

Community Literacy to Employment Referral Service



Literacy Link South Central and 8 community literacy partners are offering an “Educational Interview.” This service is offered with financial support from Ontario Works - London. It is designed for clients who have less than a grade 12 education and have been on Ontario Works for 12 months or longer.

This service results in effective referrals to local literacy and Essential Skills upgrading programs.

What is an Educational Interview?

A one-hour Educational Interview could consist of:

- A survey (explores educational history, challenges and employment goals)
- A general literacy screening assessment (offers an indication of client’s general skill levels)
- A collection of inventories (explore client’s confidence in the skills related to reading, writing, math and computer use skills)

These tools review the skills that correspond to what is covered in a literacy and Essential Skills program. If a need for literacy programming is determined through the Educational Interview, a summary report (Educational Goals Report) will outline potential paths for the client to pursue upgrading opportunities.

This referral service also includes a follow up with the client at 2 months, 6 months and 12 months to identify any barriers to completing next steps in the plan and to determine that the outcomes have been achieved.

Why is this service important?

Lack of education and low basic skills can be a major barrier to reaching employment goals. Recognizing that people have varying needs, skills and abilities, literacy programs have corresponding specialized areas of service. As well, some programs might go by different titles (literacy, GED preparation, educational upgrading) but they might offer the same service. This could be confusing for someone seeking help with their literacy and Essential Skills.

With a variety of adult education programs to choose from, it might be hard for someone to decide their next educational steps. The Educational Interview helps clients to see what literacy and Essential Skills they have and what they might still need to achieve as they move towards sustainable employment. After an Educational Interview, the caseworker and the client will receive a summary report. With this tool, they can consider the client’s next educational steps and know which local program will best suit the client’s needs.

Partners in the delivery of this service include:

- Literacy Link South Central (lead organization)
- ATN Access Inc.
- Collège Boréal
- Gateway to Learning (Thames Valley District School Board)
- Hutton House
- Literacy London Inc.
- Nokee Kwe Employment, Training and Native Education Centre
- WIL Employment Connections
- Youth Opportunities Unlimited

Each of these community partners has areas of specialization based on culture, language (English/French), age (youth vs. non-youth) and client abilities.

Note: These agencies will be conducting the Educational Interviews under the Purchase of Service contract. Any one of these agencies, as well as other literacy agencies in the area, could be referred to.

DID YOU
KNOW



There are 11 literacy and Essential Skills programs offered throughout London. Many programs offer specialized services for people who require instruction that is specific to their culture, language or abilities.

Literacy and Essential Skills are the foundational skills needed to find, keep and progress in a job.

Your client's goals will form the basis of their learning plan. Clients will work on building skills to:

- Find and Use Information
- Communicate Ideas and Information
- Understand and Use Numbers
- Use Digital Technology
- Manage Learning
- Engage with Others



To find out more, contact us!

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