

Child and Youth Care Fast-Track (C143) Program Top Ten Frequently Asked Questions (and Answers!)

1. I understand that to be eligible to apply to the Child and Youth Care (Fast-Track)(C143) program I must have previously completed a post-secondary academic credential. What credentials do you accept?

We believe that your existing credential combined with our Fast-Track program and a passion for making a difference will prepare you for helping troubled children, youth and families.

While the program is well-suited for people who have a humanities or community services credential, (e.g. Psychology, Child Studies, Sociology, Community Worker, Social Service Worker, Assaulted Women's and Children's Counsellor/Advocate), we accept applicants with a broad range of previous academic experience. This includes subjects which might not have a direct connection to a humanities or community services background like business and science.

2. The program length indicates that it is '16 consecutive months of study'. What does that mean?

Unlike the three-year program which follows a more traditional school year format (September – December, January – April, summer break May – August), the Fast-Track program is offered over 16 consecutive months, or four consecutive semesters (January – April, May – August, September – December, January – April).

While the Fast-Track program provides students with a few days “off” between semesters (when one semester ends and before another one begins) and during the mid-semester reading weeks, there are no extended breaks during the 16 months of study. Students should plan to be in the program for 16 consecutive months.

3. Is the Fast-Track diploma credential considered equivalent to the one earned in the three-year diploma?

Yes! The advanced diploma credential earned in the Fast-Track (C143) program is equivalent to the one earned in the 3-year (C133) program.

Because our applicants are required to have existing post-secondary education, we are able to apply this credential toward the advanced diploma. So while the Fast-track program offers students the same program content from (C133) (full-time, 3-year program), it is delivered in a condensed format over a significantly shorter period of time.

4. *Is the Child and Youth Care (Fast-Track) program available on a part-time basis?*

No. Unfortunately this program is only available on a full-time study basis.

5. *Can I apply for course exemptions?*

Yes. Course exemptions are considered on a course-by-course basis. Exemptions are determined in advance of the term for which the exemption has been requested.

6. *Can I select my course timetable?*

No. Once you are accepted to the program, you will be given a timetable for the next semester. You will register for each semester in the order it becomes available and then you will be given a timetable for that semester.

Please note, courses can begin as early as 8 a.m. and can end as late 6 p.m.

7. *What is the likelihood of my getting a job after successful completion of this program?*

There is a strong likelihood of getting work in the Child and Youth Care (CYC) field after successfully completing the program. Most of the graduates who are looking for work, find jobs in the field within three months of completing this program. Many new graduates start out being hired into their first jobs on a part-time basis.

NOTE: This program is pleased to host an annual job fair which is held onsite for students completing their final semester. Approximately 35 agencies attend the event giving you the opportunity to meet and connect with, discuss job openings and submit applications. Some agencies have been known to book interview dates on the spot!

8. *How do Field Placements get assigned?*

We do our best to provide our students with meaningful field placement assignments. To best accomplish this, our Field Placement Coordinator conducts a survey during the first semester (January – April) to gather specific information about each student including previous work experience and current residential location. The survey also provides a list of current placement opportunities and asks each student to rank their top three choices. The field placement coordinator then uses that information to match each student with the most appropriate field placement opportunity. Placement locations can be as far as one hour from your home.

Students have access to the Field Placement Coordinator and are encouraged to participate in the matching process.

9. Do you accept international students?

Yes, we are pleased to accept international students into the Child and Youth Care Fast-Track program. Please remember, though, that as an international student [you will be required to have a “co-op” work permit](#) before beginning a field placement. Please see this URL for further information:
<http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/study/work-coop.asp>

10. What are the possibilities for further study after completing the CYC Fast-Track program?

You can apply your CYC credential for advanced standing with the following George Brown programs:

- Community Worker
- Social Service Worker
- Assaulted Women's and Children's Counsellor/Advocate

If you are interested in pursuing a university degree, successful graduates can apply to the CYC degree completion program at Ryerson University. This program allows CYC diploma graduates to enter year 3 of the 4 year undergraduate program. This degree completion program can be completed either on a full- or part-time basis.

It is noteworthy that Ryerson's CYC program will be adding a 1 year graduate level program beginning in Sept 2016.