



Other Resources - Introduction

In the other modules of this toolkit, we've provided some specific strategies and resources to support you in different aspects of returning to learning. Among other topics, we've talked about foundational skill development, employability skills and how to get ready to return to learning.

You may find that you need additional help to develop your skills. Or you may need some more assistance because English is not your first language. Or you may have some more specific questions that relate to the process of returning to school.

In this section of the Return to Learning Toolkit, we provide information about free local upgrading programs, English as a Second Language programs and some frequently asked questions (and answers) about going to in-school apprenticeship training at a college.

Check Your Skills

First, let's check how you feel about your knowledge of other resources. We'll then come back and see how you feel at the end of the module. Read each of the statements below and select the response that best describes you today.

Statement	I can do this	I would like to do this better	I can't do this
I know about free upgrading programs in my community			
I know when I might need to contact a free upgrading program in my community			
I know about English as a Second Language programming in my community			
I know how to access support related to attending my in-school apprenticeship training (how to find my class(es), how to apply for Employment Insurance (EI), etc.)			



Free Upgrading Programs

You may find it difficult to use some or all the resources in this Toolkit. You may need to improve your reading and/or writing skills. Or maybe you'd like some help with math or to learn how to use computers. Or maybe it's just been a while since you were in school and some of your skills have become rusty.

There are free upgrading programs for adults in Ontario – and not just for adults who grew up outside of Canada. You may be good at speaking and understanding English but still need some help.

There are over 250 adult upgrading programs in Ontario. People attend these programs for lots of different reasons such as:

- To get a job
- To succeed in apprenticeship
- To get a Grade 12 (or its equivalent)
- To go to postsecondary
- To work on more personal goals

For more information, visit a local Learning Network [here](#).

If you don't have time to attend an adult upskilling program or if you live too far away to attend a program in person, there are also online programs you can take. They are called e-Channel courses and you can find more information about them here: <https://e-channel.ca/about-us>

E-Channel is funded by Ontario's Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development. This program provides online literacy courses to adults in Ontario. Courses may be offered in two ways:

- Live courses in an online classroom at a scheduled time
- Anytime courses done independently

English as a Second Language Programming

If English is not your first language, there are free programs that can support you. You can take beginner, intermediate or advanced classes. Programs may be in class or online, part-time or full-time, during the day or at night.

To go to an English as a Second Language (ESL) program, you must be a resident of Ontario AND be a:

- naturalized Canadian citizen
- permanent resident
- protected person (including Convention refugee)
- refugee claimant
- provincial nominee approved through the Ontario Immigrant Nominee Program
- person admitted under a federal caregiver program with a path to permanent residency

These programs might be good for you if you:

- came to Canada as an immigrant or a refugee and English is not your first language
- want to improve your English skills to better communicate in your everyday life
- need to improve your English skills to find a job or go to school
- need to prepare for an English test such as the Test of English as Foreign Language (TOEFL) or the International English Language Testing System (IELTS)

For more information or to find a program near you, go to: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/adult-learning-english-second-language>



Other Supports

Access financial support & learning services related to going to college:

- How does in-class training work for horticultural technician apprentices?
- How can I apply for Employment Insurance (EI) while in school?
- What can I do if I do not qualify for EI while in school?
- Are there other financial support & incentives available for apprentices?
- Are there special accommodations for in-class training?
 - Algonquin College - Centre for Accessible Learning
 - Fanshawe College - Accessibility Services
 - Humber College - Accessible Learning Services
 - Mohawk College - Accessible Learning Services
- How can I receive more information about the Horticultural Technician Apprenticeship Program?
- Can you direct me to college-specific support services?

College	Support Service
Algonquin College	<p>Horticultural Technician Apprenticeship - Program & Contact Information https://www.algonquincollege.com/acce/program/horticulture-technician-apprenticeship/ https://www.algonquincollege.com/programdocs/1411X01FWO.pdf (PDF)</p> <p>Returning to Education https://www.algonquincollege.com/future-students/returning-students/</p> <p>Student Support Services https://www.algonquincollege.com/student-support-services/</p> <p>Student Survival Guide https://algonquincollege.libguides.com/student-survival-guide/</p> <p>Academic Success FAQ https://algonquincollege.libanswers.com/ac-success</p>
Fanshawe College	<p>Apprenticeships and Skilled Trades https://www.fanshawec.ca/programs-and-courses/apprenticeship</p> <p>Horticultural Technician Apprenticeship - Program & Contact Information</p>



	<p>https://www.fanshawec.ca/programs/hta2-horticultural-technician-apprentice-apprenticeship/next</p> <p>Apprentice Orientation Booklet https://www.fanshawec.ca/sites/default/files/2020-12/apprentice_orientation.pdf</p> <p>Apprentice Learning Support https://www.fanshawec.ca/student-success/student-success/student-services/counselling-and-accessibility-services-0</p> <p>Counselling & Accessibility Services https://www.fanshawec.ca/student-success/student-success/student-services/counselling-and-accessibility-services</p>
<p>Humber College</p>	<p>Horticultural Technician Apprenticeship - Program & Contact Information https://appliedtechnology.humber.ca/programs/horticultural-technician-apprenticeship.html</p> <p>Student Services http://humber.ca/student-life/?_ga=2.156682169.362075198.1624884681-198275092.1615479366</p> <p>Math & Writing Centre https://liberalarts.humber.ca/index.php?q=current-students/resources/learning-resources.html&_ga=2.121437448.1812126229.1639407246-1827359456.1633118075</p> <p>Test Centre https://humber.ca/student-life/testing-services/?_ga=2.126275725.1812126229.1639407246-1827359456.1633118075</p> <p>Peer Assisted Learning Support</p> <p>Easy Start Transition Program https://humber.ca/student-life/swac/accessible-learning/information-new-students/easy-start-transition-</p>



	<p>program? ga=2.44888612.1812126229.1639407246-1827359456.1633118075</p> <p>Online Learning https://www.humber.ca/future-students/guide-to-humber/experience-humber.html#online-learning</p>
<p>Mohawk College</p>	<p>Horticultural Technician Apprenticeship - Program & Contact Information https://www.mohawkcollege.ca/programs/skilled-trades/horticulture-technician-441c</p> <p>Future Ready Toolkit & Orientation https://www.mohawkcollege.ca/future-ready-toolkit</p> <p>Resources for Future Students https://www.mohawkcollege.ca/future-students/resources-for-future-students</p> <p>Academic Support https://www.mohawkcollege.ca/academic-support</p> <p>Student Well-Being https://www.mohawkcollege.ca/student-well-being</p>



Recheck Your Skills

Now that you've completed the module, let's see how you feel about your knowledge of other resources. Read each of the statements below and select the response that best describes you.

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