

Personal Support Worker Program Eligibility and Next Steps



Key Points for Success:

- ✓ Genuine desire to care for others and make a difference!
- ✓ Strong work ethic and good interpersonal skills
- ✓ Positive attitude
- ✓ Attendance: there are mandatory hours for the PSW certificate

Eligibility Requirements:

- ✓ 18 years of age or older
- ✓ Reliable transportation to school and placements
- ✓ Reliable daycare
- ✓ Up-to-date immunizations, including against COVID-19 and a clear 2-step TB test
- ✓ Clear Police Vulnerable Sector Check for Employment
- X You do not need an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD). You will have the opportunity to work towards your diploma during the PSW program!

Program Details: 2 Options

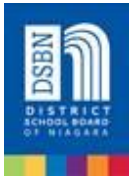
6-month Accelerated, Hybrid Option

- ❖ 2 weeknights plus every other weekend for placement in addition to self-guided study
- ❖ Combination of synchronous, asynchronous, in-class, and placements
- ❖ Class time is 5pm-10pm 2 weeknights
- ❖ Placements are 8-hour days every other weekend & some weekdays; clinicals are 6am-2pm
- ❖ Pick from:
 - July – December in St. Catharines (Lifetime Learning Centre)
 - January – June in St. Catharines (Lifetime Learning Centre)

10-month Day Program Option

- ❖ Monday-Friday in-class learning – no evenings or weekends!
- ❖ Class time is 9am-12:45pm
- ❖ Placements are full days on weekdays; clinical placements are 2 days a week from 6am-2pm
- ❖ Pick from:
 - September – June in St. Catharines (Lifetime Learning Centre)
 - September – June in Niagara Falls (Gate Alliance Church)
 - February – January with **no summer classes** in St. Catharines (Lifetime Learning Centre)

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Placements for both options:

- ❖ Placements in a variety of settings, such as long-term care, homecare, retirement living, adult day programs, schools, and more
- ❖ Clinical placements are **6am-2pm** 2 days a week
- ❖ Community and Consolidated placements are each 3 weeks of full-time hours; variable shifts
- ❖ Tuition is currently paid for by the provincial government for the 2022-2023 school year. There may be fees for the 2023-2024 school year

Next Steps:

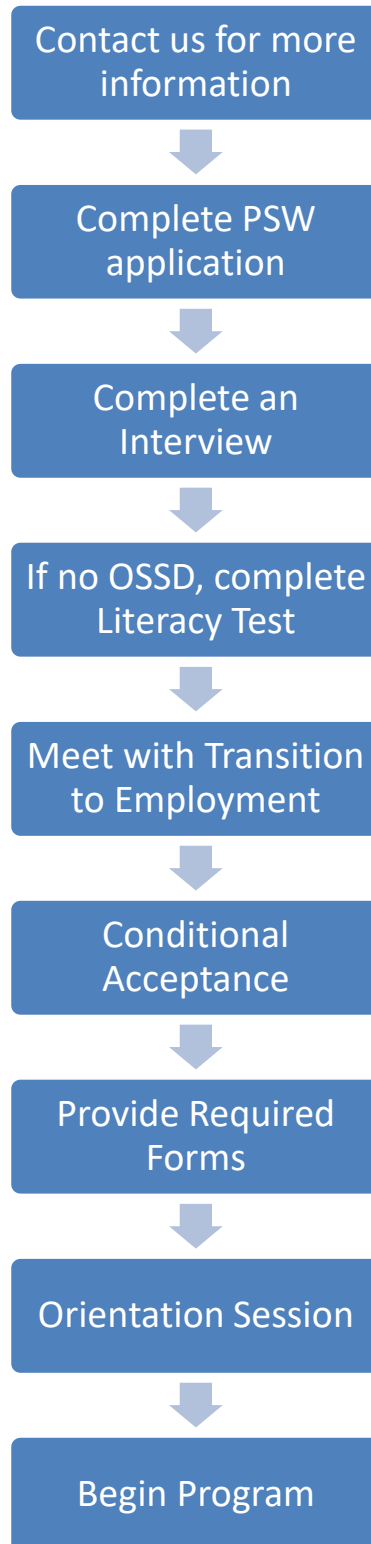
- ✓ Sign up for an interview – includes a meeting with Transition to Employment
 - Please bring:
 - Completed PSW Application Form
 - 1 letter of reference and a resume, if possible (optional)
 - 2 pieces of government identification
 - Social Insurance Number (for Transition to Employment)
 - Proof of Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) or proof of completing grade 12 English
- ✓ **If you do not have an Ontario Secondary School Diploma or grade 12 English**, you will complete a **literacy test** following your interview
- ❖ If you are successful, you will receive a **Conditional Offer of Acceptance** followed by next steps for a police check and medical paperwork to be completed by your orientation

If accepted and you are not born in Canada:

- ✓ Visit the **DSBN Welcome Centre** to get a **Letter of Permission and a Verification Form**
 - 191 Carlton Street, St. Catharines
 - welcomecentre@dsbn.org / 905-641-1550 ext. 54152
 - follow the steps on the letter – you might need a **Study Permit**
- ✓ You need English language ability equal to Canadian Language Benchmark Level 6
- ✓ Get your transcript equivalency for the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD):
<https://www.icascanada.ca/>

We are here to help!
Questions?
ACE@dsbn.org
905-687-7000

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