



College of
New Caledonia

EDUCATION ASSISTANT (EDUA) PROGRAM

Information Package



Program Description

The Education Assistant Certificate Program, formerly the Community and School Support (CASS) Program ([see last page for more information on differences](#)), prepares students with the skills and dispositions needed to support K-12 students with disabilities or diverse abilities. This program is for both current and aspiring Education Assistants to enrich skills in areas such as understanding inclusion; academic and behaviour supports; human diversity; health and wellness; effective communication; relationships; and professional standards and accountability. The program is designed to nurture skills and foster values and attitudes that respect and honor cultural diversity, particularly in support of the Truth and Reconciliation Counsel's Calls to Action.

The College of New Caledonia – Prince George campus offers all EDUA courses fully online through the Moodle Learning Management System. With access to a computer and high-speed internet, students can complete their coursework from any location. There is no requirement to leave employment or relocate in order to study.

EDUA Course Delivery

EDUA courses are offered online asynchronously through Moodle. This means students do not have set course times. Instead, students work through course readings and activities each week at their convenience. Additionally, there will be occasional synchronous virtual meetings with instructors and classmates throughout the semester.

Program Learning Outcomes

Students who have completed the Education Assistant Certificate will be able to

- apply diverse theories related to learning, development, disabilities, and diverse abilities
- describe their role and responsibilities as a member of the education system
- provide academic support for students in the classroom
- apply strategies to identify and support behaviour and well-being in the classroom
- foster effective communication and teamwork with students, educators, administrative staff, and families to support student success
- support inclusion by addressing the social, emotional, and physical needs of students
- prioritize and practice personal wellness techniques, advocating for the mental and physical health of both educators and students
- foster a culturally inclusive learning environment by implementing practices that honour and embrace diversity among students
- identify and challenge racism while advocating for equity and social justice with marginalized students, colleagues, families, and communities
- actively engage with and amplify the voices of marginalized individuals
- listen to Indigenous communities about needs, aspirations, histories, and culture
- explain the importance of continuous learning about Indigenous cultures, histories, and contemporary issues to foster inclusivity, respect, and an understanding of Indigenous perspectives and realities
- integrate Truth and Reconciliation Commissions Calls to Action into practices and interactions with students, colleagues, and community members
- practice empathy, compassion, and understanding to foster caring relationships with students, enhancing their educational experience and emotional well-being

Education Assistant Certificate Overview

A minimum of “C” grade is required in all courses before registering in EDUA 195

EDUA 100: Child and Adolescent Growth and Development (3 credits)

EDUA 105: Education Assistant Practicum I (3 credits)*

Prerequisite: EDUA 100

EDUA 110: Interpersonal Communication: Guiding Positive Dialogues (3 credits)

EDUA 120: Disability and Inclusion: Advancing Equity in Education (3 credits)

EDUA 130: Anti-Racism & Ethical Practice in Education (3 credits)

Prerequisite: EDUA 110

EDUA 140: Introduction to Understanding and Supporting Behaviour (3 credits)

Prerequisite or corequisite: EDUA 100

EDUA 145: Supporting Trauma and Behaviour (3 credits)

Prerequisites: EDUA 100 & EDUA 140

EDUA 160: Health, Wellness, and Care (3 credits)

EDUA 170: Supporting Numeracy Learning in Diverse Classrooms (3 credits)

Prerequisites: EDUA 100 & EDUA 110

EDUA 180: Supporting Literacy Learning for Diverse Populations (3 credits)

Prerequisites: EDUA 100 & EDUA 110

EDUA 195: Education Assistant Practicum II (3 credits)*

Prerequisites: EDUA 100, EDUA 105, EDUA 110, EDUA 120, EDUA 140, EDUA 145, & EDUA 170 or EDUA 180

Corequisites: EDUA 130 & EDUA 160

Education Assistant Certificate (30 credits)

***A current criminal Record Check must be on file at the CNC Office to register for EDUA 105 & EDUA 195**

****additional related courses of interest: English, Metis Studies, Aboriginal Studies, etc.**

Possible Pathways

There are many variables when planning your courses:

- whether you start in the Fall or Spring
- availability of intersession (May-July) courses
- how much time you have available to dedicate to school as each EDUA course requires **10-12 hours of work each week**

	Complete in 3 Semesters	Complete in 4 Semesters	Complete in 5 Semesters
Semester 1	EDUA 100, 110, 120, 140	EDUA 100, 110, 120	EDUA 100, 110
Semester 2	EDUA 105*, 145, 170 or 180	EDUA 105*, 130, 140,	EDUA 105*, 140
Semester 3	EDUA 130, 160, 195 (Practicum)	EDUA 145, 170 or 180	EDUA 120, 145
Semester 4		EDUA 160, 195 (Practicum)	EDUA 130, 170 or 180
Semester 5			EDUA 160, 195 (Practicum)

Please note:

- We recommend taking EDUA 100 in your first semester.
- Check prerequisites while planning your courses.
- EDUA 130 and 160 can be taken in any semester.
- A criminal record check needs to be on file before registering in EDUA 105 and EDUA 195.
- **We do not recommend completing the program in 3 semesters as online delivery requires a significant amount of reading.**
- If you take a year off, you must reapply to the program, and you will be subject to any changes or new graduation requirements in the program.

"If children feel safe, they can take risks, ask questions, make mistakes, learn to trust, share their feelings, and grow." - Alfie Kohn

Registering In EDUA Courses

After being admitted to the program, you will receive a notification to register for EDUA courses a month or two before the start of the semester. Please review the course descriptions and prerequisites carefully before choosing your courses.

If the course you wish to take is full, you will be placed on a waitlist. **It is important to add yourself to waitlists, as this helps the College determine where additional seats may be needed.** While we make every effort to accommodate waitlisted students, it is your responsibility to monitor your status regularly. If a seat becomes available, you will be notified and must register promptly. Otherwise, the seat will be offered to the next student on the list. You can check your waitlist status at any time through CNC Connect (<https://cncconnect.cnc.bc.ca>).

Once registered, students have ten years to complete their Education Assistant Certificate. However, if you miss an entire academic year, you will be considered a returning student rather than continuing student and will be subject to any changes in the program.

Students should expect to spend between 10 and 12 hours of study time for each course per week.

- 1 Course = 10 – 12 hours of study time per week
- 2 Courses = 20 – 24 hours of study time per week
- 3 Courses = 30 – 36 hours of study time per week
- 4 Courses = 40 – 48 hours of study time per week

If you are working or have significant “other” responsibilities, we recommend no more than two courses for the first semester.



Violet Martin

The Prince George Campus of the College of New Caledonia is located on the traditional territory of the Lheidli T'enneh. The EDUA Program acknowledges their graciousness for welcoming knowledge-seekers to their territory.

The New EDUA Program VS. The Previous CASS Program

The Education Assistant (EA) Certificate was previously part of the Community and School Support (CASS) Program, alongside the Community Support Worker (CSW) Certificate. Due to low enrollment, the CSW Program is being phased out. Focusing exclusively on the EA program enables us to tailor our courses more effectively to current demands. This shift has also allowed us to introduce additional courses that are highly relevant to today's Education Assistants.

Refer to the chart below to compare the differences **(highlighted in shaded sections)** between the two EA Programs. Courses with identical course numbers are equivalent for graduation requirements.

New EDUA Program		Previous CASS Program	
EDUA 100	Child Development (3)	None	Not Required
EDUA 105	EA Practicum I (3)	CASS 105	Practicum I (3)
EDUA 110	Interpersonal Communication (3)	CASS 110	Communication Skills (3)
EDUA 120	Disability and Inclusion (3)	CASS 120	Human Diversity (3)
EDUA 130	Anti-Racism & Ethical Practice (3)	CASS 130	Ethical Foundations (3)
EDUA 140	Intro to Behaviour (3)	CASS 140	Positive Approaches to Teaching and Learning I (3)
EDUA 145	Trauma and Behaviour (3)	CASS 145	Positive Approaches to Teaching and Learning II (3)
None	Not Required	CASS 150	Life Planning (3)
EDUA 160	Health, Wellness, and Care (3)	CASS 160	Health and Wellness (3)
EDUA 170	Supporting Numeracy (3)*	None	Not Required
EDUA 180	Supporting Literacy (3)*	CASS 180	Supporting Literacy (3)
None	Not Required**	CASS 189 or elective	Elective/Special Topic (3)
EDUA 195	EA Practicum II (3)	CASS 195	EA Practicum II (4)
Total:	30 Credits	Total:	34 Credits
*EDUA students choose between EDUA 170 and EDUA 180			
**EDUA students are not required to take an elective, but they may want to consider taking an English, Metis, or Aboriginal Studies course			