

Academic Upgrading

(Suitable for program codes
6818 for CCT and 6820 for ACE)

See where experience takes you.



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This booklet contains information about booking your Academic Upgrading assessment appointment, tips on taking multiple-choice exams and sample questions.

**On the date of your exam, please arrive on time.
You will be required to show Government issued photo ID.**

When you feel you are ready to take the Academic Upgrading exam, you may make an appointment by:

- » Calling **416-289-5300**
- » Or in person at the **Assessment Centre** (Room D201 – Progress Campus)

IMPORTANT

If you have a learning or medical condition, you may request special accommodations. **Please contact the Centre for Accessible Learning and Counselling Services (CALCS) at 416-289-5000, ext. 3850 or email calcs@centennialcollege.ca.** Students will meet with a CALCS Counsellor to discuss their concerns and make alternative arrangements for their skills assessments if special accommodations are approved.



Examples of acceptable photo ID are:

- **One of the following:** valid passport, driver's licence, age of majority cards, Canadian citizenship card, permanent resident card, provincial photo ID card, record of landing, certificate of status Indian card, minister's permit or a Centennial College student photo ID.
- **Note:** The photo must not be older than ten years from time of issue.
- If you do not have any of the above then you may provide non-government issued photo ID. These could include other school photo ID, transit photo ID, or employment ID, **and one of the following:** birth certificate, citizenship certificate, or social insurance card.

Note: Students arriving without acceptable ID will not be allowed to write their skills assessment. There are no exceptions to this rule.

- Students write Academic Upgrading skills assessment online using Essential Skills for Employment and Education software. Exam invigilators will provide detailed instruction on how to sign on to the Essential Skills for Employment and Education software. Exam invigilators can assist students who are unfamiliar with computer technology by explaining how to use a computer mouse and keyboard, and how to take a multiple-choice exam.

For more information regarding the Centennial College skills assessment, please visit our website:

 centennialcollege.ca/skills-assessment

Academic Upgrading Exam Format

This exam is composed of two parts:

Reading and Math

- All tests are untimed
- You may choose the order of the test you are most comfortable with (i.e. you may choose to start with reading and move onto math, or you may choose to start with math and move onto reading)

Reading Test

- The reading test is designed to test how well you can gain knowledge from a short passage you have read. The test will assess your ability to understand and apply information found in sentences and paragraphs by presenting reading passages that vary in length and nature, followed by questions that pertain to key information that you have read.
- We will be asking you to do the following:
 - Scan for information or overall meaning of the passage
 - Read to understand, learn, critique, or evaluate
 - Analyze and synthesize information from multiple sources or from complex and lengthy texts

Below are sample questions found in the reading section of the Academic Upgrading exam:

Sample Reading Question #1

Students read course descriptions to learn about their programs. Answer the following questions using the information provided.

OL ► DU-ACE004DEC ► RESOURCES ► COURSE DESCRIPTION

Course Description

This Chemistry course provides learners with a strong knowledge of chemistry as it applies to industry and environmental issues. Emphasis is given to analyzing problems, performing laboratory exercises and communicating scientific information effectively. The content of the course reflects the needs of many adult learners entering post-secondary college program in health and environmental sciences. As such, it allows learners to complete three core units and two elective units of study.

Suggested Length: 120 hours with the understanding that some learners may require additional time to complete the course. Students are allowed 22 weeks to complete ACE Chemistry Online. ACE Chemistry Online is a self-paced course, so students may complete the course in a shorter time frame.

How long do students have to complete the course?

- 120 hours
- As long as it takes
- 22 weeks
- Information not provided

Sample Reading Question #2

Students read information to learn about final exam requirements. Answer the following question using the information provided.



Final Exam Information

How do I make arrangements to write my final exam?



Many courses have a final examination requirement. If you have an "in-person" final exam requirement, you will need to make arrangements with your registering college for a date and time to write your final examination. Final exams must be completed no later than the Saturday following your course end date.

Please be sure to refer to the information package from your registering college for details about their examination schedules. Watch the ePortal announcement area for information about exam schedules from your college.

Note: If you have an "online" final exam requirement, the exam MUST be completed before the course end date when course access will be terminated.

When do students lose access to their course materials?

- After they have submitted their final "online" exam
- After they have submitted their final "in person" exam
- Directly after the course end date
- It depends on whether they are taking an "in person" or "online" exam

Numeracy/Math Test

The numeracy section is designed to assess your ability to make sense of numbers and apply mathematical concepts and information to manage demands relating to mathematics and number sense. This assessment will test your ability to tally costs, create budgets, calculate lengths and volumes, analyze data, estimate times and manage other demands of different situations.

Candidates will have access to a simple calculator, as well as scrap paper and pencil. Our test centre will provide you with all the necessary materials and therefore, you will not be required to bring in your own supplies.

Sample Numeracy Questions

1 Independent/Dependent Events

The dice below is a six-sided cube.



This dice landed on one on the first throw. What are the approximate odds of the dice landing on one if it were tossed a second time?

- a) 6 per cent
- b) 17 per cent
- c) 4 per cent
- d) 19 per cent

3 Introductory Algebra

A mother is six times older than her son. Her son is now 5.

Which linear equation can be used to determine the mother's current age?

- a) $x = (4 + 6)$
- b) $x = 4 \times 6$
- c) $x = 5 \times 6$
- d) $x = (x + 5 \times 6)$

2 Order of Operations

Look at the equation below.

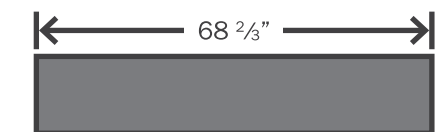
$$2^2 \times 10^3$$

What is the product of the equation?

- a) 104
- b) 1,004
- c) 400
- d) 4,000

4 Readiness Assessment

A worker is to connect three equal sections of pipe. Each section is $68 \frac{2}{3}$ " in length, as shown below.



How long is the connected section of pipe?

- a) $205 \frac{1}{3}$ inches
- b) 205 inches
- c) $206 \frac{1}{3}$ inches
- d) 206 inches

Additional study materials can be found online at...

General Test Taking Tips and Strategies for Alleviating Exam Anxiety

The Office of Literacy and Essential Skills site provides general information and resources:

 www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/programs/essential-skills.html

 www.esdc.gc.ca/eng/jobs/les/index.shtml

This site provides 1400+ videos covering everything from basic arithmetic and algebra to differential equations.

 www.khanacademy.org

This site focuses on basic math skills, interactive practice, and explanation of concepts, challenge games and random mathematics problems.

 www.AAAMath.com

This comprehensive site reviews principles from basic mathematics to calculus.

 www.math.com



Get enough sleep the night before the skills assessment.



Utilize materials given during the test such as scratch paper.



Allow yourself time to find the Assessment Centre by arriving early.



Deal with test anxiety by preparing in advance, taking your time, and pacing yourself throughout the skills assessment.



Know what items you can and cannot bring with you.



During the skills assessment, read the entire question and all choices before attempting to answer.



To avoid experiencing test anxiety, approach the test with a positive attitude. Negative self-talk can ruin your ability to do well on a skills assessment.



The math skills assessment is a multiple-choice test. For multiple choice questions, eliminate the choices that you know are incorrect first. Then attempt to find and choose the answer.



Listen carefully to all pre-test instructions prior to starting your skills assessment.



If you are unsure of the answer, make an educated guess.



Carefully read all skills assessment questions and instructions presented.



Usually your first choice of the answer is the right one. Do not second guess yourself.



Ask questions if you do not understand what is required.