

ADULT GENERAL EDUCATION



ADULT GENERAL EDUCATION



Okaloosa-Walton College offers a comprehensive adult general education program, with course work in Adult Basic Education (ABE), English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) and General Education Development (GED), to include a GED testing program. Courses are tuition free for qualifying adults sixteen (16) years and older who do not have a high school diploma or have assessed literacy levels below the ninth grade. Student with a high school diploma with assessed literacy levels above the ninth grade may elect to enroll in these classes on a fee-paying basis. Materials are provided at no cost to the student. Students may enroll throughout the year, at any time during the semester. Classes are offered day and evening at each OWC campus and center location, except the OWC Eglin and Hurlburt Centers.

• **Adult Basic Education Course**

Adult Basic Education at OWC consists of individualized and small group instruction with lab support leading to the mastery of the basic skills needed by adults to function in today's complex society. ABE classes are designed for students who want to improve their basic skills in reading, writing, and mathematics. The curriculum is divided into four literacy levels: beginning, basic, intermediate, and advanced. Classes are free to adults whose academic skills are assessed below the ninth grade level.

• **General Education Development (GED) Preparation Course**

GED classes prepare students to take the General Education Development examination, which leads to the State of Florida High School Diploma. Instruction is targeted at the secondary level with subject content in the areas of writing, social studies, science, reading, and mathematics. Classes are

free to the student who does not have a high school diploma or equivalency.

The OWC Testing Center offers the Official GED Examination throughout the academic year. Prior to registering, students must attend a GED orientation course and obtain a referral form. Students must register in advance for the exam and pay a \$50 examination fee. Testing is offered at the Niceville and Fort Walton Beach Campuses and at the Chautauqua Center in DeFuniak Springs.

• **GED Fast Track Orientation and Preparation Course**

In the 12 contact hour course, students are administered the Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE). Student scoring below 9th grade on the TABE receive basic skill instruction, orientation, and referral into the ABE program. Students scoring 9th grade level or above on the TABE, continue to prepare for the GED Examination. GED preparation instruction includes the GED Practice Test, test taking strategies, essay writing assignments, and the use of a graphing calculator. Students who will benefit from additional academic instruction are referred to the semester-long, open entry GED program. Students who complete the 12-hour fast-track course and are ready to take the Official GED Examination are given a referral form to register for the test.

• **English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Course**

ESOL classes are eligible to students who are in the United States legally and have a primary language other than English. ESOL classes are designed to prepare students to communicate effectively in a multi-faceted society. This course is divided into seven literacy levels. Students are administered the CASAS test for placement into a literacy level. Course content is compatible with principles of language acquisition for

adult learners of English and includes skills useful in both workplace life and academic applications.

• **Distance Learning-Adult Basic Education/GED On-Line**

In addition to traditional classes, OWC offers Adult Basic Education and GED Preparation through on-line classes by computer and the Internet. Students who wish to enroll in OWC's on-line GED or ABE course must attend a GED orientation class and take placement assessment prior to registration. The on-line classes are designed for students who have a barrier that prevents them from attending Adult Education classes at an OWC campus or center. Barriers such as childcare, health, work hours, and transportation are considered valid reasons to refer students to Distance Learning.

See page 125 for Adult General Education courses.