



**VANCOUVER ISLAND  
UNIVERSITY**

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**POWELL RIVER**

**Education Assistant and Community Support  
Certificate Program**

**Program:**

The Education Assistant and Community Support Program includes both theoretical studies and practical applications for working with people who have disabilities, across the lifespan. The courses provide students with the skills and knowledge to work as an Educational Assistant in schools and as a Support Worker in community settings with people who have disabilities. <http://www.pr.viu.ca/eacs>

**Start Date:**

Applicants will be waitlisted for January 2020. Waitlisted students who do not get a seat in January will be accepted to the September 2020 intake. An individual education plan will be developed with the program coordinator.

**Accessible Program Delivery:**

The Education Assistant and Community Support courses are offered in our innovative blended delivery format that includes both face to face classes and online studies.

The face to face portion requires students to attend classes in beautiful Powell River for 2-4 days in a row, twice each semester. Transportation from the ferry to the campus is available. Online studies include completing modules in an online classroom as well as participation in real time webinars.

The program is student loan eligible and can be taken part-time or full-time. Blended delivery makes the certificate accessible to:

- ☺ students who have family responsibilities or other personal commitments;
- ☺ students living outside the Powell River region;
- ☺ students who are working.

**Leadership and Disability Studies Diploma:**

The Education Assistant and Community Support program provides 30 of the 60 credits needed to complete the Leadership and Disability Studies Diploma. This diploma is a pathway to numerous degrees. Learn more here.

<https://programs.viu.ca/courses/leadership-and-disability-studies>

**Admission Requirements:**

- ◆ VIU’s general admission requirements apply
- ◆ English 12 with a min “C” grade, or equivalent
- ◆ Application, Resume and Cover letter
- ◆ Two Reference Letters
- ◆ Successful interview with Coordinator

**Notes on Admission:**

- ◆ Applicants will be assessed on past academic achievement, related volunteer/paid employment, writing skills, and performance at an interview with faculty
- ◆ Applicants may be required to provide a letter from their physician attesting to the applicant’s physical suitability to take the program
- ◆ Practica will require a criminal record check prior to placement. Students are advised that a criminal record may limit their practicum possibilities and their work opportunities in this field
- ◆ Some practica may also require a TB screening test
- ◆ Acceptance into the program does not mean that students will be placed into the practica.

**Transfer Credit:**

VIU recognizes the academic knowledge and achievements of students who have undertaken post-secondary studies at other colleges, institutes, or universities. Credit is assigned on the basis of an official transcript, course outlines, and other supporting documentation. Transfer students must meet all of VIU’s admission requirements.

**Prior Learning Assessment (PLA)**

A prior learning assessment offers students with substantial work experience and/or professional development the opportunity to receive full or partial credit for courses. Under the supervision of an instructor, students develop a portfolio demonstrating how they meet the course learning objectives.

<https://hhs.viu.ca/education-assistant-community-support/master-course-outlines>



## Approximate Fees: (subject to change)

Tuition (per course)	\$453.00
Student Fees per semester (3 courses)	\$160.00

## Other Expenses:

Headsets	20.00
Criminal Record Check	42.25
Textbooks (Approx.)	600.00

## Special Expenses:

Travel to attend face to face classes in Powell River is required. Travel may be required for practicum completion. All fees and other costs are subject to change without prior notice.

## Graduation Requirements:

To be eligible for an Education Assistant and Community Support certificate students must:

- ◆ Have successfully completed all of the required program courses and achieved a minimum grade of C in all courses required for the credential
- ◆ Achieve a passing grade in the practicum courses
- ◆ Complete all program requirements within 5 years

## Computer Requirements:

For minimum computer requirements and skills contact an Educational Advisor.



For more information please contact one of our Powell River Campus Advisors

604-485-2878

Toll free 1-877-888-8890 or

Email the Program Coordinator

Alison.Taplay@viu.ca

*The information contained in this guide is accurate at the time of printing. Vancouver Island University reserves the right to make changes as necessary, including cancellation and adjustment of courses..*

## Education Assistant and Community Support Program

### Spring 2020

EACS 110 (Foundations for Practice)

EACS 130 (Teaching and Learning Strategies)

EACS 170 (Challenging Conditions)

### Fall 2020

CYC 152 (Interpersonal Communications Skills in a Therapeutic Context)

EACS 140 (Understanding and Supporting Behaviour across the Lifespan)

### Spring 2021

EACS 150 (Health and Wellness)

EACS 160 (Augmentative Communication and Adaptive Technology)

### Other Required Courses

University English \*

EACS 180—School Practicum\*\*

EACS 190—Community Practicum \*\*

**\*English Requirement can be taken in any semester**  
(One of ENGL 115, ENGL 125, ENGL 135)

Note: English 115 is also available fully online

**\*\*Practica Course Schedules** will be determined and cannot be taken in student's first semester.

EACS 130 is a pre-requisite for EACS 180 practicum.

## Leadership and Disability Studies Diploma

LDS 200 (Citizenship and Human Rights)

LDS 210 (Leadership, Advocacy, and Social Policy)

LDS 220 (Action Research and Learning in Community)

LDS 250 (Community Development)

LDS 230 (Practicum)

Link to [Approved Electives](#) – 6 Credits

One of: PSYC 111, PSYC 112, PSYC 131, SOCI 111, MGMT 192

One of: PSYC 122, PSYC 132, SOCI 112, MGMT 292

Additional University English Course—3 credits