

PROGRAM INFORMATION

Academic Year:	2026-2027
Credential:	Ontario College Diploma
Program Delivery:	Full-Time
Duration:	2 Years
Length:	4 Semesters
Program Codes(s):	B012 - Timmins Campus (PC) B275 - Haileybury Campus (HL) B276 - Kirkland Lake Campus (KL) B273 - Contact North Kirkland Lake (CK)

DESCRIPTION

Step into a world of opportunity with Northern College's Office Administration – Executive two-year diploma program. This credential is highly valued by employers, positioning you for success in Executive assistant roles across diverse organizations. Building upon the foundational Office Administration one-year certificate, students will receive both a certificate and a diploma upon completion.

Throughout the program, you'll delve deeper into specialized areas such as medical terminology, transcription and business document processing, desktop publishing, and law office management. Enhanced technical skills in information systems analysis and artificial intelligence will empower you to effectively manage and optimize organizational workflows.

In your final semester, you will participate in a three-week placement opportunity, providing invaluable hands-on experience and mentorship. Many of our graduates' secure permanent positions with their Placement employers, illustrating the program's effectiveness in preparing you for immediate career advancement. Elevate your career prospects with Northern College's Office Administration – Executive program. Gain the knowledge, skills, and confidence to thrive in today's competitive administrative landscape. Start your journey towards a fulfilling career by enrolling today.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Graduates of the Office Administration Program – Executive who enter the workforce will find opportunities in the following: healthcare, legal, government, industrial, commercial and financial sectors as:

- Administrative assistant
- Accounts payable clerk
- Executive assistant
- Customer service representative
- Office administrator
- Office manager
- Employed in various workplaces in the private and public sectors

VOCATIONAL LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Conduct oneself professionally and adhere to relevant legislation, standards and codes of ethics.
2. Manage the scheduling, coordination and organization of administrative tasks and workflow within specific deadlines and according to set priorities.
3. Coordinate the collection, analysis, distribution and response to communications in the workplace to facilitate the flow of information.
4. Operate and provide support related to the use, maintenance and procurement of office equipment and technologies.
5. Evaluate, establish and administer a variety of records management systems to ensure confidential, secure, accessible and organized electronic and paper records.
6. Produce financial documents and reports by identifying and compiling relevant information and using accounting software.
7. Prepare and produce a variety of business documents using available technologies and applying industry standards.
8. Use interpersonal, leadership and client service skills to respond to diversity and to support the vision and mission of the organization.
9. Research, analyze and summarize information on resources and services and prepare summary reports with recommendations.
10. Select and use information technologies to support communication with internal and external stakeholders and to promote the organization.
11. Organize and coordinate meetings, conferences, special events and make travel arrangements, including the preparation of related documentation.
12. Support the implementation of projects by applying basic principles of project management.

PROGRAM COURSES

The following reflects the planned course sequence for full-time offerings of the program. Programs at Northern College are delivered using a variety of instruction modes. Courses may be offered in the classroom or lab, entirely online, or in a hybrid mode which combines classroom sessions with virtual learning activities.

Semester 1		Hours
AC1034	Introduction to Financial Accounting	56
BU1103	Introduction to Human Resources	42
CM1323	Professional Communications	42
IN1173	Computer Applications for Business	42
MA1024	Business Math I	56
OF1013	Word Processing and Keyboarding I	42
OF1023	Office Procedures I	42
Semester 2		
BU3113	Organizational Behaviour	42
CM2303	Communications in the Workplace	42
GN1443	Indigenous Culture and Awareness	42
IN2013	Computer Applications II	44
IN2113	Introduction to Computerized Bookkeeping	44
OF2001	Placement I	120

OF2003 Administrative Procedures 44

Semester 3

BU1363	Introduction to Business Concepts	42
BU4053	Corporate Social Responsibility	42
EL1012	General Education Elective	42
IN3093	Desktop Publishing	42
IN4143	Database	42
LC1013	Law Office Management & Client Relations	42

Semester 4

BU4113	Project Management	42
EL2012	General Education Elective	42
IN6334	Information Systems	56
MR4023	Social & Internet Marketing	42
OF4001	Placement II	112

PROGRAM PROGRESSION

The following reflects the planned progression for full-time offerings of the program.

Fall Intake

Sem 1: Fall 2026
Sem 2: Winter 2027
Sem 3: Fall 2027
Sem 4: Winter 2028

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD)
- Grade 12 English (C, U)
- Grade 11 Math (C, M, U)
- Or equivalent

Academic prerequisites for this program may be obtained free of charge through [Academic Upgrading](#).

For more details, please contact the Admissions Office at 705-235-7222 or admissions@northern.on.ca.

Additional Requirements for International Students

In addition to the admission requirements, international students must have proof of [English Proficiency](#) and meet the requirements below.

1. Proof of Senior High School Diploma/Certificate

2. English Proficiency (we will require one of the following):
 - IELTS Academic– International English Language Testing System: a minimum overall score of 6.0 must be achieved with no individual band score under 5.5
 - TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) – Computer-based overall minimum score of 79
 - PTE (Pearson Test of English) Academic – Graduate Diploma: 58+
 - Duolingo: 105+
3. CO-OP Work Permit is mandatory for this program to participate in unpaid program placements.

If your country of citizenship has English as its official language, we may accept alternate proof of English Proficiency. All educational documents must be submitted in English and will be dependent on the country of citizenship. For more information, please contact admissions@northern.on.ca.

PROGRAM SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS & ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Work Integrated Learning Opportunities

This program includes work placement.

Articulation / Transfer Agreements

A number of articulation agreements have been negotiated with universities and other institutions across Canada, North America and internationally. These agreements are assessed, revised and updated on a regular basis. Please contact the program coordinator for specific details if you are interested in pursuing such an option. Additional information can be found at [Articulation Agreements](#).

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

- 22 Program Courses
- 2 Communications Courses
- 2 General Education Courses

Graduation Eligibility

To graduate from this program, a student must attain a minimum of 60% or a letter grade of CR (Credit) in each course in each semester unless otherwise stated on the course outline. Students should consult departmental policies and manuals for additional details and exceptions.

Graduation Window

Students unable to adhere to the program duration of two years (as stated above) may take a maximum of four years to complete their credential. After this time, students must be re-admitted into the program and follow the curriculum in place at the time of re-admission.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For questions about being admitted into the program, please contact Northern College Admissions at admissions@northern.on.ca or by phone at 705-235-3211 ext. 7222. For questions about the content of the program, contact the Program Coordinator.

Jennifer Huggins, Program Coordinator

Tel: 705-235-3211 ext. 2105

Email: hugginsj@northern.on.ca

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Semester 1

AC1034 Introduction to Financial Accounting

In this course, students will be introduced to the accounting cycle and the preparation of financial statements. Topics include recording entries, preparing financial statements and accounting for merchandising activities. This course will be essential for further study in financial accounting.

BU1103 Introduction to Human Resources

In this course, students will learn how proper recruitment/selection strategies, and training and development methods, maintain an organization's competitive advantage. The integral role of job design and analysis in affecting compensation management and performance appraisal decisions will be examined. Students will investigate a variety of employment and health and safety laws as they relate to managing a diverse workforce. In addition, the fundamental principles of the union-management framework will be explored.

CM1323 Professional Communications

In this course, students will learn essential skills for success in college and the workplace. This course focuses on developing and strengthening oral and written communication skills, and critical thinking ability. During this course, students will engage in a variety of forms of communication with a focus on upholding the principles of academic integrity. Students will develop the skills necessary to create discipline-specific documents, practice business etiquette and professionalism, and apply critical thinking strategies to practical scenarios. Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to plan and draft concise, coherent and well-organized writing assignments that are tailored to specific audiences and purposes.

MA1024 Business Math I

In this course, students will begin with a review of basic arithmetic and algebraic manipulations, continuing topics that include ratios, proportions and percentages, math of merchandising that include mark-ups and mark-downs, various payroll scenarios, and the evaluation and calculations using simple interest.

OF1013 Word Processing and Keyboarding I

This course provides applications that reinforce word processing skills. It focuses on techniques to enable students to produce a wide variety of documents using Microsoft Word 2013 using Windows 7. Keyboarding speed and accuracy will be reinforced during document preparation.

OF1023 Office Procedures I

This course will equip the student to find meaningful employment in the administrative field. Administrative Professionals have more responsibilities in today's work environment. Some of the topics covered in this course include: professionalism, telecommunications, records maintenance, technology and soft skills. In-class

simulations and discussions provide students with the opportunity to problem solve and participate in group activities.

Semester 2

BU3113 Organizational Behaviour

In this course, students will be introduced to managing and navigating organizational behaviour in a professional Canadian business environment, at the same time keeping in mind the increasingly interdependent nature of globalization. This course examines management and group dynamics from the manager as well as employee point of view, both in an professional setting. There is significant emphasis on how OB research into the area of workplace experience of managers and employees contributes to the productivity of the organization. The course brings in numerous examples of practical applications with the involvement of the learners from real-life situations and personal experiences to analyze the concepts discussed. There is also key emphasis on developing awareness towards corporate social responsibility and the relation between ethical practices and organizational behaviour.

CM2303 Communications in the Workplace

In this course, students will develop professional communication skills required for success in the workplace. Students will continue to develop and strengthen their oral and written communication skills and critical thinking abilities. During this course, students will use various modes of communication to complete assignments designed to meet program and professional expectations. Students will utilize a variety of technologies for the purpose of creating a professional presence in a digital environment. Students will develop the necessary skills to create polished workplace documents such as letters, resumes, cover letters and reports tailored to specific audiences. Students will learn to conduct themselves with professionalism in both workplace interviews and job searches. Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to create clear, concise and coherent workplace and employment documents that are error-free and designed for specific audiences and purposes.

GN1443 Indigenous Culture and Awareness

This general education course will provide students with an introduction to Canadian Indigenous Nations' history, sovereignty, land titles, cultural history and current critical issues. Topics addressed include the content of Indigenous rights, economic and social development, community and political processes, and business law and policies, justice & social services. Canadian Indigenous History and Relations is a general education course that has been incorporated into all programs at Northern College.

IN2013 Computer Applications II

In this course, Students are introduced to the advanced applications of Microsoft Office – MS Word, MS Excel, and MS PowerPoint. Students gain practical experience by applying a series of learning activities, projects and exercises that focus on real-world examples. Advanced applications range from creating a web page from a Word document to amortization schedules, and data tables, to advanced animation, transitions and sound files for slide show presentations. Students gain practical knowledge that can be applied directly to the workplace setting.

IN2113 Introduction to Computerized Bookkeeping

During this course, students will gain an understanding of computerized accounting concepts using Simply Accounting for Windows. Students will complete applications using the general module, inventory module,

accounts payable module, accounts receivable module, and payroll module. Theory topics include adjustments and the worksheet, closing entries, trial balances, subsidiary ledgers, special journals, and accounts receivable ledgers.

OF2001 Placement I

This experiential learning opportunity supports graduates of the Office Administration program to gain career-related experience on the job. Students are responsible for finding a suitable placement within their respective communities, where they can apply the principles and skills learned throughout the program. Students are required to complete weekly placement journals and a final project highlighting their experience.

OF2003 Administrative Procedures

This course analyzes the tasks and responsibilities of an administrative assistant in an electronic office environment. As an Administrative Professional you will be “information central”, a valued member of a team in a business or organization where everyone will depend on you to keep the office organized and running efficiently. This course reviews the duties and responsibilities of the Administrative Professional including: telecommunication tools, managing appointments, planning meetings, and arranging travel.

Semester 3**BU1363 Introduction to Business Concepts**

In this course, students will be introduced to business in Canada, focusing on introductory topics for those interested in employment in a business management role. Topics of study will include the relationships between the areas of finance, human resources, marketing, and operations within an organization, business ethics and social responsibility, management concepts and practices, and an exploration of the entrepreneurial spirit.

BU4053 Corporate Social Responsibility

In this course, students will study the impact which corporations have on the environment, employees, communities, and stakeholders and will examine related ethical issues and concerns in these areas. Students will define “good corporate citizenship” and will look at government and private legislation/regulations which aim to make corporations socially accountable. Various approaches to Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and CSR policies will be reviewed and assessed.

EL1012 General Education Elective

General Education Courses are selected online each semester by the student from a list provided and exposes students to a related area of study outside of their immediate academic discipline. Certain programs have predetermined electives.

IN3093 Desktop Publishing

This course introduces students to the key concepts in effective desktop publishing, including color theory, page layout, graphic design, & font usage. Students will use Microsoft Word, Microsoft Photos, and Microsoft Publisher software tools to create a variety of documents for business & marketing. The focus of the course will be on techniques for creating effective & aesthetically pleasing documents for both print & electronic media.

IN4143 Database

This course will introduce the student to many features and applications of MS Access 2016. Access terminology, the Access 2016 Interface, and the basic characteristics of a database will be followed by topics including creating, querying, maintaining, and presenting a database. Procedures for converting an Excel worksheet to an Access database will also be studied.

LC1013 Law Office Management & Client Relations

This course will focus on the management of law office/department and office etiquette and enable students to identify and work with time management, file management, and client accounts. It will also introduce the student to legal terminology and citation, legal correspondence, and legal documents. The student will learn techniques to organize job searches, draft cover letters, and tailor resumes specifically for law firms.

Semester 4**BU4113 Project Management**

In this course, students will develop managerial skills to propose, plan, secure resources, budget, and lead project teams to successful completions of projects. Students will also learn why organizations have developed a formal project management process supported by the Project Management Institute (PMI) and its Project Management Body of Knowledge (PMBOK) to gain a competitive advantage. The case study approach will be used along with an investigation of software and collaboration tools that aid in carrying out activities of project planning and project execution.

EL2012 General Education Elective

General Education Courses are selected online each semester by the student from a list provided and exposes students to a related area of study outside of their immediate academic discipline. Certain programs have predetermined electives.

IN6334 Information Systems

The most successful science communicator of the 20th century, Dr. Carl Sagan explained it best when he said, "We live in a society exquisitely dependent on science and technology, in which hardly anyone knows anything about science and technology". This course is designed to address this issue by educating students on the basic operation and function of the information systems that we use on a daily basis. Today everyone makes use of information systems. To be successful in a modern business career you must be able to view information systems from the perspective of the business and to communicate the benefits of various types of information systems. You will be expected to discover opportunities to use information systems in business and to describe what solutions might best solve various business problems.

MR4023 Social & Internet Marketing

In this course, students will study the conceptual foundation and practical techniques necessary for creating a comprehensive and effective social media marketing plan. Focus will be on identifying target audiences, setting attainable social media objectives, devising realistic platform-specific strategies and tactics, and monitoring and measuring progress and feedback of the plan. Students will be encouraged to engage in social media with a business focus and wherever possible, work with real clients in the development of their social media marketing plan.

OF4001 Placement II

This experiential learning opportunity supports graduates of the Office Administration Executive Program to gain career-related experience on the job. Students are responsible for finding a suitable placement within their respective communities, where they can apply the principles and skills learned throughout the program. Students are required to complete weekly placement journals and a final project highlighting their experience.