

## Using your Master in Social Work in Canada

In most provinces of Canada, the Bachelor of Social Work is the minimum educational requirement for entry into the profession. Postgraduate education leading to a master's or doctoral degree is also available.

A four-year undergraduate program is required for a bachelor's degree. Persons who have a Bachelor of Social Work degree may obtain a master's degree after one year of postgraduate studies. Those who have a degree in another discipline would require a two-year postgraduate program in social work to obtain the master's degree in social work.

The Canadian Association for Social Work Education (CASWE) has the responsibility for accrediting university-based social work programs. This association publishes a directory of accredited programs.

Those who have completed their qualification in the UK would need to go through a review for degree equivalency conducted by the CASWE. For information on International Assessment of Credentials go to: <http://www.casw-acts.ca/en/what-social-work/international-assessmentcredentials>

### Registration

The profession of social worker is regulated in all provinces in Canada, and in the Northwest Territories. The titles of "Social Worker" and "Registered Social Worker" are restricted by law to those who meet the qualifications and standards set by the provincial regulatory bodies in all jurisdictions; in one province, Ontario, the practice of social service work is regulated as well. The regulatory organizations issue certificates of registration or licenses to individuals who meet their registration requirements. Once you know where you will settle and work in Canada, you should contact the appropriate regulatory body for specific information on registration procedures in that jurisdiction. For more general information on the profession in Canada, contact the national professional association at:

#### **Canadian Association of Social Workers (CASW)**

383 Parkdale Avenue, Suite 402

Ottawa ON K1Y 4R4 Canada

Phone : 613-729-6668

Phone (alternate): 1-855-729-2279

Email : [casw@casw-acts.ca](mailto:casw@casw-acts.ca)

<http://www.casw-acts.ca/>

### Visas for Social Workers

There is a shortage of social workers in Canada. For information about applying for working visas go to: <http://www.canadavisa.com/social-workers-4152.html>

*Last Updated – March 2017*