



Academic Upgrading, Literacy & Financial Assistance TIP SHEETS

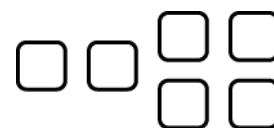
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DON'T HAVE A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA?

Consider GED!



Do You Have The Skills But Not The Piece of Paper to Prove It?

You or someone you know may not have finished high school, yet have acquired valuable skills and knowledge from working, on-the-job training, volunteering, various courses and daily life. These experiences can often be equal to, or above the levels required for a high school diploma.

GED stands for General Educational Development. The GED is a set of high school equivalency tests that provide adults with a High School Equivalency Certificate issued by the Ministry of Education. In 2004, 4000 adults in Ontario earned their GED. Since the program began in 1942, more than 12 million people worldwide have attained their high school diplomas through GED.

What Is It Used For?

A GED certificate can be used:

- To increase your qualifications for employment
- For promotions with your current employer
- Admission requirements for training or educational institutions
- Enhancing personal self esteem and development

NOTE: It is best to check with employer, training or educational institution to make sure that they will accept GED.

To qualify to write the exam, you must be:

- A resident of Ontario
- At least 19 years old
- Not have graduated from high school
- Out of public school for at least 1 year

GED Includes 5 Tests:

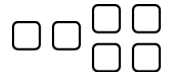
Social Studies

Mathematics

Language Arts-Reading

Science

Language Arts-Writing



The Tests

The tests are offered in both English and French. While most of the test is multiple-choice, there is an essay component for Language Arts-Writing, and open-ended questions in part of the Mathematics section. You do not have to memorize facts for the test, because much of the information is provided.

The Bay Area Employment Resource Centre has FREE access to computerized GED practice tests. Determine if you are ready to write the test before you spend the money!

Accomodations

The GED Tests come in large print, audio cassette, and Braille editions. In addition, there can be special arrangement made for individuals with physical, psychological or learning disabilities.

Studying for the GED

There are different ways to prepare to write the GED. Some individuals may only need to brush up on a few subjects. Others may want to take a class or self-study using GED Preparation books and CD's. These can be purchased at your local bookstore.

You may want to take the Pre-GED Readiness Assessment. It is a 2 hour test that provides you with feedback and can identify areas that you may need to work on. The test is free to unemployed clients over 19 years old who have been out of school for over 1 year.

Contact 1-866-260-1175 ext. 101 for details.

Visit the Bay Area Employment Resource Centre for computerized practice GED tests, books and information.

Doorways: Provides upgrading assistance in Math and Reading for individuals wanting to gain entrance to skilled trades pre-apprenticeship programs. Contact 905-333-3499 ext. 132

Websites

www.ilc.org

GED testing information and application form (PDF)

Toll free 1-800-573-7022

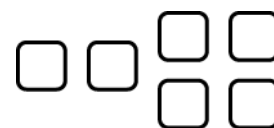
www.4tests.com

On-line free practice exams for GED

www.ged.ca

GED Achievement: preparations programs

Post-Secondary Education



FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Canada Millennium Scholarships Foundation

www.millenniumscholarships.ca

- Includes a Bursary program for those in financial need, an Excellence Award program and National In-course Awards recognizing academic merit and leadership

Canada Student Loans and Grants www.hrsdc.gc.ca/en/learning/canada_student_loan/index.shtml

- Provides loans and grants to Canadians who need help financing their education to attend University, College, Trade School, or Vocational School

Canada Study Grants

www.servicecanada.gc.ca/en/goc/csg_dependants.shtml

- Financial assistance for post-secondary students with dependants whose financial need is greater than their combined federal and provincial loans

Ontario Student Assistance Program

https://osap.gov.on.ca/eng/eng_osap_main.html

- Information and online application procedures for student loans in the province of Ontario

Scholarships Canada

www.scholarshipscanada.com/

- A database to find scholarships, bursaries and grants with information about student loans, applications and budget planning

Student Awards

www.studentawards.com/english/can/

- A free database and matching service for scholarships, bursaries and grants across Canada

Service Canada- Scholarships & Bursaries

www.youth.gc.ca/yolist.jsp?&lang=en&geo=0&flash=1&ta=1&cat=2_730

- A list of scholarships and bursaries across Canada

CanLearn

www.canlearn.ca

- Resources for saving for, selecting and financing post-secondary education, from interactive planning tools to information about savings programs, student loans and scholarships

Rotary Club

www.rotary7080.org/

- Check the Rotary Club in your area or the school of your choice for awards and scholarships

PEO International

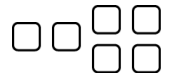
www.peointernational.org

- An organization promoting educational opportunities for women through scholarships, grants, awards and loans

Zonta Club of Oakville

www.zontaoakville.com/

- An organization that provides women with specific scholarships and awards



POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

Colleges, Universities and Private Institutes

Canadian Community Colleges www.accc.ca/english/colleges/membership_list.htm

- Links to community colleges across Canada, listed alphabetically by province and territory

Ontario Colleges <http://www.ontariocolleges.ca/>

- Links to all of Ontario's community colleges as well as a program locator, career planner, financing options and online application process

Ontario Universities www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/general/list/univers.html

- Links to university websites and help in getting financial help and selecting a program

Ontario Universities' Application Centre www.ouac.on.ca/

- Online Application for all Ontario universities and information on admission requirements

School Finder www.schoolfinder.com/

- Information on more than 1,700 universities, colleges and career colleges in Canada, including admission requirements, costs, programs and contact details

e!NFO www.electronicinfo.ca

- e!NFO is a comprehensive guide to Ontario's universities for secondary school students

MacLean's Magazine www.macleans.ca/education/index.jsp

- Up-to-date information about education in Canada: articles, news, reviews and blogs

Private Career Colleges www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/general/searchpcc.html

- Information on Private Career Colleges in Ontario and links to programs and schools

Youth Internship Programs

International Youth Internship Program-CIDA www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/internships

- An employment program for Canadian post-secondary graduates between the ages of 19-30 that provides opportunities to work in developing countries and contribute to Canada's international development goals

Federal Public Sector Youth Internship Program

www.youth.gc.ca/yoaux.jsp?&lang=en&flash=1&ta=1&auxpageid=1120

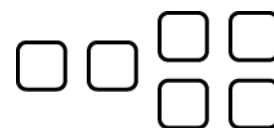
- Enables unemployed or under-employed Canadians aged 15 to 30 to get the experience and skills they need to enter and fully participate in the labour market

Career Edge www.careeredge.ca

- A program that provides paid 6, 9 or 12 month internships for Canadian recent graduates with little or no relevant work experience

HALTON REGION

Math Upgrading Options



NOTE: Not all services run through the summer, so call ahead to check

BURLINGTON

Doorways **905-333-3499 x132**

860 Harrington Court, Burlington, ON L7N 3N4

Literacy Council of Burlington **905-631-1770**

460 Brant Street, Suite 21, Burlington, ON L7R 4B6

Halton District School Board **905-632-2944**

Gary Allen High School, 3250 New Street, Burlington, ON L7N 1M8

YMCA of Hamilton / Burlington **905-681-1140 x223**

Career Development & Learning Centre, 500 Drury Lane, Burlington, ON L7R 2X2

OAKVILLE

Sheridan College **905-845-9430**

407 Iroquois Shore Road, Oakville, ON L6M 1M3

Halton Catholic District School Board **905-849-7555**

Adult Learning Centre 171 Speers Road, Unit 1, Oakville, ON L6K 3W8

MILTON

Literacy North Halton **905-873-2200**

72 Mill Street Suite 207, Georgetown, ON L7G 4Y5

ACE Academic Upgrading **905-693-8458**

Employment Resource Centre, 550 Ontario St. South, Ste 203, Milton, ON L9T 5E4

GEORGETOWN

Literacy North Halton **905-873-2200**

72 Mill Street Ste 207, Georgetown, ON L7G 4Y5

Math Upgrading Options

NOTE: Not all services run through the summer, so call ahead to check

HAMILTON

Hamilton Regional Indian Centre **905-548-9593**

Adult Literacy Program, 712 Main Street East, Hamilton, ON L8M 1K6

Mohawk College (Fennell Campus) **905-575-2029**

P.O. Box 2034, West 5th Street, Hamilton, ON L8N 1J8

Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board **905-561-2190**

Redhill Continuing Education, 300 Albright Road, Hamilton, ON L8K 5J4

Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board

St. Charles Adult Education (Downtown), 380 Main St. E., Hamilton, ON L8N 1J8 **905-526-9510**

St. Charles Adult Education (East 5th), 150 East 5th St., Hamilton, ON L9A 2Z8 **905-575-5202**

St. Charles Adult Education (Barlake), 60 Barlake Ave., Hamilton, ON L8E 1G7 **905-523-2347**

MISSISSAUGA

Peel Adult Learning Centre **905-507-0111**

5940 Wallace Street, Mississauga, ON L4Z 1Z9

Peel Literacy Guild **905-273-5196**

151 City Centre Drive, Mississauga, ON L5B 1M7

Peel District School Board (CET) **905-270-6000**

100 Elm Drive, Mississauga, ON L5B 1L9