

Literacy and Basic Skills Summary Sheet

[Literacy and Basic Skills \(LBS\) \(gov.on.ca\)](http://gov.on.ca)

Description

The Ontario Literacy and Basic Skills (LBS) program helps adults improve reading, writing, math, computer, and other basic skills.

Colleges may refer to this program as "academic upgrading".

Programs can be taken in English or French. There is also training available to meet the specific needs of Indigenous learners and The Deaf, the deafened, and the hard of hearing (training delivered in American Sign Language and English).

Services are tailored to meet each learner's needs.

LBS can help:

- Earn credits for an Ontario high school diploma.
- Upgrade skills to prepare for college, university, apprenticeship training or employment.
- Improve essential skills to live with more confidence and independence.
- Some adult learning programs are for skilled immigrants and refugees who want to:
 - Improve their language skills in English or French
 - Continue working in their profession or in a related field.

Eligibility

A resident of Ontario and at least 18 years old with reading, writing and math skills below Grade 12 of the Ontario curriculum.

ESL learners must demonstrate language proficiency at a minimum of Canadian Language Benchmark level 6.

Adult Tutoring Program serves learners up to grade 9 level.

Sheridan ACE & GED Test Prep Program serves learners at high school equivalency level.



Computer Skills for Work program serves learners who require basic computer knowledge for the workplace or further training.

Note: On an exception only basis, LBS service providers may serve young adults between ages 16 to 17 who demonstrate the maturity to benefit from adult education. However, returning to the regular school system should be the priority for these learners.

The LBS program is also open to employed Ontarians who need to improve their literacy and basic skills to maintain or upgrade their work skills.

How to Qualify

All participants must complete a free assessment to determine suitability/eligibility.

Application Process

Request an appointment with a preferred service provider to discuss goals and needs. Take an assessment with the service provider to evaluate skills and knowledge. Based on the assessment results, develop a learning plan with the service provider

Financial Support

Funding for LBS support organizations is based on services delivered. Funding decisions respect the variety of approaches that are necessary to meet adult learners' needs and to accommodate the complexity of the literacy field.

Service Provider Role

Service providers may prepare learners for different goal paths. The learner should receive the following five services:

- Information and Referral
- Assessment
- Learner Plan Development
- Training
- Follow-up

Regional networks support all stream and sector LBS service providers by facilitating the literacy service planning and coordination process in each community. Its purpose is





to facilitate effective and efficient delivery of the LBS Program within a broader system of education, training and labor market attachment services.

