

# ONTARIO'S PATHWAYS TO POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION FOR ADULT LEARNERS

ADULTS MAY ENTER A PATHWAY TO POSTSECONDARY DIRECTLY

or

ADULTS MAY TRANSITION THROUGH

- English Second Language Programs
- Out-of-Province Prior Learning Evaluation
- Adult Upgrading – LBS

## ONTARIO SECONDARY SCHOOL CREDIT PROGRAM

- Originally entered an Ontario high school before 1999
- No prior learning assessment and recognition (PLAR) available
- Resident of Ontario

### SECONDARY SCHOOL GRADUATION DIPLOMA (SSGD)

- Original high school entry between 1974–1984
- 27 credits: compulsory & optional determined at registration
- Up to 12 maturity credits

### ONTARIO SECONDARY SCHOOL DIPLOMA (OSSD)

- Original high school entry between 1984–1999
- 30 credits: 16 compulsory, 14 optional
- Up to 12 maturity credits

- Originally entered an Ontario high school 1999 or after
- All out-of-province adult learners
- Required for any student who wishes to access the PLAR for Mature Students Process
- Resident of Ontario

### ONTARIO SECONDARY SCHOOL DIPLOMA (OSSD)

- 30 credits (18 compulsory)
  - PLAR 9/10 assessment = 16 credits
  - PLAR 11/12 challenge or equivalency = 10 credits
  - 4 final credits
- Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test or Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course
- 40 hours community involvement

- School Board** delivery is through adult day programming, summer school, night school, correspondence or e-learning, full-time or part-time
- Independent Learning Centre** delivery is predominantly e-learning with correspondence available for some courses
- Private School** delivery is fee-based

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## ACADEMIC AND CAREER ENTRANCE PROGRAM (ACE)

- 19 years or older
- Out of school
- Students with or without a secondary school diploma are eligible
- Resident of Ontario

### ACE CERTIFICATE OR COURSES

- ACE certificate requirements: Communications (English/Français), Mathematics, and any 2 other ACE courses
- Students may choose to acquire the ACE certificate or to take only postsecondary prerequisite ACE courses
- ACE courses provide postsecondary prerequisites which are equivalent to secondary school credits
- 12 ACE courses include Communications, Sciences, Mathematics, Computer Fundamentals and Self Management

- Community College** delivery is year-round, days, evenings, full-time, part-time, in-class or via e-learning

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## GENERAL EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (GED)

- 18 years or older
- Out of school for a year
- No secondary school diploma
- Resident of Ontario

### GED

- High school equivalency certificate
- 5 tests:
  - Language Arts Writing
  - Language Arts Reading
  - Mathematics
  - Social Studies
  - Science
- Some postsecondary programs require additional prerequisite courses for admission

- Optional GED preparation from local adult education providers
- GED preparation manuals available in many bookstores
- GED testing through the **Independent Learning Centre**

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## MATURE STUDENT STATUS

- 19 years or older
- Out of school one year
- No secondary school diploma or equivalent
- Resident of Ontario

### MATURE STUDENT TEST

- Not available at all colleges
- Areas tested may include English/Français, Mathematics
- Other areas may be tested depending on college and program
- Individual colleges determine required scores
- Test used varies from college to college

- Contact individual College Registrar's Office to determine availability and process
- Unsuccessful test writers may be referred to ACE programming
- Some postsecondary programs require additional prerequisite courses for admission

**COLLEGE**

- 21 years or older by December 31 in the year of application
- Not completed a postsecondary program
- Away from formal education for at least two years
- Not eligible for admission as a secondary school graduate
- Canadian citizen or permanent resident

### OUAC 105D APPLICATION

- Admittance upon successful completion of secondary-level courses in the prerequisite subjects for the intended program of study
- Apply via the OUAC website (<http://www.ouac.on.ca/>). Mature applicants must complete an OUAC 105D application
- If the applicant attended a postsecondary institution within Ontario, there will be a request for a transcript through the OUAC 105D application

**UNIVERSITY**

\* See companion guide for clarification.