A and SOCW 200B or equivalent.
        iii. The general university studies courses may include a combination of University Transferable courses as per the BC Transfer Guide.
        iv. Minimum GPA of 2.33 (C+) on general university coursework is required.
        v. It is recommended that PSYC 213 and PSYC 223 be completed prior to entering the program where possible. These courses are a requirement of the BSW program.

3. **Human Service Program and Combined General University Courses**
    a. Minimum 54 credits, maximum of 60 University Transferable credits.
    b. This must include:
        i. 3 credits of academic English composition – ENGL 110 at NVIT or equivalent or 6 credits of English Literature.
        ii. SOCW 200A and SOCW 200B or equivalent.
        iii. Completed Human Services Worker Diploma with an **existing** Block Transfer Agreement with NVIT – in related social services programs students may receive all or a combination of up to 12 discretionary credits, select specific SOCW course transfer credit and SOCW 304 Practicum transfer credit.
        iv. Minimum GPA of 2.67 (B-) is required.
        v. It is recommended that PSYC 213 and PSYC 223 be completed prior to entering the program where possible. These courses are a requirement of the BSW program.

4. **Official Transcripts**
    a. Official transcripts are transcripts that are sent directly to NVIT from the issuing institution.
    b. In an effort to help remove barriers to accessing education for students, application packages can be assessed for transfer credit towards the BSW program with unofficial transcripts.
    c. Official Transcripts, with all coursework completed, **must** be received by August 20th annually. **If official transcripts are still outstanding at the start date of your program, you will be deregistered.**

Additional Admission Requirements

To be included in your application:

1. **Admission Statement**
   The Admission Statement is an opportunity to express yourself and to share your ideas, interests and expectations about social work. Social work involves working directly with people with a wide range of needs, problems and values. The Admission Statement is an opportunity to describe both your understanding of and approach to social issues, and your expectations of social work education as preparation for social work practice.

   Please answer the following questions with a 300 to 400 type written word response per question. Please head each answer with the question.

   1. Why do you want to be a social worker and why did you choose NVIT? Discuss family, community or educational experiences that have influenced your decision.
   2. Describe your work and volunteer experience (including practicum, if applicable). Discuss how these experiences have influenced your decision to become a social worker.
   3. Describe the values, ethics and characteristics of an effective social worker. Evaluate yourself in relation to these criteria.
   4. What are two important social issues that affect individuals, your community or the world at large? State your views on these issues, your involvement, and your ideas for action.
   5. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC) submitted its final report in December 2015. Identify two TRC calls to action related to social work and how they can improve the practice of social work with Indigenous peoples.

Your Admission Statements are evaluated according to the following criteria:

<u>Self-Evaluation</u>
- Demonstrates the capacity for open self-reflection.
- Demonstrates an awareness of strengths and limitations.
- Demonstrates learning from life experience.

<u>Evaluation of Social Issues</u>
- Demonstrates understanding toward situations and conditions of disadvantage.
- Articulates personal actions taken or social actions required.
- Demonstrates a capacity for creativity and originality in interventions.

<u>Critical Analysis</u>
- Demonstrates an ability to question commonly accepted “truths”.
- Demonstrates the ability to make inferences from specific examples to abstract concepts.

<u>Experience</u>
- Paid or volunteer human service/social work experience.
- Non-human service/social work paid or volunteer experience.

<u>Communication</u>
- Applies adequate grammar, spelling, punctuation and organization.
- Conceptualizes ideas and experiences well.
- Communicates clearly and succinctly.

If you would like to be considered for equity seating, please ensure you are including your self-identification as such in your admissions statement. Please see the addendum on equity seating for more information.

2. **Resume**

Provide an updated resume that details relevant social work/social service experience. Applicants with a minimum of 250 hours related experience (practicum, paid work, volunteer) will be given priority. Please clearly indicate full-time and/or part-time experience and the duration of each placement. If applicable and logical, please break down by hours.

3. **Courses in Progress**

Please complete the included Courses in Progress form if you are currently enrolled in any courses that you would like applied to your application. Courses in Progress must be completed and graded out on official transcripts prior to the start of the program. Please provide proof of registration and/or transcripts for all Courses in Progress.

4. **Specialization Declaration**

Please complete the included Specialization Declaration form. NVIT's Bachelor of Social Work offers students the opportunity to graduate with either a specialization in Child Welfare or Indigenous Health Care should they choose. Students must declare their specialization upon starting the Bachelor of Social Work at NVIT. The 4th year practicum placement will align with the specialization chosen if all designated electives have been completed prior to start. Students can also complete the Bachelor of Social Work at NVIT with no specialization.

5. **Two-year or Three-year track**

Please declare whether you are interested in completing the remaining 60 credits of the Bachelor of Social Work over the course of two years, three years or on a part time basis (3+ years). Both two-year and three-year tracks qualify as full time studies with NVIT and StudentAidBC.

Pre Practice Requirements

Prior to Practicum, the following are required or recommended:

1. **Criminal Record Check**

Required. Students are required to obtain a BC Ministry of Public Safety Criminal Record Check after they have been admitted and before they begin their practicum placement. RCMP and other non-BC Ministry of Public Safety criminal record checks will not be accepted. You will be provided with instructions and a log in code specific to NVIT for the process after the start of the program. A BC Services Card Login is required to verify an applicant's identity. For more information please visit: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/crime-prevention/criminal-record-check/applicants/apply

2. **Driver's License**

Recommended. Many social work organizations, such as the Ministry of Children and Family Development and other Health Authorities, require practicum students to hold a full driver's license before offering them a practicum placement or employment. Applicants are advised to obtain one as soon as possible if they do not already have one.

COURSES IN PROGRESS **NAME:**_____

Semester/Year in Progress: _____

Program: _____

Course Number	College or University	Course End Date

Please provide proof of registration and/or transcripts for all Courses in Progress.

SPECIALIZATION DECLARATION **NAME:**_____

Please complete the included Specialization Declaration form. NVIT's Bachelor of Social Work offers students the opportunity to graduate with either a specialization in Child Welfare or Indigenous Health Care should they choose. Students must declare their specialization upon starting the Bachelor of Social Work at NVIT. The 4th year practicum placement will align with the specialization chosen if all designated electives have been completed prior to start. Students can also complete the Bachelor of Social Work at NVIT with no specialization.

Child Welfare Specialization

This specialization is for students that intend to work in mandated child protection settings upon graduation. Graduates who complete the Child Welfare Specialization may be required to complete less post-employment training than students without the specialization. Students must take the following electives for Child Welfare Specialization as well as complete a 4th year practicum placement in a child protection setting or delegated Indigenous agency.

SOCW 350 – Social Work, Law and Social Policy

SOCW 420 – Family Violence & Social Work Practice

SOCW 376 – Child Welfare Practice

Indigenous Health Care Specialization

This specialization is for students that intend to work in the medical social work field upon graduation. Graduates who complete the Indigenous Health Care Specialization will be prepared for careers across healthcare-relevant practice settings with an emphasis on supporting the needs and experiences of Indigenous peoples as they navigate the system. Students must take the following electives for Indigenous Health Care Specialization as well as complete a 4th year practicum placement in a health care setting or delegated Indigenous agency.

SOCW 441 - Indigenous Perspectives of Concurrent Disorders in Social Work

SOCW 340 – Social Work & Healthcare

SOCW 445 – Indigenous Health & Wellness

If students are interested in both specializations the recommendation is that students graduate with the Indigenous Health Care Specialization and pursue the Child Welfare post-employment training available to Bachelor of Social Work graduates upon program completion.

☐ Child Welfare Specialization

☐ Indigenous Health Care Specialization

☐ No Specialization

☐ Undecided – I require an Academic and Financial Planner to connect with me with regarding the best choice for me

TRACK DECLARATION **NAME:**_____

Please complete the included Track Declaration form. NVIT recognizes students' varying needs while completing their studies. The remaining 60 credits of the Bachelor of Social Work can be completed over the course of two years, three years or on a part time basis (3+ years).

Both two-year and three-year tracks qualify as full time studies with NVIT and StudentAidBC. Any students accessing academic accommodations or accessibility supports are considered full time with a 40% course load at both NVIT and StudentAidBC (with relevant documentation if required). These guidelines may differ from individual sponsorship guidelines; students are encouraged to consult with their sponsor to ensure they meet their funding eligibility requirements.

To maintain a BSW seat, you must be registered in at least one social work core course per semester until all core courses are completed. Students can request a one semester break from the program. Any student that steps away from the BSW program for more than one semester must receive permission to re-join. Any student that steps away from the BSW program for more than one year must reapply to the program.

<u>Two-Year Track</u>

Full time 100% course load. Students are expected to take 15 credits in both Fall and Spring Semesters and a minimum of 6 credits in the Summer Semester* in their 3rd year. For the 4th year, students are expected to take 15 credits in their Fall semester and a 9 – 12 credit course load in their 4th year Spring semester. An additional Summer semester may be required to obtain 120 credits.

<u>Three-Year Track</u>

Full time 60% course load. Students are expected to take 9 credits each Fall and Spring semester and 3-6 credits in the Summer Semesters*. In order to maintain full-time course load, students may be required to add additional electives to their course plan and graduate with over 120 credits.

<u>Part-Time Track</u>

Part-time students are course loads at 40% or below per semester. Students will take upwards of 3+ years to complete the required 120 credits.

☐ Two-Year Track

☐ Three-Year Track

☐ Part-Time Track

☐ Undecided – I require an Academic and Financial Planner to connect with me with regarding the best choice for me

*Summer semester courses are condensed offerings. 6 credits within the same 2-month time block is considered full-time at both NVIT and StudentAidBC.

Addendum

1. Equity Admissions

Equity admission recognizes students from diverse backgrounds including but not limited to:

Indigenous students (First Nations, Inuit, Metis)
Persons from racialized groups
Sexually and gender varied people
Persons with disabilities

Equity admission reserves a percentage or additional number of seats per cohort to students who self-identify as one of the above. If you would like to be considered for equity admission, please ensure you are self-identifying as such in your admission statement.

2. Academic Planner Course Planning

Not all students will be entering the BSW program with the same program requirements completed. Students are **required** to connect with an Academic and Financial Planner to discuss their individualized course plans. Always connect with an Academic and Financial Planner before making any changes to your registration.

Academic and Financial Planners can also support students in a variety of ways, please feel free to connect with them at any time during your program. You can book an appointment using this link: bit.ly/NVIT-AFP Please use the Associate of Arts and BSW Course Planning appointment type when specifically discussing your course plan/registration.

3. Course Prerequisites

Students are required to meet all course prerequisites. If a prerequisite is missing, students must obtain instructor permission to register. If permission is not granted, the student must first complete the required prerequisite(s) before registering in the course. Please meet with an Academic and Financial Planner if you have any questions about course prerequisites.

4. Prior Learning Assessments and Directed Studies

Any students interested in completing course components via Prior Learning Assessment or Directed Studies can discuss the option with both Academic and Financial Planners and the BSW Department Chair, Dean and relevant faculty member. PLAR and DS requests must be approved by the BSW Department Chair, Dean and relevant faculty member. Please note that not all courses are eligible to be completed via PLAR or DS.

5. Additional NVIT Supports

NVIT has many additional student supports, an Academic and Financial Planner can help you navigate any additional supports you may require such as Emergency Aid, counseling services or connecting with our other departments.

Student Success Centre
The Student Success Centre can support you with any accessibility or accommodations you may require during your program. We recommend setting an appointment with them as soon as possible if you anticipate requiring their services.
https://www.nvit.ca/students/services/success-centre/

Former Youth in Care
NVIT has additional supports in place specifically for Former Youth in Care. Please connect and let us know if you are a Former Youth in Care and we will be able to start supports and assistance with applying for the Provincial Tuition Waiver Program or NVIT's Former Youth in Care Tuition Waiver Program.

Appendix

BLOCK TRANSFER AGREEMENT

FROM: **NVIT**	TO: **NVIT**
PROGRAM: **Indigenous Human Services Diploma**	PROGRAM: **Bachelor of Social Work**

The following list of course equivalents have been revised and approved by the BSW Department.

This transfer credit summary is applicable to students who have successfully completed **NVIT's Indigenous Human Services Diploma** and are pursuing a **Bachelor of Social Work at NVIT**.

IHMS Course	IHMS Course Name	NVIT Transfer Credit	Classification
Certificate			
ENGL 101 (3)	Foundations of Academic Writing	ENGL 101 (3)	
ENGL 110 (3)	College Composition	ENGL 110 (3)	
PSYC 111 (3)	Introduction to Psychology I	PSYC 111 (3)	
PSYC 121 (3)	Introduction to Psychology II	PSYC 121 (3)	
IHMS 110 (3)	Fundamentals in Interpersonal Communications	IHMS 110 (3)	UT
IHMS 120 (3)	Intro to Indigenous Studies & Human Services Practice	IHMS 120 (3)	UT
IHMS 130 (3)	Intro to Human Service Professional Practice	IHMS 130 (3)	UT (Block)
IHMS 140 (3)	Intro to Working with Substance Use	IHMS 140 (3)	UT (Block)
IHMS 150 (3)	Intro to the Family in Human Service Practice	IHMS 150 (3)	UT
IHMS 160 (3)	Fieldwork Education Practicum	SOCW 304*	
Diploma			
IHMS 210 (3)	Theoretical Foundations of Human Service Practice	IHSM 210 (3)	UT (Block)
IHMS 250 (3)	Interpersonal Relationships in the Human Services	IHMS 250 (3)	UT (Block)
IHMS 320 (3)	Trauma-Informed Social Work Theory and Practice	IHMS 320 (3)	SOCW 320
IHMS 353 (3)	Advanced Interpersonal Skills in Human Services	IHMS 353 (3)	SOCW 353
SOCW 200A (3)	Introduction to Social Work Practice	SOCW 200A (3)	
SOCW 200B (3)	Introduction to social Welfare in Canada	SOCW 200B (3)	
PSYC 213 (3)	Lifespan Human Development I	PSYC 213 (3)	
PSYC 223 (3)	Lifespan Human Development II	PSYC 223 (3)	
Arts Elective (3)	Arts Elective	ARTS (3)	
IHMS 260 (3)	Indigenous Human Services Diploma Practicum	SOCW 304*	
Total Credits - 60		Total Credits - 60	

*** Course requires more than one NVIT course for equivalency**

UT courses have Arts Transferability
UT (Block) courses have no Arts Transferability
IHMS to SOCW courses are an EXCEPTION with BSW Department Approval

Quick View for the Multiple course equivalencies:

NVIT BSW Course	IHMS Course(s)
SOCW 304 (6)	IHMS 160 (3) IHMS 260 (3)
Block Courses (12)	IHMS 130 (3) IHMS 140 (3) IHMS 210 (3) IHMS 250 (3)

Course equivalencies were determined through the articulation process.

Students will need to choose coursework appropriately so as not to receive duplicate credit. It is recommended that all students create a program plan with an Academic and Financial Advisor.

Bachelor of Social Work Degree Audit

	COURSE	TITLE	TR. CRED.	CREDITS	GRADE
6 credits	**Core ENGL Courses**				
☐	ENGL 110	College Composition or equivalent		3	
	OPEN Elective			3	
		OR			
☐	ENGL lit Elective	English Literature		3	
	ENGL lit Elective	English Literature		3	
6 credits	**Core SOCW Courses**				
	SOCW 200A	Introduction to Social Work Practice or equivalent		3	
	SOCW 200B	Introduction to Social Welfare in Canada or equivalent		3	
48 credits	**UT - ARTS/SOCW/OPEN TOPIC/BLOCK Electives**				
				3	
				3	
				3	
				3	
				3	
				3	
				3	
				3	
				3	
				3	
				3	
☐	BLOCK:			3	
				3	
				3	
				3	
6 credits	**Core Human Development Courses**				
☐	PSYC 213	Lifespan Human Development I or equivalent		3	
	PSYC 223	Lifespan Human Development II or equivalent		3	
		OR			
☐	SOCW 355	Human Development or equivalent		3	
	OPEN Elective	ARTS/SOCW Elective credits		3	
21 credits	**Core SOCW Courses (*minimum C grade required)**				
	SOCW 301	The Research Practitioner in the Human		3	
	SOCW 306	Theory and Ideology of Social Work		3	
	SOCW 311	Indigenous Perspectives on Social Policy		3	
	SOCW 320	Trauma-Informed Social Work Theory and		3	
	SOCW 353	Social Work Practice with Individuals		3	
	SOCW 404	Ethical Practice in Indigenous Communities		3	
	SOCW 486	Indigenous Social Work Practice		3	
18 credits	**SOCW Electives**				
15 credits	**Core SOCW Practica**				
	SOCW 304	Social Work Field Practice I		6	
	SOCW 402	Social Work Field Practice II		9	
			TOTAL CREDITS		/120

Name

Student ID

Ancestry

Transfer Credit

Campus

Online/In-Person

Specialization

FT / PT

Last 24 G.P.A.

G.P.A. 2.33

Block G.P.A. 2.67

Completed Requirements:

- ☐ APPLICATION
- ☐ RESUME
- ☐ ADMISSIONS STATEMENT
- ☐ 250 HOURS EXP
- ☐ C-I-P FORM
- ☐ ADDITIONAL CREDITS REQ'D
- ☐ OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS
- ☐
- ☐
- ☐
- ☐

Outstanding Requirements: