

Archived: August 8, 2022

Academic and Career Preparation and High School Equivalency (ABE) Programs

Workplace Essential Skills and Training

Location Offered:

Cowichan, Nanaimo

Credential:

Certificate

Program Length:

2 Years

The Program

The program is specifically designed for neurodiverse students with developmental and cognitive disabilities, and is designed to assist students' development with the personal, interpersonal, and employment skills required to obtain and maintain employment. The overarching program goal is for students to gain the skills necessary to foster personal growth and independence.

The full non-credit certificate program is comprised of 6 modules (33 courses and 6 practicums), and will be delivered over two years. Students will also obtain a statement of completion after completing each module. Students can also take longer than two years to complete the program if they are unable to enroll into the six modules within the two-year time frame.

Student learning will be evaluated in each course. Students are expected to be able to demonstrate, at the very least, an acceptable level of competence (50% or greater), for identified course objectives. Competencies will be measured and graded through the use of a variety of evaluation tools (i.e. assignments, group work, tests, role-plays and demonstrations, work habits, participation, etc). Grades (both letter and numerical), will identify levels of competency as per VIU's grading scale.

Program Outline

Every Module is 11 weeks long and upon successful completion, students are awarded a Module Statement of Completion.

Year 1
Module 1 - Workplace Foundations* (Fall Session - September)
WPDF 001 - (Personal Development Skills)
WPDF 002 - (Attitudes on the Job)
WPDF 003 - (Workplace Safety)
WPDF 004 - (Introduction to Computers: Internet, Email & Social Networking)
WPDF 005 - (Student Success)
WPDF 006 - (Workplace Foundations Practicum)

Module 2 - Customer Service* (Spring Session - January)
CUSV 001 - (Problem Solving Seminar)
CUSV 002 - (Employment Standards & Human Rights)
CUSV 003 - (Numeracy Applications)
CUSV 004 - (Workplace Communication)
CUSV 005 - (World Host)
CUSV 006 - (Introduction to MS Word)
CUSV 007 - (Customer Service Practicum)

Module 3 - Retail & Food Services* (Intersession - April)
REFS 001 - (Retail Math)
REFS 002 - (Food Safety: Food Safe)
REFS 003 - (World Citizens: Food Issues)
REFS 004 - (Food Service Skills Application)
REFS 005 - (Advanced Word)
REFS 006 - (Retail and Food Services Seminar)
REFS 007 - (Retail and Food Services Practicum)

Year 2
Module 4 - Transition to Independence** (Fall Session -September)
TRIN 001 - (Serving It Right)
TRIN 002 - (Workplace Documents)
TRIN 003 - (Workplace Reading)
TRIN 004 - (Workplace Writing)
TRIN 005 - (Intro to PowerPoint)
TRIN 006 - (Workplace Literacy Seminar)
TRIN 007 - (Transition to Independence Practicum)

Module 5 - Community Connections** (Spring Session - January)
CMCN 001 - (Building Support Systems)
CMCN 002 - (Math for Independence)
CMCN 003 - (Next Steps: Transitional Planning)
CMCN 004 - (Becoming a Citizen of the World)
CMCN 005 - (Computers: Community Research)
CMCN 006 - (Community Connections Seminar)
CMCN 007 - (Community Connections Practicum)

Module 6 - Skills for Independence**
SKIP 001 - (Linking Learning to Life)
SKIP 002 - (Strategies For Employment)
SKIP 003 - (Living On Your Own)
SKIP 004 - (Intro to Excel/Database)
SKIP 005 - (Skills for Independence Practicum)

Admission Requirements

The program is designed for neurodiverse students with developmental and cognitive disabilities who are committed to learning and enhancing their skills. Admission to the program requires the following requirements:

- High school graduation or completion certificate; or
- Minimum 17 years of age and out of high school for at least one year.

In addition, students must also meet the following criteria:

- Diagnosis or history that identifies a difficulty with learning or a documented disability.
- Ability to attend classroom and practicum independently.
- Demonstrate the skills to perform program related tasks with strength and endurance.

Notes on Admission

A criminal record check may be required for some modules. An interview will be required to ensure suitability for entrance into the program.

Career Opportunities

Customer Service, Retail, Hospitality, Food Industry, Senior Care, and Child Care.

Start Date and Application Deadline

The program starts every September and applications for admission are accepted on an ongoing basis.

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