

# Health Care Assistant (HCA) Program



## Information Session

\* Note, completing this information session is a pre-requisite for entry into this program.  
Upon completion, you will be asked to complete a short survey.







## Territorial Acknowledgement

Camosun College is located in beautiful Victoria, British Columbia with campuses on the Traditional Territories of the Lekwungen and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples. We acknowledge their welcome and graciousness to the students who seek knowledge here.



# Chair's Welcome



Ros Giles-Pereira,  
Chair, Continuing Care Department

We, the faculty and staff of the Continuing Care department welcome you! By choosing one of our programs you are demonstrating that you care about your community and that you have an interest and commitment to working with people. During the course of your studies we will partner with you to strengthen your knowledge, skills and values in preparation for your chosen career.

We are delighted that you are considering the Health Care Assistant program as your area of study and will take great pleasure in getting to know you, while we work and learn together. We hope you enjoy your experience with us, and wish you success in all that you do!

# COVID-19

**The health and wellbeing of students and staff remains the priority of Camosun College.**

The college's COVID-19 Response Coordination Team is monitoring the situation and ensuring measures are in place to keep the college community safe.

We're ready for you. The college is planning for a mix in the delivery of courses following guidelines from the Provincial Health Officer, WorkSafe BC and the B.C. Government.

COVID-19 information and frequent updates are available at:

[Camosun.ca/COVID19](https://camosun.ca/COVID19)





# What does an HCA do?

- HCAs are front-line care-givers
- Work in home support, adult day care, group homes, assisted living, complex care, and acute care
- Under the direction and supervision of a health professional, HCAs provide care aimed at promoting and maintaining the physical, psychological and social well-being of clients across the life-span with the focus being on the older adult
- If unionized, starting wage is approximately \$23 – \$24/hr.
- Non-unionized is approximately \$16 – \$22/hr.

# HCA Program Intakes

- **Full-time programs:** January, May & September intakes (29 weeks / 7 months) Monday to Friday daytime
- **Full-time English as a Second Language (ESL):** Starts in mid October (11 months) Monday to Friday daytime
- **Full-time Indigenous program (11 months):** September

# HCA Program Clinical Experiences

- HCA clinical experiences include a variety of sites. The location of these sites vary, but are all located in the South Island area
- There are three clinical experiences. The first one is 2 weeks in complex care. The second clinical experience is 6 weeks in complex care. The third clinical experience is 2 weeks in community.
- Start times for clinicals vary. For the first and second, start time is 0645, ending at 1300 to 1330
- The hours for the third clinical can vary – days / evenings

*Students are responsible for transportation to and from clinicals*





# South Island Partnership

- Dual credit programs for high school students (dogwood & HCA certificate). Apply [here](#)
- Open to grade 11 & 12 students
- Provides up to 32 high school credits
- Tuition is covered by the school district
- Students pay for books & personal equipment
- Prerequisites: 60% in English 11 or assessment
- See [www.camosun.ca/sip](http://www.camosun.ca/sip)





# HCA Admission Requirements

- Attend an **Information Session** - *complete the survey to confirm attendance*
- **Self-declaration form** confirming level of English proficiency. See Camosun website: <https://webservices.camosun.ca/events/hca-english-competency>
- Proof of HCA Program **English Language Competency** Requirement:
  - There are two options for meeting the English Language Competency Requirements (as set out by the BC Care Aide Registry), depending on whether your previous education:
    1. English Educated: Applicants educated in an English-speaking environment/country with English language systems/institutions for a minimum of seven years or for four consecutive years at the secondary or post-secondary level (C or higher in English 11).
    2. Non-English Educated: Applicants not educated in an English-speaking environment/a country with English language systems/institutions (See website for details on accepted tests).
- Assessment and Testing Centre  
<http://camosun.ca/services/assessment-centre/tests-given.html> Assessment and Testing Centre

# HCA Application Process

- Submit an application in person or [on-line](#) and pay \$42.66.
- All prerequisites need to be submitted.
- Applications are date stamped.
- The first 32 fully qualified applicants (numbers depend on the program) are offered a seat. A \$175.00 non-refundable deposit is required when offered a seat. This money will then go towards your first semester tuition.
- If for any reason you change your mind after you have accepted a seat, PLEASE phone Registration at 250-370-3550 and let them know immediately. There are always students waiting for a seat that would appreciate advance notice that they have a seat in the program.



# Program Participation Requirements

- TB skin test
- Current immunizations
- Criminal Records Check
- Food safe
- Standard First Aid with CPR Level “C”

**Please note these are program requirements and should not be done before you have an accepted seat.**

# Who Are Our Students?

- Recent high school graduates
- Mature students changing career
- Men and women
- People with health education from other countries



# What Helps Students Be Successful?

- Have support from family and friends.
- Devote approximately 15 to 30 hours each week to study, laboratory practice and assignments.
- Attend classes regularly.
- Achieve a balance between home and school life.
- Have daycare and alternatives set up for children (remember practicum shifts can start early or end late and may also require travel).
- Have good physical health (you need to have good mobility, stamina and skin integrity).
- Connect early with the Centre for Accessible Learning (if applicable).
- <http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/>

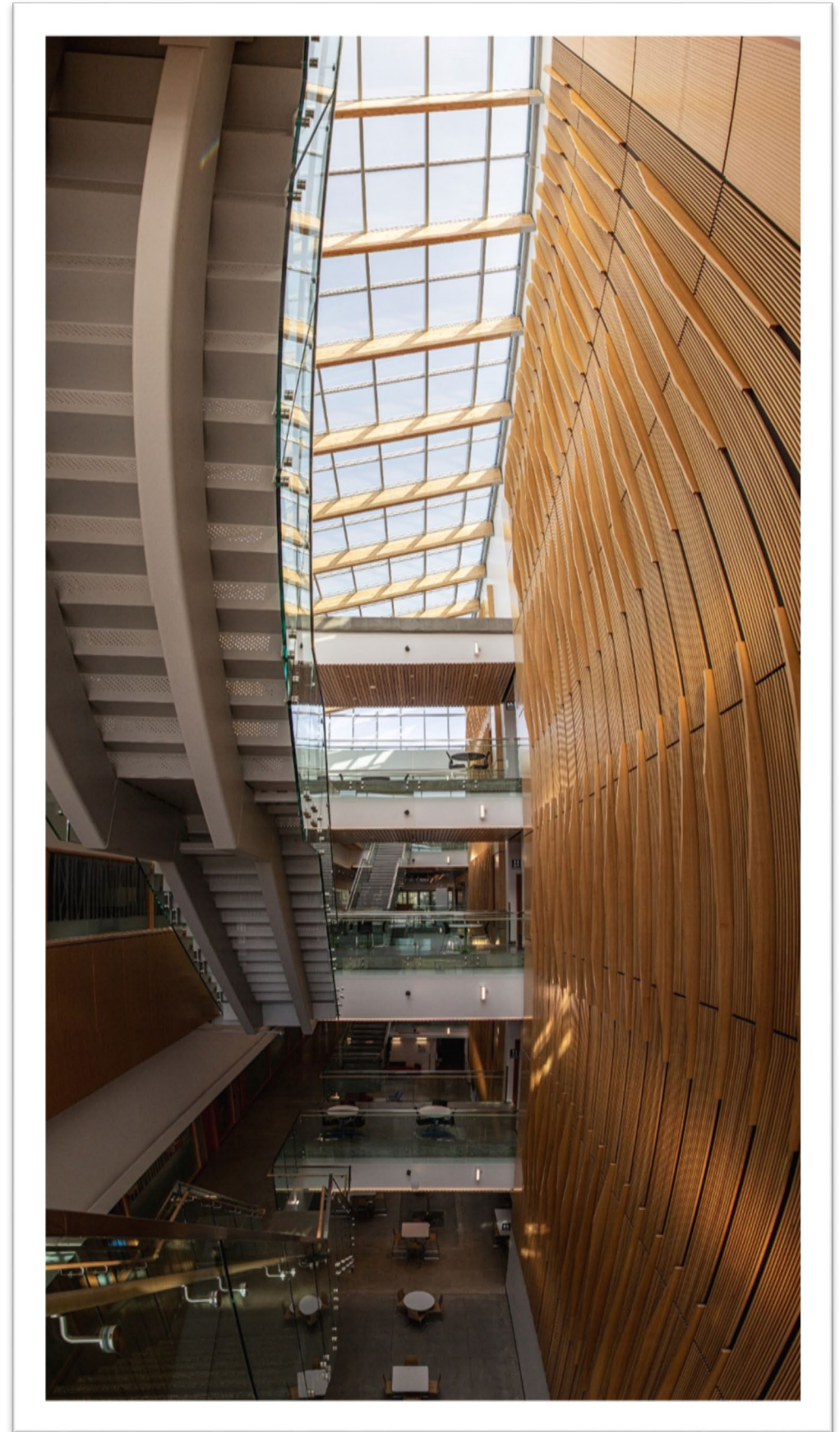
# Why Choose Camosun?

- Experienced & highly qualified faculty (all faculty are Registered Nurses/ teaching faculty have a minimum Bachelor of Science in Nursing)
- Well established Nursing Lab (set up with the same supplies and equipment used in health care facilities)
- Camosun College Support Services (counselling, learning skills, writing centre, disability resource centre, library, computer labs, career resource centre, financial aid, ombudsman, etc.)
- Camosun College Fitness Centre (free for students)
- Our graduates have very high employment rates after graduation.
- Brand-new Health & Wellness building with state of the art nursing lab.



# Camosun College

- Camosun College is B.C.'s largest public college
- 19,000+ students
- 1,200+ faculty and staff
- Programs range from arts and business to tech and trades to university transfer and continuing education
- Credentials include dual credits, certificates, diplomas, degrees, post-degree diplomas



# School of Health & Human Services (HHS)

- Camosun College offers more than 15 health and human services programs, including degrees, post-degree diplomas, certificates, diplomas and university transfer courses.
- Our School, the School of Health and Human Services (HHS) is a place of warmth and caring.
- Our goal is to educate and support “flourishing Individuals, families and communities”.



# Centre for Health and Wellness (CHW)

- All Health and Human Service (HHS) Programs except Dental are delivered at the Centre for Health and Wellness (CHW) at Interurban Campus
- The CHW brings together HHS Programs and allows a more interdisciplinary approach to teaching and learning
- The CHW provides twenty-first century learning environments including modern classrooms designed to foster active learning, hands-on labs, high technology simulation environments, and lots of collaboration spaces

# Alex & Jo Campbell Centre for Health and Wellness

21st century education for outstanding health and wellness professionals

- \$63.8 million investment
- 89,000 sq. ft. facility at Interurban campus
- 800+ students
- Latest in health education teaching
- Interdisciplinary approach is aligned with Island Health





# Alex & Jo Campbell Centre for Health and Wellness

21st century education for outstanding health and wellness professionals





# Student Services at Camosun



**Admissions & Recruitment**  
The right start at Camosun



**The Writing Centres**  
How can we help?



**Centre for Accessible Learning**  
Supporting your learning experience



**Academic Advising**  
Guiding you on your educational journey



**Academic Upgrading**  
Whatever your need, we have an option for you



**Indigenous Student Support**  
Find your way and feel like you belong – with our help




**Fitness & Recreation**  
Make time for your well-being



**Financial Aid & Awards**  
Funding your education



**Counselling Centre**  
Supporting you through life's challenges



**CAMOSUN COLLEGE STUDENT SOCIETY**  
STANDING UP FOR STUDENT RIGHTS SINCE 1990

**Child Care Services**  
Programs for Infants, Toddlers & Preschoolers







# Review the Health Care Assistant program pages online

Program at a Glance



Program Overview





# View the School of Health & Human Services (HHS) Student Handbook and HCA Program Handbook online




Welcome Programs Community Partnerships Awards & Scholarships News & Events Dental Clinic **Student Info** Contact Us

## Student Handbook

The School of Health and Human Services (HHS) is a place of warmth and caring. We are always looking to connect with future and current students so please don't hesitate to email [hhsinfo@camosun.ca](mailto:hhsinfo@camosun.ca) if you have any questions.

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**CURRENT STUDENTS**  
Student Handbook  
Practicum Information  
HHS Course Outline Archive



### Welcome!

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the School of Health & Human Services (HHS) in the new Alex & Jo Campbell Centre for Health and Wellness (CHW) on the Interurban Campus and the Dental Building on the Lansdowne Campus. We are a diverse school educating learners in the family of nursing, dental hygiene and assisting, allied health technologies, mental health and addictions, community and social services, and early learning and care.

We strive to support you in your learning experiences so that you don't just survive but flourish. The information and links to other parts of the college in this handbook will orientate you to the policies, expectations of your program and resources and supports at Camosun College and the School. Be sure to familiarize yourself with the contents and if needed, ask for guidance from your instructors, so that you are set up for success.

I hope to meet you while you are studying in our school. If I don't encounter you in the classroom or on campus, you are welcome to stop by my office on the Second Floor of the CHW to say hello.

All the best in your studies and time at Camosun College!

**Cynthia Smith, DrPH**  
Dean, School of Health and Human Services







# NEXT STEPS

Completing this Info Session is a pre-requisite for entry into to the HCA program. Please complete the short survey with your information, to ensure we receive a record of your attendance.



[Click here to complete the survey](#) or scan the QR code



*Thank you*

We look forward to seeing you soon

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

**General admissions**

**HCA Admissions Advisor, Nadia Sidky**

**HCA Program Lead, Leanne Robb**

**HCA ESL and Indigenous, Program Lead,**

**Heather Frame**

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**Phone: 250-370-3550**

**Phone: 250-370-4851**

