



Addiction & **NOC 4153** Mental Health Counsellor

Family, marriage and other related counsellors often specialize in dealing with a specific client group such as injured workers, or with specific problems, such as drug, alcohol, sex, and gambling addiction, marital difficulties or behavioural disorders.

SERVICES PROVIDED

- Interview clients, prepare case histories and assess problems
- Assess and treat individuals with mental, emotional, or substance abuse problems, including abuse of alcohol, tobacco, and/or other drugs
- Conduct vocational testing and psychometric assessment
- Develop and implement counselling and intervention programs to assist clients in determining goals and means of attaining them
- Counsel clients, provide therapy and mediation services, and facilitate group sessions
- Liaise with community agencies or partners, and identify additional or alternative services and provide referrals
- Evaluate the effectiveness of counselling programs and interventions, and clients' progress in resolving identified problems and movement toward defined objectives
- Follow up on results of counselling programs and clients' adjustments
- Prepare assessment, progress, follow-up and court reports
- May supervise other counsellors, social service staff and assistants
- May provide public education and consultation to other professionals or groups regarding counselling services, issues and methods

SKILLS & ATTITUDES

- Emotional maturity and a balanced, healthy lifestyle
- Tolerance for beliefs and values that are not your own
- Belief that individuals, families and communities have the ability to make changes with support
- Excellent communication and presentation skills

EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS

- Master's degree in the field of counseling, mental health or a related social service discipline is usually required.
- An undergraduate degree or college diploma in a social science is required for certain areas of counseling.
- Registration as a Social Service Worker in the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers

EDUCATION & TRAINING

McMaster University
Ryerson University
Georgian College
Everest College

Wilfrid Laurier University
Lakehead University
triOS College
Stratford Career Institute

CAREER PATHS

Graduates work in a variety of agency settings, including addiction and mental health services, residential group homes, day treatment programs, case management services, shelters, drop-in and community centres, family service organizations, hospitals, governmental and non-governmental services.

SALARY RANGES

Wage (\$/hr)		
LOW	AVERAGE	HIGH
16.25	23.37	33.00

*Kitchener-Waterloo-Barrie-Guelph Area