

## VIU Educational Assistant and Community Support Registration

### The Program

**Note: The Education Assistant and Community Support Certificate program was formerly called the School and Community Support Worker Certificate program.**

This program includes both theoretical studies and practical applications for working with people who have disabilities, across the life span. The core and specialty courses provide students with the skills and knowledge to work in schools and community. The program is offered with courses rotated.

Students who successfully complete the program will receive a Vancouver Island University certificate. This certificate may ladder into other Human Services diplomas and degrees.

This program is recognized by school districts as meeting the minimum requirements to be a School District Educational Assistant.

Additionally, the EACS certificate ladders into Social Service Diploma, Social Work Degree, Child and Youth Care Degree, and the Bachelor of Education program at VIU. It also ladders into other degree pathways at other institutions (See the EACS program page on the VIU website).

### When

Classes will take place **Fridays and Saturdays, 9:00 – 12:00 pm and 1:00 – 4:00 pm**. The school-based practicum (EACS 180) will be scheduled for 105 hours at the end of term 1, and the community-based practicum (EACS 190) of 105 hours can start as early as May.

**Friday, Jan 12 to Saturday, April 14** (term 1)

**Friday, May 4 to Saturday, Aug 4** (term 2)

### Where

VIU Cowichan Campus.

### Withdrawal

Students will need to withdraw by January 15<sup>th</sup> to have 50% of fees returned. For withdrawals after January 15<sup>th</sup> there will be no fees returned.

Students can withdraw from a course without an academic penalty within eight weeks from the start date.

### Required Courses

<a href="#">CYC 152</a> - (Interpersonal Communication Skills in a Therapeutic Context)	3
<a href="#">EACS 110</a> - (Foundations for Practice)	3
<a href="#">EACS 130</a> - (Teaching and Learning Strategies)	3
<a href="#">EACS 140</a> - (Understanding & Supporting Behaviour Across the Lifespan)	3
<a href="#">EACS 150</a> - (Health and Wellness)	3
<a href="#">EACS 160</a> - (Augmentative Communication and Assistive Technology)	3
<a href="#">EACS 170</a> - (Challenging Conditions)	3
<a href="#">EACS 180</a> - (Practicum: School-Based) **	3
<a href="#">EACS 190</a> - (Practicum: Community-Based) **	3
<a href="#">ENGL 115</a> - (University Writing and Research)	3

**\*\* EACS 180 (3) Practicum: School-Based**

This practicum offers the opportunity to integrate theory and skills in a supervised practice experience in a school setting (K-12). This practicum experience is a total of 105 hours.

Prerequisite: Admission to EACS and min. 12 credits of EACS courses, including EACS 130.

**\*\* EACS 190 (3) Practicum: Community-Based**

This practicum offers an opportunity to integrate and apply theory and skills in supervised community living practice experience. This practicum experience is a total of 105 hours.

Prerequisite: Admission to program and min. 9 credits of EACS courses (may be taken concurrently).

**Completion Requirements**

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

- Complete all program requirements within 5 years.
- Achieve a passing grade in the practicum courses; and,
- Achieve a “C” grade in all other EACS courses

**Application Process**

**1. Complete the SD79 Application Process:**

- Submit this completed application form to SD79 Career Office
- Provide copy of picture ID (BC ID or Driver’s License preferred)
- Fill out Consent to Release Form (copy to Career Office & original to VIU)

**2. Complete the Vancouver Island University Admission Process:**

- Take Consent to Release form to VIU Cowichan Registration Services
- Complete your VIU Application process, including payment of the application fee (\$38.55)
- Submit proof of VIU admission requirements to qualify for acceptance into the program (Resume with Cover Letter, 2 Letters of Reference, Criminal Records Check, English 12 with ‘C’ or better)

**3. Claim your seat:**

- Deposit in the amount of \$500 (cheque made payable to School District 79) to secure your seat (can be delivered to Careers Department or Board Office). **Receipt of the deposit will be used to determine placement on the waitlist. Placement in the program will be subject to meeting VIU’s admission requirements.**
- Final Payment of \$4,601.24 due by October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017. **\*\* Failure to pay in full by October 31<sup>st</sup> will result in losing your spot in the program.**

**FEES**

Tuition	\$4,389.26
VIU Student Fees	461.98
SD79 Admin Fees	<u>250.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$5,101.24</b>

\*\*\* Note: You will also be responsible for payment of the following fees to VIU: Graduation/Alumni fee \$50, Criminal Record Check fee \$40, Books approx. \$800.