

Adult Learners

Frequently Asked Questions

Who are the typical Adult Degree Seekers?

The Adult Degree programs are designed primarily for women and men over the age of 21 and generally focus on the student who has full-time responsibilities on the job or in the home. Some students work part-time or may have been displaced from a job and are looking to retool. Many programs are offered at off-campus locations or can be completed through evening and weekend studies.

How can I increase my chances of being a successful Adult Learner?

Be realistic about your schedule. Traditionally, adult learner students have a multitude of responsibilities; school is only one of them. Some suggestions to be successful are to register for a class schedule that will allow you to successfully accomplish all of your other responsibilities; meet with your professors during their regularly scheduled office hours; meet with your advisor regularly and work together to plan in advance for each term.

What is a cohort?

A cohort is a group of adult students who complete the program as a unit. Students enjoy the collaborative learning that takes place within the cohort group, as well as the lasting relationships that develop. Once a cohort begins, schools will run every course in sequence. Students in the cohort never have to worry about a course being cancelled due to low registration.

What are online classes like?

The distance learning environment is a virtual classroom. There are links to your syllabus, assignments, and lecture notes, as well as discussion boards and places to post assignments. Many students enjoy the convenience of online classes, however online classes take discipline. You need to remember to log-on to your class regularly, participate in discussions, and complete assignments by the due date. You can always talk with your professor if you feel overwhelmed, unsure about an assignment or want to explore a subject further.

How long will it take to finish my degree?

Typically, in an accelerated format, a student can finish a bachelor's degree in less than two years, if transferring with an associate degree.

Should I get an associate degree before I transfer?

Yes. In many cases, credit is awarded for work done within an associate degree. Otherwise, certain individual courses may not transfer for credit. Also, there may be scholarship opportunities for students with a completed associates degree.

How seamless is the transfer process?

The transfer process is seamless with an agreement. In a school without an agreement, it can still be easy, depending on the school. Transfer credit from a regionally accredited institution experiences little to no issue in transferring to one of the adult degree completion programs. However, credits from non-accredited institutions can experience a less seamless transition.

How much time outside of class should I expect to devote to classwork?

Although it depends on the particular course and a student's prior academic background, a student can expect to spend an average of 15-20 hours per week on assignments outside of class.

I don't know my way around campus. How do I find my classes and buildings?

Keep a map of campus with you while you get to know your way around campus, and don't be afraid to ask someone for directions! Also, touring a campus before you transfer can be helpful and is strongly recommended.

What else should an adult learner know?

Talk with an admissions advisor throughout the application process. It will help keep you in tune with any deadlines and avoid mistakes in the registration process.