

# ACCESS AND ABORIGINAL FOCUS PROGRAMS

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Established in 1975, Access' mandate is to support those students who have not had the opportunity to pursue post-secondary education due to social, economic, and/or cultural barriers. The Aboriginal Focus Programs were established in 1998 with the mandate to create and provide community-based programs responding to the post-secondary, and professional development needs of Indigenous peoples. These two distinct areas were integrated on July 1, 2011, combining the unique program development skills of the Aboriginal Focus Programs with the expertise of delivering strong academic, personal and financial supports to students who have experienced barriers to post-secondary education. The amalgamation of these two areas strengthens our capacity to provide students with unique programs in tandem with the supports needed to enhance capacity for success. In 2014, a new initiative was developed to provide academic supports and programming in math and science with the goal to further enhance student success. This includes enhanced teaching capacity, supplemental academic supports for specific science courses and non-degree offers in math and science skills. In 2017, Access introduced a Common First Year (CFY) for new students, which utilizes a "cohort" type model. Students progress through their first year together thereby fostering "community" and easing the transition to university. The CFY is designed to nurture the connection between students and staff as well as within the student body. Additionally, Access provides intensive supports related to academic reading and writing. In 2018, a full time 'Unkan' (Grandfather-in-Residence) joined the team, further enriching student and staff academic experience. We take pride in our holistic approach to program development and student support and have progressively sought gifted educators to help us carry forward continued excellence in all our educational endeavours.

## Access Programs

Established in 1975, Access' mandate is to support those students who have not had the opportunity to pursue post-secondary education due to academic, social, economic and/or cultural barriers. The following are programs currently being offered:

### University of Manitoba Access Program (UMAP)

In cooperation with the Province of Manitoba, the University of Manitoba Access Program (UMAP) facilitates university studies at the undergraduate degree level for persons who traditionally have not had the opportunity for such experience because of social, economic and cultural reasons, lack of formal education or residence in remote areas. Students in this program are provided with academic and personal supports. For information, call 204-474-8000 or, within Manitoba, 1-800-432-1960 Ext. 8000.

### Health Careers Access Program (HCAP)

This program is designed to prepare Manitoban Indigenous persons (Status, Non-Status, Métis, Inuit) for entry to the health professional programs such as Medicine, Dentistry, Dental Hygiene, Pharmacy, Rehabilitation Sciences (Occupational, Physical and Respiratory Therapy), Nursing, and Midwifery. Through the cooperation of the Province of Manitoba and the University of Manitoba, students in this program are provided with academic and personal supports. For information, call 204-474-8000 or, within Manitoba, 1-800-432-1960 Ext. 8000.

### Professional Health Program (PHP)

This program is designed to support Indigenous persons (Status, Non-Status, Métis, Inuit) in any of the professional health programs. This program provides academic, personal supports. For information, call 204-474-8000 or, within Manitoba, 1-800-432-1960 Ext. 8000.

### Aboriginal Focus Programs (AFP)

Aboriginal Focus Programs (AFP) offers certificate and diploma programs as well as degree programs through cooperative arrangements with Indigenous stakeholders and faculties of the University of Manitoba. Programs are offered as in-house training to staff of an organization, or as community-based programs. Programs are offered as 'open enrolment' or as block-funded cohort programs through an arrangement with an employer or sponsor. Delivery methodology can be part-time or full-time study, and can incorporate technology-based delivery where technology access permits. Indigenous organizations that identify a need for specific post-secondary or adult education not currently available may be interested in knowing that AFP has the capacity to develop new programs to meet their needs.

### Aboriginal Counselling Skills Certificate

(This program is currently under review and as such is not being offered in 2025/2026)

The Aboriginal Counselling Skills (ACSC) Certificate program provides individuals who are employed by First Nation, Metis and Inuit social service agencies with the knowledge and skills required to provide culturally appropriate counselling services to individuals and families.

An Aboriginal philosophy of recognizing the strengths and resilience of families within the counselling relationship is emphasized. The certificate is offered as a general intake program in Winnipeg or as a community-based program through agreements with Aboriginal agencies. The Faculty of Social work offers graduates 3 allocated and 6 unallocated hours of credit.

### Aboriginal Environmental Stewardship Diploma

(This program is currently under review and as such is not being offered in 2025/2026)

The Aboriginal Environmental Stewardship (AESD) Diploma Program is a partnership program between Aboriginal Focus Programs and the University of Manitoba's Clayton H. Riddell Faculty of Environment, Earth and Resources and the Faculty of Arts: Department of Native Studies. The 60-credit hour diploma offers a post-secondary education program that provides the core principles of environmental science, stewardship and indigenous environmental justice. The program is designed to offer students an Indigenous community-focused perspective of

environmental issues within Manitoba. The objective will be to integrate global and regional environmental issues related to the ecological, and cultural impacts as well as legal implications of resource use and exploration in the 21st century. The curriculum will focus on the incorporation of Indigenous Knowledge within a scientific framework. The AESD program is offered on-campus or as a community-based program through collaboration with external stakeholders.

### Program and Graduation Requirements:

- Students must pass 60 credit hours of the program (30 credit hours of required courses, 28.5 credit hours of elective courses, and 1.5 credit hours of work experience)
- Students must achieve an average GPA of 2.5 (C+) in the program and must not have a grade lower than a "C" in every program course.

Students must complete all course work within six (6) years from the date of the first registration in the program. Application for extension of this time limit must be received prior to the end of the six year time frame and approved by the Dean of Extended Education.

Course	Title	Hours
<b>Required Courses</b>		<b>30</b>
ARTS 1110	Introduction to University	3
ENVR 1000	Environmental Science 1 - Concepts	3
ENVR 2000	Environmental Science 2 - Issues	3
ENVR 3160	Environmental Responsibilities and the Law	3
ENVR 3250	Environmental Assessment	3
GEOG 4260	Sacred Lands	3
INDG 1220	Indigenous Peoples in Canada, Part 1	3
INDG 1240	Indigenous Peoples in Canada, Part 2	3
INDG 2100	Indigenous Spirituality	3
INDG 3310	Canadian Law and Indigenous Peoples	3
<b>Elective Courses</b>		<b>28.5</b>
ENVR 2010	Field Topics in Environment (1.5 credit hours for each topic)	1.5
<b>GPS Field Survey and Sampling</b>		
Field Readiness and Outdoor Survival		
Wildlife Sampling, Stewardship and GIS		
ENVR 2010	Field Topics in Environment (3 credit hours for each topic)	1.5
<b>Extended Field Topics in Environmental Science 1</b>		
Basic Communication and Statistical Skills		
Biological and Ecological Concepts		
Landscape Sampling and Boreal Forest Stewardship		
Environmental Health		
ENVR 3000	Multidisciplinary Topics in Environmental Science 1 (3 credit hours for each topic)	3
Ecosystem Management Techniques		
Biogeography		
Concepts in Wildlife Management		
Ecology of the Boreal Region		
Parks and Protected Areas		
Indigenous Stewardship		
ENVR 3010	Field Topics in Environmental Science 1 (1.5 credit hours for each topic)	1.5
<b>Water Quality Assessment</b>		

### Issues in Sustainable Forestry

Soil Characterization	
Wildlife and/or Fisheries Techniques	
EER 1000	Earth: A User's Guide
GEOL 1340	The Dynamic Earth
GEOG 1290	Introduction to Physical Geography
BIOL 1000	Biology: Foundations of Life
BIOL 1010	Biology: Biological Diversity and Interaction
BIOL 2390	Introductory Ecology
<b>Required Work Experience Program</b>	<b>1.5</b>

## First Nations Community Wellness Diploma

(This program is currently under review and as such is not being offered in 2025/2026)

The First Nations Community Wellness (FNCW) Diploma offers an excellent program of studies for people who wish to expand their knowledge and skills in Indigenous mental health and community wellness services. The Diploma is offered in partnership with First Nations and Inuit Health and the University of Manitoba's Extended Education, as well as the Faculties of Social Work, Kinesiology, Health Sciences, College of Nursing and Arts: Native Studies and Psychology. The FNCW Diploma provides students with higher education that respects Indigenous knowledge and Western theory through education based on Indigenous values concerning wellness. The 60-credit hours of the FNCW Diploma are typically delivered as 7-day modules in an off-campus location or via blended/technology-based delivery. Students are eligible for transfer credit into degree programs in the participating faculties at the University of Manitoba.

### Program and Graduation Requirements:

- Students must pass 60 credit hours of the program including 33 credit hours of required courses, and 27 credit hours of elective courses or the equivalent of degree and non-degree credit.
- Students must achieve an average GPA of 2.0 (C) in the program.
- Students must complete all course work within six years from the date of the first course registration in the program. Application for extension of this time limit must be approved by the Dean of Extended Education.

Course	Title	Hours
<b>Required Courses</b>		<b>33</b>
ARTS 1110	Introduction to University	3
HNSC 1100	Nutrition for Healthy Living	3
KPER 1200	Physical Activity, Health and Wellness	3
INDG 1220	Indigenous Peoples in Canada, Part 1	3
INDG 2100	Indigenous Spirituality	3
INDG 3240	Indigenous Medicine and Health	3
NURS 3350	Counselling Skills for Nurses (No longer offered)	
PSYC 1200	Introduction to Psychology	6
SWRK 2080	Interpersonal Communication Skills (No longer offered)	3
SWRK 4070	Social Problem and Social Work Practice Seminar (No longer offered)	3
<b>Elective Courses</b>		<b>27</b>

FMLY 1010	Human Development in the Family	3
FMLY 1012	Introduction to Social Development	3
FMLY 1020	Family Issues Across the Lifespan (No longer offered)	3
FMLY 2012	Development, Conflict, and Displacement	3
HNSC 1200	Food: Facts and Fallacies	3
HNSC 2130	Nutrition Through the Life Cycle	3
KPER 1400	Concepts of Recreation and Leisure	3
KPER 2200	Planning Principles	3
INDG 1240	Indigenous Peoples in Canada, Part 2	3
INDG 3100	Indigenous Healing Ways	3
INDG 4250	Indigenous Identities	3
PHED 3770	Indigenous Games and Activities	3
NURS 3340	Providing Care in a Culturally Diverse Society (No longer offered)	3
PSYC 2490	Abnormal Psychology	3
SWRK 2050	Community and Organizational Theory (No longer offered)	3
SWRK 4050	Selected Topics in Social Work	3

## Aboriginal Child and Family Services Diploma

(This program is currently under review and as such is not being offered in 2025/2026)

The Aboriginal Child and Family Services (ACFS) Diploma Program provides an opportunity for students to build their knowledge and skills base in the area of child protection and family enhancement.

The program is of interest to those individuals who are currently employed, or who anticipate future employment in the field of Indigenous Child Welfare. The diploma consists of 60 credit hours with students completing 9 required courses and 12 credit hours of electives. There is also a comprehensive program orientation to provide students with the foundational skills to assist in their studies. Students are eligible for transfer credit into degree programs in the participating faculties at the University of Manitoba.