

## Practicum/Placement Package 2026-2027 Recreation Therapy (including Fast-Track)

This package provides information pertaining to students who are or will enroll in a required Practicum or Placement course in the 2026-2027 academic year. Carefully review this package to ensure you are aware of your responsibilities to participate in practicum/placement.

### PREPARING FOR PRACTICUM/PLACEMENT

Follow these steps to get ready for your practicum or placement:

1. **Read this package in its entirety.** Be sure you understand your responsibilities. If you have any questions, [contact the Placement Office](#).
2. **Obtain your Non-Academic Requirements.** See the requirements list below.
3. **Determine if you will complete your practicum/placement with an agency based in North Bay or the immediate area, or if you will complete your practicum/placement with an agency outside of the North Bay district.** Follow the instructions below based on this determination.
4. **Submit your Non-Academic Requirements** as soon as they are ready once your practicum/placement iLearn course shell becomes available on the first day of classes.
5. **Students completing placement outside of the North Bay District submit your *REC Student Practicum/Placement Request Form*. Students completing placement locally submit your *REC Local Placement Application Form*.** Instructions are provided further below in the Practicum/Placement Location section of this package.
6. **Watch for confirmation from the Placement Coordinator via email advising that you may proceed to make contact to arrange for your first day of practicum/placement.**
7. **Contact your practicum/placement host with an introductory email as per instructions provided by faculty in your iLearn course shell.**
8. **Follow any instructions provided by your host agency in preparation for your first day of practicum/placement.** This can include showing compliance for non-academic requirements (e.g., negative VSC, proof of immunizations, Mask fit test, etc.), participating in an interview, completing orientation/onboarding training, etc.
9. **Start your practicum/placement hours.** Follow the schedule provided to you by your host.

### INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS: 'ONE PERMIT'

*International students in programs with a mandatory placement component (e.g., field placement, clinical, practicum, etc.) must be legally authorized to work in Canada. Under the 'One Permit' model effective April 1, 2026, a student's valid Study Permit typically serves as this official authorization; a separate Co-op Work Permit is generally no longer required. However, students must ensure their Study Permit does not contain medical restrictions that prevent them from working in specific sectors, such as healthcare or childcare. For more information, visit the [IRCC website](#) or contact a [Canadore International Student Advisor](#).*

## NON-ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

Non-academic requirements are medical and non-medical requirements needed for students to be cleared to attend practicum or placement. To be approved to start your placement/practicum, you will be required to submit your non-academic requirements to your Placement Coordinator via your iLearn course shell.

Visit the [Placement webpage](#) for more information about non-academic requirements including how to obtain requirements.

| <b>MEDICAL REQUIREMENTS</b>  | COMPLETED? |
|--|------------|
| <b>Upload to applicable iLearn Dropbox:</b>  |            |
| <p><b>Canadore Student Health Form</b> completed by your Health Care professional uploaded to iLearn. Obtain your Health Form from the Placement website by selecting your program of study.</p> <p><b>*Recommendation: Begin your Medical Requirements 3-4 months in advance.</b></p> |            |

| <b>NON-MEDICAL REQUIREMENTS</b><br><i>These requirements must be valid on the first day of any practicum/placement you commence.</i>   | COMPLETED? |
|--|------------|
| <b>Upload to applicable iLearn Dropbox:</b>  |            |
| <p><b>Negative (clear) Police Vulnerable Sector Check (VSC)</b><br/>Your local police department can provide a VSC. Valid for 6 months from the date of search. Some Police services require a letter from the College or an “agency code.” If this pertains to you, go to the <a href="#">Placement webpage</a> and review information on <a href="#">how to obtain non-academic requirements</a>.<br/><b>*Recommendation: Request your VSC ~3 months in advance.</b></p>                                   |            |
| <b>Upload to applicable iLearn Dropbox:</b>  |            |
| <p><b>Worker Health &amp; Safety Awareness Training in Four Steps Certificate</b><br/>No Expiry. Must be submitted for each practicum/placement course in which you are enrolled. E.g., If you will complete a practicum and a placement, you must submit your proof of completion to both your practicum course shell and your placement course shell once available. You do not need to complete this training a second time.<br/><b>*No Exemptions</b></p>  |            |
| <b>Upload to applicable iLearn Dropbox:</b>  |            |
| <p><b>Workplace Insurance for Unpaid Student Placement Declaration of Understanding</b><br/>Ministry of Training, Colleges &amp; Universities workplace insurance coverage explanation; student signature required.<br/>No Expiry. Must be submitted for each practicum/placement course in which you are enrolled. E.g., If you will complete a practicum and a placement, you must submit your proof of completion to both your practicum course shell and your placement course shell once available.</p> |            |
| <b>Upload to applicable iLearn Dropbox:</b>  |            |
| <p><b>Student Consent Form</b><br/>No Expiry. Must be submitted for each practicum/placement course in which you are enrolled. E.g., If you will complete a practicum and a placement, you must submit your proof of completion to both your practicum course shell and your placement course shell once available.<br/><b>*No Exemptions</b></p>  |            |

**POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL NON-ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS:**

Be advised that some host agencies have additional requirements for students completing practicum or placement in allied health professions for which you may be required to demonstrate compliance. These additional non-academic requirements can include but are not limited to:

- N95 Respirator - Mask fit test
- WHMIS
- First Aid/CPR

**If you are completing your practicum/placement hours in the North Bay district and thus assigned to a host agency by the Placement Coordinator (see below), you will be advised by the Placement Coordinator of any known additional requirements. If you are completing your practicum/placement out of district (see below), you are responsible for inquiring about any additional requirements.**

[Contact your Placement Coordinator](#) if you have any questions or concerns.

**If you fail to achieve clearance by the FINAL deadline (see below), you will receive an email from the Placement Office advising that you have failed to meet your non-academic requirements. As such, you will not be able to proceed with practicum/placement and you will have to wait for the next offering to register again. This is likely to cause delays in your progression in the program and is likely to result in additional fees.**

The Placement Coordinator will process your submissions based on the following **deadlines**:

**Fall 2026 Practicum (Regular Stream):**

|                            |                          |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>September 18, 2026:</b> | <b>Early Deadline #1</b> |
| <b>October 2, 2026:</b>    | <b>Early Deadline #2</b> |
| <b>October 23, 2026:</b>   | <b>FINAL DEADLINE</b>    |

**Winter 2027 Placement (Regular Stream) & Practicum (Fast-Track):**

|                           |                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>January 22, 2027:</b>  | <b>Early Deadline #1</b> |
| <b>February 5, 2027:</b>  | <b>Early Deadline #2</b> |
| <b>February 26, 2027:</b> | <b>FINAL DEADLINE</b>    |

Early Deadline #1 = Students who complete their requirements by this date will be processed first.

Early Deadline #2 = Students who complete their requirements by this date will be processed second.

Final Deadline = Students who complete their requirements by this date will be processed last. Submissions after this deadline will not be processed except under extenuating circumstances. **After the final deadline, you will not be able to proceed with practicum/placement and you will have to wait for the next offering to register again. This is likely to cause delays in your progression in the program and is likely to result in additional fees.**

## PRACTICUM/PLACEMENT LOCATION

Determine whether you will complete your placement in the North Bay district (including the immediate surrounding area) or out of district. Read the instructions below based on this determination.

### Practicum/Placement in North Bay district:

If you wish to complete your practicum or placement in North Bay or immediate surrounding area (including Sundridge, South River, Trout Creek, Powassan, Astorville, Callander, Nipissing Village, Corbiel, Bonfield, Rutherglen, Mattawa, Hornell Heights, Redbridge, Nipissing First Nation, Sturgeon Falls), you must submit your top three choices for practicum/placement to the Placement Coordinator by completing the *REC Local Placement Application Form* and submitting to the appropriate iLearn dropbox. The Application Form can be downloaded from your course shell once access has been opened on the first day of the course.

**Fall 2026 Practicum: DUE October 23, 2026.**

**Winter 2027 Practicum and Placement: DUE February 12, 2027.**

The Placement Coordinator will review and assign you a host agency in consideration of your top three choices. **Students shall not solicit practicums/placements from community agencies.** Contact the Placement Coordinator if you have any questions.

You will receive your practicum/placement host assignment via email from the Placement Coordinator once your non-academic requirements are met and based on the timeline information further below. You will receive information from your faculty on selecting learning goals for practicum/placement during class once the course begins.

**You will not be permitted to commence hours until explicitly advised by the Placement Coordinator.** If you start hours prior to approval, they will not count towards your required log.

### Practicum/Placement Out of District:

If you wish to complete your practicum or placement outside of the North Bay district, you are responsible for locating and securing a placement host agency. Follow these best practices when reaching out to prospective host agencies:

- Research the agency. Know about the mission, operations, and why you think completing your practicum/placement with them will be value-adding for them and you.
- Identify the point of contact. Some agencies post on their website information for students seeking placement.
- Know what you are asking for. Practicum is a 100-hour experience completed anytime outside of your class schedule. Placement is a 245-hour experience and usually completed over the last 8 weeks of the semester (including reading week). Your obligation is to log the minimum hours during your available time. You can start earlier if approved, but you must not miss scheduled classes to complete your hours.
- Know what goals you have for your experience and inquire about whether they can be supported.
- Share the [Practicum Supervisor Information Sheet](#) or the [Placement Supervisor Information Sheet](#) with the prospective host agency (depending on which one applies). This provides them with more information to make an informed decision regarding hosting a student.
- Be polite and appreciative. Thank them for considering your request.
- Be patient. Agencies may need time to consider whether they can accommodate your request. If

more than one week has passed, consider following up. Do not follow up more than once per week unless you are asked to do so.

- Thank them for considering your request if you are denied. You may find yourself seeking employment with the agency in the future and thus should leave a positive impression.

Once you secure a host, you must complete the *REC Student Practicum/Placement Request Form* (link will be posted in your iLearn course shell), at which time you will identify your learning outcomes. You will receive an orientation from your faculty on selecting learning outcomes for practicum/placement during class once the course begins.

**Fall 2026 Practicum: DUE October 23, 2026.**

**Winter 2027 Practicum and Placement: DUE February 12, 2027.**

**You will not be permitted to commence hours until explicitly advised by the Placement Coordinator via email.** If you start hours prior to approval, they will not count towards your required log.

## PAID VS UNPAID PRACTICUM/PLACEMENT

**If you are assigned to an agency in North Bay or the immediate area, your practicum/placement will be unpaid.** If you are employed locally and wish for your local practicum/placement to be paid, contact the Placement Coordinator for special consideration.

**If you are securing your own placement host out of district and are NOT currently employed at the agency where you wish to complete your hours, your practicum/placement will be unpaid.** You shall NOT inquire about whether the experience will be paid or unpaid. If the host agency offers to pay you for your hours, contact the Placement Office for special consideration. You will indicate whether the experience will be paid or unpaid in your *REC Student Practicum/Placement Request Form* submission after discussing with the Placement Coordinator.

If you are securing your own placement host out of district and are currently employed at the agency where you wish to complete your hours, you can inquire with your employer whether they will support a paid practicum/placement. You will indicate whether the experience will be paid or unpaid in your *REC Student Practicum/Placement Request Form* submission.

## CONTACTS

For matters pertaining to your non-academic requirements or practicum/placement assignment, contact your Placement Coordinator.

For program or academic questions, contact your Program Coordinator.

Placement Coordinator: [Placement Contact - Canadore College](#)

RTH Program Coordinator: [Contact - Recreation Therapy - Canadore College](#)