

Foundations in Educational Support Program (FEDS) “A Program for Educational Assistants”

Program Description

The Foundations in Educational Support Program (FEDS) is designed in conjunction with the South Shore Regional Centre for Education (SSRCE) to provide required training for the Educational Assistants (EAs). Employees and potential employees of the SSRCE will develop skills and knowledge to be successful in a variety of educational settings. An emphasis is placed on the development of strategies to promote student learning and independence for the individuals they will support. The program will encourage the EA to recognize the value of lifelong learning and consider the role of education in professional development.

This two-year customized program will follow a part-time delivery format. The course delivery mode will be face-to-face and online.

This program requires a minimum enrolment of 20 students and a maximum of 30.

Admission Requirements

- High School Diploma or Equivalent
- Written letter of support from the SSRCE

Courses

There are eight courses in the Foundations in Educational Support Program (FEDS) as follows:

Introduction to the Program (Orientation) - 6 hours

The introduction to the program will support the learner to recognize the value of lifelong learning and consider the role of education in professional development. It will require the learner to demonstrate authentic engagement in reflective activities for personal awareness and growth with specific attention to personal wellness and reflective practice. It will also introduce the student to, online Learning, WHMIS and Introduction to NS OH&S Act.

Professional Practice: EA Roles & Responsibilities (FEDS 1000) - 30 hours

This course covers the historical development of inclusive education and how the school system functions in Nova Scotia. It also covers Nova Scotia legislation as it applies to the Educational Assistant (EA) position, the roles of those providing education and the components of effective teamwork and professional practice.

Communication for Health & Human Services (HCOM 1010) - 30 hours

This course provides the learner with an introduction to basic communication skills required by workplaces within the Health and Human Service sector. The learner is introduced to concepts in interpersonal communication, written communication and basic computer applications used in today's workplace. It will also introduce the student to portfolio learning.

Growth and Development (GDEV 1005) - 30 hours

Upon completion the learner will acquire an understanding of the process of growth and development including physical, cognitive, psychosocial and developmental tasks across the lifespan.

Exceptional Learners (FEDS 1002) - 60 hours

This course introduces the learner to an overview of disabilities that may affect learning including intellectual, developmental and physical challenges.

Classroom Skills and Learning Strategies (FEDS 1015) - 60 hours

This course is designed to familiarize the learner with key concepts, approaches and instructional strategies that may be used by the teacher or other professional. Emphasis is placed on how the teacher or other professional might adapt strategies, materials and activities including the use of technology to assist learners with challenges to meeting personal or curricular outcomes. This course will also address the role that Educational Assistants (EAs) can play in supporting this.

Health and Safety (FEDS 1001) - 60 hours

The purpose of this course is to give the learner an opportunity to develop the attitudes and skills necessary to support health, safety and daily routines. All aspects of this course will include discussions about the scope of practice.

Promoting Positive Behavior (FEDS 1012) - 60 hours

Upon completion of this course the learner will have acquired a basic skill set of behavioral support strategies to effectively work in the school.

Practicum (FEDS 1050) - 120 hours (Coordinated & monitored by SSRCE)

The purpose of the practicum is to ensure that learners have the opportunity to gain meaningful experience within a school setting, and to apply theory to practice. During the practicum period the Educational Assistant (EA) will work under the direction of a South Shore Regional Centre for Education (SSRCE) member who will provide the evaluation. The candidate will support the needs of learners in the implementation of their Individualized Program Plans (IPPs). Exceptionalities that candidates may encounter will include behavioural, communications, intellectual/developmentally delayed, physical and/or multiple exceptionalities. The practicum may be completed while working in a paid position with SSRCE.



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Program Schedule (Tentative)

Course	Course ID	Course Hours	Tuition	Dates
Introduction to the Program (Orientation)	N/A	6	No cost	October 4/18 – October 11/18 Thursdays 6:00-9:00 pm
WHMIS (Workplace Hazardous Management Information Systems)	SAFE 1000	4	No cost	Online Independently/Orientation
OH&S (Occupational Health & Safety)	SAFE 1001	4	No cost	Online Independently/Orientation
Professional Practice: EA Roles and Responsibilities	FEDS 1000	30	\$219.50	October 18/18 – November 22/18 Thursdays 4:00-9:00 pm
Communication for Health and Human Services	HCOM 1010	30	\$219.50	November 29/18 – December 13/18 January 10/19 – January 24/19 Thursdays 4:00-9:00 pm
Growth & Development	GDEV 1005	30	\$219.50	January 31/19 – March 7/19 Thursdays 4:00-9:00 pm
Exceptional Learners	FEDS 1002	60	\$439	March 28/19 – June 13/19 Thursdays 4:00-9:00 pm
Classroom Skills and Learning Strategies	FEDS 1015	60	\$439	June 20/19 – June 27/19 Thursdays 4:00-9:00 pm July 4/19 – August 1/19 Thursdays 9:00 am – 2:00 pm September 5/19 – October 3/19 Thursdays 4:00-9:00 pm
Health and Safety	FEDS 1001	60	\$439	October 10/19 – December 12/19 January 9/20 – January 16/20 Thursdays 4:00-9:00 pm
Promoting Positive Behavior	FEDS 1012	60	\$439	January 23/20 – March 12/20 March 26/20 – April 16/20 Thursdays 4:00-9:00 pm
Practicum (<i>coordinated and monitored by SSRCE</i>)	FEDS 1050	120	No Cost	April 20/20 – May 29/20
Total Program Hours/Costs		464	\$2,414.50	

PLEASE NOTE: Course costs are subject to change. Any increase to ‘tuition’ will be made at the beginning of each Academic Year and only if directed by College policy.

Textbooks

‘If’ textbooks are required, details will be shared in advance. Costs will be added to the above tuition. They will be purchased by the Training Coordinator and distributed the first night of that particular course.

Contact Information

For more information, please contact:

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