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Vocational centres sift through applications ahead of orderly training

Montreal Gazette



A resident dances along with the Alouettes cheerleaders at Au Fil De L'Eau Residence May 13, 2020. ALLEN MCINNIS / Montreal Gazette

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Quebec's plan to train and hire 10,000 orderlies to work in long-term care residences kicks off across the province on Monday.

Employees at vocational centres are spending this week sifting through 69,000 applications for the posts.



Successful applicants have been asked to write a short letter explaining why they would like to work as an orderly and some have done interviews by phone or video conference.

The plan to fast-track the training is necessary as Quebec takes steps to prepare for <u>a potential second wave of COVID-19</u> and the departure of hundreds of Canadian soldiers doing some of the heavy lifting in CHSLDs.

The courses will be offered in French and English at various vocational training centres across Quebec.

The English Montreal School Board is offering its course at the Shadd Business and Health Centre in Notre-Dame-de-Grâce.

Students will be paid about \$760 a week during the training and are guaranteed a full-time job if they pass the course in September.

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There will also be on-site training in CHSLDs where students will gain experience feeding, dressing and moving elderly residents, many of whom have dementia.

Those chosen must be Canadian citizens, have a minimum Secondary 3 education, have no criminal record and be in good physical condition.

