

Alberta Health Care Aide Provincial Examination Results Academic Year (July 1 – June 30)



Background

The Government of Alberta Provincial Health Care Aide (HCA) Exam provides a standardized assessment to determine HCA students' success in meeting the entry to practice HCA Program competencies as outlined in the Alberta HCA Competency Profile (2018).

The Provincial HCA Exam serves as a standardized measure to determine that health care aides have the knowledge and skills in meeting the entry to practice competencies in Alberta. Although HCAs are not currently regulated in Alberta, the CLPNA has been working with Alberta Health to prepare for HCA regulation which was introduced as part of amendments made to the Health Professions Act in December 2020. In regulation, it is typical that examination results are published and available for member, stakeholders and the public.

Provincial HCA Exam Development

The [Provincial HCA Exam Blueprint](#) provides an overview of the structure of the exam in relation to the competency profile and is available on the [HCA Directory Website](#). A panel of subject matter experts (SMEs) participated in the development of the blueprint and all HCA Exams.

To ensure fairness and testing of minimal competencies required to practice as an Alberta HCA, all development adheres to psychometric principles: reliability, validity, standardization, and freedom from bias or sensitivity.

There are 100 multiple choice questions on each exam and the number of correct answers required to pass may vary from one exam to the next. The passing score for each exam is developed by an expert panel and is based on the difficulty of the questions included in the exam. However, the level of ability required to pass (minimal competence) remains the same for each exam. Candidates are allowed up to 3 attempts to pass the exam.

Provincial HCA Exam Statistics

The Alberta HCA Directory publishes the statistics for first time writers of the Provincial HCA Exam for each of the Post Secondary Institutions (PSIs) licensed to deliver the provincial HCA curriculum, as aligned to the HCA program licensing standards. This informs students, PSIs, and other stakeholders of the passing rates for each PSI as compared with the provincial average.

The numbers in the following chart represent success rates for first-time writers from Alberta HCA programs.

The chart represents the pass rate for each PSI and the Alberta Provincial HCA Exam average. Where the numbers of writers are low, it is important to consider the number of writers from each educational institution. Examinations with few or no writers will show larger average fluctuations compared to provincial averages.

Post Secondary Institutions	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Provincial Pass Rate Average	82%	78%	81%	70%
Total Provincial Writers (July 1–June 30)	780	1670	1382	1129
ABES College	87%	84%	83%	74%
ABES Writers	61	206	116	89
ABM College	83%	89%	74%	91%
ABM Writers	35	109	41	22
Academy of Learning	88%	68%	88%	80%
AOL Writers	41	68	68	63
Blue Quills University	-	-	100%	-
BQU Writers	-	-	3	-
Bow Valley College	84%	87%	85%	80%
BVC Writers	81	113	152	106
Campus Saint-Jean (UofA)	50%	40%	67%	-
CSJ Writers	4	5	3	-
Columbia College	57%	73%	80%	33%
CC Writers	7	15	5	6
Health Care Aide Academy	82%	93%	93%	81%
HCAA Writers	28	27	54	43
Keyano College	-	-	100%	80%
KC Writers	-	-	13	20
Lakeland College	88%	95%	96%	43%
LC Writers	17	21	24	14
Lethbridge College	88%	96%	100%	75%
LC Writers	26	25	23	24
MaKami College	54%	52%	66%	50%
MC Writers	41	235	140	133
Medicine Hat College	85%	91%	89%	58%
MHC Writers	26	43	28	43
MTG Healthcare Academy	81%	63%	60%	48%
MTG Writers	42	157	165	115
Nightingale Academy	91%	87%	93%	-
NA Writers	11	62	28	-
Norquest College	86%	91%	91%	83%
NC Writers	181	259	285	238
Northern Lakes College	100%	85%	77%	66%
NLC Writers	12	41	31	67
Northwestern Polytechnic	-	100%	88%	67%
NWP Writers	-	2	16	9
Red Crow Community College	-	-	-	27%
RCCC Writers	-	-	-	11
Red Deer Polytechnic	94%	87%	86%	79%
RDP Writers	33	61	43	33
Robertson College	72%	77%	85%	68%
RC Writers	95	115	73	57
Rosewood College	-	64%	64%	55%
RWC Writers	-	22	28	20
Training Inc.	89%	87%	82%	88%
TI Writers	27	52	33	16

**Bay River, CDI, Excel facilities are not included in chart due to closures.