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Referring to ABEA

The Adult Basic Education Association is a not-for-profit organization that acts as the learning network in Hamilton. We are the central referring agency for adult education and upgrading.

We offer

- Free information and community referrals (typically by phone)
- Educational Essential Skills Assessments (1:1, 3 hours)
- Pre-GED Testing (30 min. group sign out, 4.5 hours testing time)
- Learning Challenges Assessments (1:1, 3 hours)

Information and Referral Services

Clients or case managers can call, walk-in or email us at anytime for information and community referrals. In some cases, assessment services will be recommended.

Goal/Benefits of Educational Assessments

The goal of ABEA's assessments is to ensure clients are accessing the appropriate programs to help them succeed in attaining their goals. ABEA is an impartial assessment and referral agency - we do not house any programs and are independent in the community. Assessments save time, money, frustration, and give the client a detailed action plan to reach their goals.

Your client may need an assessment if any of the following are true - they

- need to retrain
- have been out of school for several years
- are unsure of their skills
- need Grade 12/equivalent
- need the necessary prerequisites for training

Assessment Referral Process

1. Call ABEA to discuss appropriate assessment and book an appointment (if client is present).
2. Submit an online referral form (on homepage: www.abea.on.ca)
3. If the client is not present, ABEA will book an appointment for the client and let the case manager know the date and time.
4. ABEA will give the client a reminder call the day before the appointment.
5. ABEA will confirm the client's attendance with the case manager after the appointment time.
6. ABEA will forward the report to the case manager when it is completed.

English as a Second/ Additional Language Protocol

- Clients who speak English as their first language can be forwarded directly to ABEA
- Clients who speak English as a Second/ Additional language are to be asked if they have current CLB (Canadian Language Benchmark) assessment results for Speaking, Listening, Reading, and Writing (within the last 6 months) - if they do...
 - to access ABEA assessments clients need to be functioning at CLB 5 for Speaking and Listening
 - if this is the case, refer directly to ABEA
- If they do not have current CLB results, these clients need to have a CLB assessment completed (typically clients would go to Settlement and Integration Services Organization - SISO - 905-385-6192)
 - this assessment is free to LINC eligible clients, others are fee-for-service
- If the CLB results are 5-5+, case managers can then refer to the appropriate ABEA assessment (quoting the CLB levels in the 'comments' section of the online referral form)
- If the CLB results are 4 or below, SISO will make the appropriate LINC/ESL referral
 - an ABEA assessment will not be appropriate until the client's CLB levels are at level 5

ABEA Assessments

The Educational Essential Skills Assessment (1:1, 3 hours) \$200

- identifies Literacy and Basic Skills (LBS) levels and Essential Skills (ES) levels
- includes an employment profile specific to the client's goal
- results in summary of upgrading needs for training
- includes a detailed Educational Action Plan to reach education, training, and employment goals

Your client may need an EESA if any of the following are true

- need to retrain
- been out of school for several years
- unsure of their skills
- need Grade 12/equivalent
- need the necessary prerequisites for training

GED Pre-Tests (30 min. group sign out, take-home test) \$50

- identifies areas of skill gaps (if any) for all 5 GED subject areas
- includes recommendations to help the client pass the GED successfully
- includes some upgrading materials and registration information if needed

Your client may need a GED Pre-Test if

- they need a Grade 12 equivalent to reach their goals
- they are 18 + and have been out of school for at least a year
- they are comfortable reading various materials, writing essays, and can perform basic operations and work with decimals, fractions, percents, algebra and geometry

Learning Challenges Assessments (1:1, 3 hours) \$300

- identifies Literacy and Basic Skills (LBS) levels
- identifies strength and challenge areas related to language processing
- results in a detailed Educational Action Plan to meet the client's goals
- includes learning strategies for the classroom

Your client may need an LCAT if

- they report they have significant difficulties in reading, writing, or math
- they present as having difficulties with reading, writing, or math (may struggle with instructions, forms, reading materials, etc.)
- have previously been diagnosed with a learning disability (usually in primary school)

No Show Fee

A no-show fee of 50% of the assessment cost will be charged if the client does not show up and does not cancel the appointment at least 24 hours in advance (emergencies exempted).