

Alberta

Health Care Aide Day

October 18th

Fact Sheet

Who are HCAs and what role do they have within the healthcare team?

Health Care Aides (HCAs) are important and respected members of Alberta's frontline healthcare and an important part of helping Albertans receive quality, person-centred care.

HCAs contribute in many ways to patient care including:

- Delivery of basic health services
- Acute and Continuing Care (home care, supportive living, long term care)
- Assistance and support with activities of daily living for clients with medical conditions or functional limitations
- HCAs make up the largest occupational group in continuing care and the second largest occupational group of healthcare in Alberta.
- HCAs provide the majority of direct care within the continuing care sector, and are active contributors to other parts of the healthcare system.

[Alberta Health has mandated](#) that all Health Care Aides (HCAs) working for a publicly funded employer enrol in the Alberta HCA Directory.

What is the Alberta Health Care Aide Directory?

The Alberta Health Care Aide Directory is a useful resource for HCAs, employers, educators and the public. The Alberta HCA Directory was established to:

- Recognize that being a Health Care Aide is an important career choice and an important part of the healthcare team
- Demonstration that HCAs having successfully attained the Core Competencies – including Knowledge, Behaviour, Attitudes, Skills as set out by the [Continuing Care Health Service Standards, 2016](#)
- Establishes a centralized place to get important information, news and updates for Alberta's HCAs
- Educate other healthcare providers and the general public about HCAs role in the healthcare team
- Keep Albertans informed about their healthcare providers
- Alignment with the Government of Alberta's commitment to having a competent and valued Health Care Aide workforce that provides care to Albertans