



## BRIDGE PROGRAM: HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

### REGISTRATION

*Contact the Bridge Program to schedule an appointment to register for any Bridge services. Participants will need to be available for a minimum of one hour for registration and assessment.*

*Bridge Program main line:  
617-496-2216*

### ADULT DIPLOMA PROGRAM (ADP)

The ADP is an alternative way of earning a high school diploma. Students must first demonstrate acceptable reading, math, and writing skills as measured by the ADP entrance exams. After completing these three diagnostic tests, students are given a set of five tasks. A task is a project related to the skills needed to function and progress in daily living situations. Reading a map, understanding a lease, writing a resume, and measuring the area of a room are examples of task requirements. Each completed task is evaluated by the teacher/assessor and students must demonstrate a working understanding of the finished task. In addition, students are required to pass the grade 10 Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) English Language Arts, Mathematics and Biology exams. This program collaborates with the Somerville Center for Adult Learning Experiences (SCALE) and Somerville Public Schools for testing services.

### COURSES

#### MCAS English Language Arts (ELA) Preparation

This course is designed for Adult Diploma candidates to pass the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) Grade 10 English language arts exam. Students must demonstrate that they have reached the standards on English language arts and mathematics in order to receive a high school diploma.

Course work prepares students to read and analyze basic literary concepts in short stories, poetry, novel excerpts, and speeches. Lessons focus on developing reading



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stories, poetry, novel excerpts, and speeches. Lessons focus on developing reading and writing strategies. Students are required to read a novel and respond to a writing prompt using a five-paragraph composition format. In addition to a five-paragraph essay, students must complete multiple choice and open response items.

### MCAS Biology Preparation

This course is designed for Adult Diploma candidates to pass the MCAS Grade 10 biology exam. Students must demonstrate that they have reached the standards on the biology strand of the science and technology curriculum framework in order to receive a high school diploma. Coursework prepares students in the following areas:

- The Chemistry of Life
- Cell biology
- Genetics
- Anatomy and Physiology
- Evolution and Biodiversity
- Ecology

Lessons focus on developing a range of skills, thinking and subject matter knowledge. Students must complete multiple choice and open response items.

### MCAS Math Preparation

This course is designed for Adult Diploma candidates to successfully pass the MCAS Grade 10 mathematics exam. Students must demonstrate that they have reached the standards on mathematics in order to receive a high school diploma. Coursework prepares students in the following content areas:

- Number Sense and Operations
- Patterns, Relations, and Algebra
- Geometry
- Measurement
- Data Analysis, Statistics, and Probability

Lessons focus on developing mathematical problem solving and communication skills. Students must complete multiple choice items, short answer and open response items.



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## ADP Task Preparation

This course guides students through the six required tasks for the Adult Diploma Program (ADP). A task is a project related to the skills needed to function and progress in daily living situations. Examples include reading a map, understanding a lease, writing a résumé, and measuring the area of a room. Each completed task is evaluated by the teacher/assessor, and students must demonstrate a working understanding of the finished task.

Sixty-four generalized life skill competencies are grouped into the following task areas: community awareness, personal and family health, occupational preparation, personal and social awareness, consumer awareness, and an individual skill area. With an instructor's guidance, students work individually and in small groups to research, study, and collect information necessary to complete the tasks.