Supporting Adult Learners in Ontario

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EDU funded Adult and Continuing Education Programs

*For adults who want to earn high school credits towards their Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) or need academic credits to enter postsecondary education or apprenticeship training.*

### Adult Credit Programs offered by school boards and ILC

- Adult Day School
- Continuing Education Credit (day, after school, night, weekend)
- Summer School
- Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)
- Independent Learning Centre

### High School Equivalency through ILC (Independent Learning Centre)

General education development (GED) certificate: For adults who need to take the GED test as proof of high school level of knowledge.
Flexible Adult Credit Delivery Options

- Continuous Intake
- Semesters / Quadmesters
- Up to 6 terms per school year (September – August)

- Classroom based
- Blended Learning
- Hybrid Learning
- eLearning
- Self-Study/Correspondence
- Co-operative Education
- Independent Learning Centre (ILC)

https://www.ontario.ca/page/adult-learning
Pre Employment / Pre Apprenticeship within Adult Credit

- Personal Support Worker (PSW)
- Hairstyling
- Culinary Arts
- Custodial Services
- Childcare Assistant
- Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program
Adult Learners (2017-2018)

• 2017-18 approximately **64,000 adults** (aged 18 and over), participated in Adult, Alternative & Continuing Education programs

• Approximately 50% were between **18-25 years of age**

• In 2017-18, **$69.5M*** was provided to school boards to support Adult & Continuing Education programs (*includes after-school, night, and weekend credit programs for adolescent learners)

• **$2.15M** was provided to recognize prior learning for mature students (PLAR)
Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition for Mature Students (PLAR)

• PLAR is a process whereby the knowledge and skills adults acquired, in both formal and informal ways outside secondary school, are recognized for credit.

• This is a formal evaluation process, conducted by the principal, by which adults 18 years of age (or older), and out of school for a year can earn up to 26 of 30 credits required for an Ontario Secondary School Diploma.
Case Study: Katina

• 42 year old Russian Immigrant
• Former teacher from Chechnya without documentation
• Documentation reflecting her work experience in Ontario since 2007.
• After achieving Level 4 in grade 11 English for Presentation and Speaking Purposes, and English Second Language, Level 3 - Katina was placed into grade 9/10 courses.

❖ With proper PLAR implementation she could have finished 2-3 years earlier.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Katina’s Current Pathway</th>
<th>Potential PLAR Pathway</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Courses</strong></td>
<td><strong>Time</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Grade 11 credit based ESL</td>
<td>220 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• English Presentation / Speaking Skills</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Grades 9/10 English, math, literacy, tech</td>
<td>1,540 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Grades 11/12 English, math, literacy, ESL, and business</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Grade 10 science, Grade 11 math, Grade 12 literacy</td>
<td>330 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• STILL OUTSTANDING: 7 compulsory and 6 elective credits</td>
<td>1,430 hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Current Pathway TOTAL**: 3,520 hours

**PLAR Pathway TOTAL**: 550 hours
Adult Education Strategy 2015-2019

Source: Eastern Regional Partnership for Adult Education

https://www.eosdn.on.ca/initiatives/adult-education-strategy

ACE = Adult and Continuing Education
Dual credit programs allow eligible students in high school to take college or apprenticeship courses that count towards:
• their Ontario Secondary School Diploma
• a postsecondary certificate, diploma, degree or a Certificate of Apprenticeship

Benefits of dual credit programs
Participating in dual credit programs helps students to:
• complete their Ontario Secondary School Diploma
• make a successful transition to college or an apprenticeship program
• increase their awareness of the various college and apprenticeship pathways available to them
• gain greater insight into education and career planning decisions.
Enrolment in Adult Dual Credits

Student Eligibility
Adults 21+ who need the additional support in order to achieve their goal of earning their OSSD and making a successful transition to postsecondary education (college or apprenticeship).

After Adult Dual Credits
Adults have access to one-on-one and group support from a college advisor, and funding to cover OCAS/OUAC application fees.
Options for Youth Under Age 18

**Supervised Alternative Learning (SAL)** for students age 14-17 with serious attendance issues, where other strategies ineffective. Students excused by Board SAL Committee to participate in credit course or volunteering, counselling, employment, etc.

**Part-time on Compassionate Grounds** – 16-17 year olds, with principal’s approval for up to 1 year.

**Alternative education programs** – school boards may offer programs that offer alternative timetables, locations, content (e.g. focus on teen parents).
Youth Eligibility for Adult Credit: Mandatory School Age

A student must turn 18 on or before December 31st in a given school year (i.e. September – June)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>18th birthday</th>
<th>Last compulsory day</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 1 – August 31, 2019</td>
<td>June 30, 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 1 – December 31, 2019</td>
<td>June 30, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 1 – June 30, 2020</td>
<td>Day before birthday</td>
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</tbody>
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