

WHAT is Academic Upgrading?

Colleges offer a variety of programs which prepare individuals for college, apprenticeship and employment. Interested students may lack a Grade 12 diploma, have a Grade 12 diploma but lack subjects needed for admission, or have finished high school a few or many years ago and need a skills refresher. Time required depends on previous education and student commitment.

ACE (Academic and Career Entrance) program - is an adult upgrading certificate program. Successful completion of the ACE Program provides a grade 12 equivalence that is recognized for admission to college postsecondary programs, apprenticeship training in Ontario and an increasing number of employers.

- **Depending upon the learner's goal and background, studies may include** core, apprenticeship, business or technology mathematics, communications (English or French), biology, chemistry, physics, introductory computer applications and self management skills.
- ACE is delivered exclusively by all 24 colleges.
- ACE Distance provides the ACE program online and is a flexible alternative to classroom study.

LBS (Literacy and Basic Skills) program - provides free training in reading and writing, math, and basic work skills, including computer literacy, for those who lack a Grade 12 diploma.

- Upgrading through the LBS Program allows learners to improve prospects for employment, to foster independence, and to prepare for further training.
- Many students who successfully complete the LBS Program proceed directly into the ACE Program.

College Preparatory programs - many colleges offer preparatory or transition programs which help students prepare for postsecondary programs.

WHO can access Academic Upgrading?

- LBS and ACE - Ontario residents at least 19 years of age
- Those who are out of school, out of work and do not have the reading and writing skills to get a job and cope with daily living
- Individuals who are working and want to improve their employment and/or training opportunities
- Adult students seeking admission to a postsecondary college program or an apprenticeship, who either did not receive their OSSD or have an OSSD but

are missing the courses (usually math and science) required for postsecondary admission.

- Assessment is done at intake to determine courses required based on student goal
- Financial supports may be available for learners who meet eligibility criteria. Qualifying students receive training free of charge and may also receive financial support to cover childcare and travel costs.
- College preparatory programs may have other or additional entry requirements and tuition fees may apply.

WHY is Academic Upgrading available?

- Assist those who are out of school, out of work and who do not have the reading and writing skills to get a job
- Assist those currently working who want to improve their opportunities
- Provide appropriate preparation to succeed in the full range of college postsecondary programs
- College environment appropriate for adult learners
- ACE certificate recognized as equivalent to an OSSD by colleges
- ACE certificate accepted by Apprenticeship as OSSD equivalent
- ACE accepted by many employers as OSSD equivalent for hiring and advancement purposes

WHERE is Academic Upgrading available?

Name of College offers LBS, ACE and College Prep programs at the following locations:

WHEN can Academic Upgrading be taken?

- ACE and LBS have continuous intake for full time and part-time studies
- ACE Distance has monthly intakes
- College Prep programs have scheduled intakes, generally in September, January or May

HOW can one get more information about enrolling in Academic Upgrading?

Drop in:

Call:

Email:

Website:

Direct Referrals to:

Additional online information is available at:

College program website: www.xxxx

Employment Ontario website: www.eopg.ca

CSC website: www.collegeupgradingon.ca

ESOT website: www.csc.essentialskillsgroup.com

ACE Distance: www.ACEdistancedelivery.ca

Other useful related websites:

Employment Services:

- College Sector Employment Services: www.employmentservicescses.ca

Apprenticeship:

- www.tradeability.ca
- www.apprenticetrades.ca
- www.skillsCanada.com
- www.madewiththetrades.com
- www.skilledtrades.ca
- www.red-seal.ca

Commonly used acronyms:

- ACE** - Academic and Career Entrance program
- ACE Distance** – ACE online learning option
- CODA** – Co-op Diploma Apprenticeship program
- CSC** - College Sector Committee for Adult Upgrading
- CSES** - College Sector Employment Services
- EO** - Employment Ontario
- ES** - Employment Services
- ESOT** - Essential Skills for Ontario Tradespeople
- GED** - General Education Development testing
- HAT** - College Heads of Apprenticeship
- LBS** - Literacy and Basic Skills
- MTCU** - Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities
- OALCF** - Ontario Adult Literacy Curriculum Framework
- OSEB** - Ontario Self-Employment Benefit
- OSSD** - Ontario Secondary School Diploma
- OYAP** – Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program
- SC** - Second Career
- SJS** - Summer Jobs Service

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