

# ED-VANCE at CALC S.S. Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is 'Ed-Vance'?
2. How many credits can I earn in the Ed-Vance program?
3. How can Ed-Vance deliver a course in 9 weeks?
4. Can I still do the Ed-Vance program if I am not yet 18?
5. Can I still do the Ed-Vance program if I am 21 years old?
6. How many credits do I need to get into the Ed-Vance program?
7. Can I enroll if I have 27 credits and would like to fast-track?
8. I already have 30 credits, am I allowed to upgrade or take more?
9. Do you have a good selection of courses at the Essential level?
10. Do you offer Special Education support?
11. Can I do this program if I need ESL support?
12. I live outside of Toronto. Can I still do the program?
13. Are there lots of courses to choose from?
14. Do you have a good selection of academic science and math courses?
15. Is there a good selection of academic courses in the humanities or social sciences?
16. When can I start taking 4M or 4U courses?
17. Can I take three 4U/M courses in one quadmester or do a re-take or upgrade?
18. How can I earn four credits? What is a P.O.D.?
19. Can I take less than three credits in a Quad?
20. How is the school day structured?
21. Do you provide any lunches or snacks?
22. Do I need a computer for all the homework?
23. What kind of extra-curricular activities does Ed-Vance offer?
24. Can I take night school?
25. Can I take online courses?
26. Can I take private school courses?
27. What is Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)?
28. Are there other Ed-Vance program locations?
29. How do I register for Ed-Vance at CALC?
30. When are the next information sessions to apply for Ed-Vance at CALC?
31. Where is the City Adult Learning Centre (CALC) located?
32. How much does it cost to register in Ed-Vance?
33. What do I need to bring to register?

**Check the website  
for more information  
[www.calconline.net/edvance](http://www.calconline.net/edvance)**

Please see below for  
2011-2012 dates to  
come in and book  
an appointment and pick  
up registration materials!

- Q1 Aug. 24th**  
– Quad 1 starts Sep. 6<sup>th</sup>
- Q2 Oct. 24th**  
– Quad 2 starts Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>
- Q3 Jan. 10th**  
– Quad 3 starts Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Q4 Mar. 26th**  
– Quad 4 starts Apr. 23<sup>rd</sup>



## ABOUT US

### 1. What is 'Ed-Vance'?

Ed-Vance is an accelerated credit program for students age 18-20 who are returning to complete their Ontario School Secondary Diplomas. Students take three 2-hour classes per day over a nine week quadmester.

### 2. How many credits can I earn in the Ed-Vance program?

Students can earn up to three credits in a quadmester, (and in some cases, four credits in one of our 'Pods'). This means that over the course of a school year, if the student is successful in all four quads, they can achieve 12-14 credits.

### 3. How can Ed-Vance deliver a course in 9 weeks?

The Ministry of Education usually requires a minimum of 110 hours of instruction/class time to deliver a secondary school course but makes allowances for schools like Ed-Vance to conduct a more concentrated course (90 hours) for mature students age 18 and over.

## ELIGIBILITY

### 4. Can I still do the Ed-Vance program if I am not yet 18?

No, not the classroom program. However, if you are turning 18 during the term and have two good references you may apply for the Ed-Vance Co-op program but you will only be given 'conditional' acceptance with a contract relating to your performance. This online co-op program requires a high-degree of self-motivation, independent work, and maturity both on the job and in completing the coursework online without a teacher's direct supervision. See [www.calconline.net/edvancecoop](http://www.calconline.net/edvancecoop) for Frequently Asked Questions and info.

If you are 17 and under, contact the guidance counsellors or vice-principal of your home school and ask about your or alternative school options or contact the TDSB Secondary School Placement Centre which assists students 15 – 20 years of age looking for a second chance or returning to school after a period of time. They make referrals to appropriate secondary schools/programs. Call 416-393-9300.

### 5. Can I still do the Ed-Vance program if I am 21 years old?

Students eligible for our current school year were born between January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1991 and September 6<sup>th</sup>, 1993. Students born in 1990 or before can enroll in the adult 'Continuing Education' schools including the City Adult Learning Centre that shares our building. If you are 21 see the Con Ed website ([www.calconline.net](http://www.calconline.net)) for upcoming registrations or visit Room 119 in B Building.

### 6. How many credits do I need to get into the Ed-Vance program?

It is required that students have at least five credits (including grade nine applied or academic English) in order to enroll in the program. If there are extenuating circumstances which have since been resolved, students may discuss possibilities with the Vice-Principal.

### 7. Can I enroll if I have 27 credits and would like to fast-track?

No. The Ed-Vance program is designed and funded for students who are at risk of not graduating in a traditional school setting and still need a fair number of credits. A student with 27 or 28 credits would only be considered if they were nearly 21 years old or their current or home school was not semestered.

### 8. I already have 30 credits, am I allowed to upgrade or take more?

No. We do not accept new students who have already completed their OSSD requirements as the program is designed for at-risk students needing many credits and we already fill all the classes available.

### 9. Do you offer courses at the Essential level?

Not many. Students who have taken courses ending with E (Essential), or L (Locally Developed) or even ending with 9 (Special Ed) will find that they do not have the pre-requisites for our courses and are referred the centralized TDSB Placement Centre (416-393-9300) for guidance in finding program more suitable to their needs. The only E and L level courses we might offer are MAT2L, MEL3E, and SVN3E.

### 10. Do you offer Special Education support?

No. Ed-Vance is an accelerated credit program and coursework is covered very swiftly, it requires students to be working independently at an applied or academic level in order to be successful.

### 11. Can I do this program if I need ESL support?

Students must have a proficiency in English at the secondary school level. ESLD is considered equivalent to grade 9 and ESLE is considered equivalent to grade 10.

### 12. I live outside of Toronto. Can I still do the program?

Priority is given to students living in Toronto as proximity to the school increases the students' success. Look into similar programs within your own local school board.

## COURSE OFFERINGS

### 13. Are there lots of courses to choose from?

We do have a diverse selection of courses which includes compulsories (English, math, history, art, etc) plus a good selection of electives (digital photography, philosophy, media studies, drama, phys. ed etc). Some courses are offered every other quad (such as Civics/Careers, Ontario Literacy Course etc). French is not presently offered but this requirement can be fulfilled by another course at the principal's discretion near graduation.

### 14. Is there a good selection of academic science and math courses?

No. University-bound students in math and science are encouraged to remain in their home school or seek other options to complete these credits. These subjects do not lend themselves to an accelerated schedule in an Ed-Vance program.

There are U and M credits offered through the TDSB in night school, summer school and through e-learning (visit [www.tdsb.on.ca](http://www.tdsb.on.ca)) and through a few independent programs like the ILC ([www.ilc.org](http://www.ilc.org)).

### 15. Do you have a good selection of academic courses in the humanities or social sciences?

Yes. We offer a good selection of U (University) and M (Mixed) level courses including Law, Philosophy, Writer's Craft, English Literature, Families in a Diverse Society, International Business etc. We also have a dual-credit program for select students with Ryerson University. See Q#17.

### 16. When can I start taking 4M or 4U courses?

ENG3C/U should be completed before enrolling in a 4M course and ENG3U should be taken before enrolling in a 4U course. There is a high demand for these courses in Ed-Vance so they are reserved for the students who are in their final quadesters and have already accumulated a minimum of twenty (20) credits.

### 17. Can I take three 4U/M courses in one quadmester or do a re-take?

No. Because of the accelerated schedule of a nine week quad, students are limited to only two (2) 4U/M courses out of their three periods. This ensures that students are covering each subject in the depth they need for post-secondary.

Because of the high demand for these credits, students who have dropped a 4U/M course or achieved a poor mark in a Quad cannot take the same course again in the next Quad. Students who attended regularly but failed to achieve the credit will be given one more opportunity to attempt the same course in a future quad.

## TIMETABLING

### 18. What is a P.O.D./How can I earn four credits?

To ease the transition for students who have been out of school, students are grouped in a fixed set of two courses with a choice of art, phys. ed or drama for the third class. Students benefit from additional instruction in time management, note-taking, group dynamics and other life skills that generate a FOURTH credit for the student. The additional credit is a GLS (GLE) credit at the grade 9 or 12 level.

### 19. Can I take less than three credits in a Quad?

Our program only receives funding for students who are full-time, and our most successful students at Ed-Vance are those who commit to three courses, so this is how the program is staffed and structured. Occasionally, for self-supporting students who provide evidence of working long or late hours, or for students who have not achieved three credits in a previous quad, a two-credit schedule is recommended. Students who drop down to one course can not remain in the program.

## LIFE AT CALC

### 20. How is the school day structured?

There are three classes per day, each two hours.

Period 1	8:45 am	–	10:40am
Break	10:40 pm	–	10:55pm
Period 2	10:55 am	–	12:50pm
Lunch	12:50 pm	–	1:30pm
Period 3	1:30 pm	–	3:25pm

Classes are two hours in length. A 'leg-stretching' break, held within the classroom, may be scheduled at the teacher's discretion.

### 21. Do you provide any lunches or snacks?

Ed-Vance does have a lunch program. Students can pick up lunch vouchers in Ed-Vance Guidance before 8:45am. Students presently pay \$1 for the vouchers which are valued at a \$4 lunch. Most days we also provide a free breakfast snack for Ed-Vance students at the first break in C-Square.

### 22. Do I need a computer for all the homework?

No. Most of the classrooms are outfitted with computers and there are computer labs available at lunchtime or after school where you can do research and complete projects or essays. In most of our classes, teachers provide time to work on assignments so that homework is reduced for many of our students who are working or have other responsibilities outside of school.

### 23. What kind of extra-curricular activities does Ed-Vance offer?

There are gatherings after school and at lunch for a number of clubs including the Film Club, Charity Club, Art Cafe, Spoken Word and more and there are pick up games for different sports after school including soccer, basketball, wrestling, badminton and more. There are no varsity team sports at Ed-Vance due to the changing student population as new students join and current students matriculate each quad.

## EARNING EXTRA CREDITS

### 24. Can I take night school?

Ed-Vance does not offer night school but the TDSB offers semestered night school from Oct-Jan and Feb-June at select locations across the city. Course offerings can be viewed at on the TDSB website or at [www.creditprograms.ca](http://www.creditprograms.ca) at a cost of \$40 for full course and \$20 for a half course. Once you have reviewed a course you must meet with a guidance counsellor to get it approved and booked. Please note that as an Ed-Vance student you will already be in classes for 6 hours per day so additional evening classes are not usually recommended.

### 25. Can I take online courses?

The TDSB now uses the Ministry of Education's e-Learning courses which limits online learning to day school students and any TDSB online courses must be timetabled into the student's day in an empty period. This is not presently feasible in the six-hour Ed-Vance timetable but we are investigating options for future years. The only online program we offer is the Ed-Vance Co-op program which is itself a full-time program over two quads. The TDSB does still offer a limited number of courses online through Virtual School in the July. See [www.tdsbvirtualschool.com](http://www.tdsbvirtualschool.com).

### 26. Can I take private school courses?

Again, with the accelerated curriculum in Ed-Vance and 30 hours of class time each week, students are encouraged to focus their time and energy on learning the curriculum and achieving their Ed-Vance credits instead of spreading themselves too thin. Students need to fully learn the course materials that will be the building blocks of post-secondary pursuits. Taking private school courses is ultimately up to the discretion of the student but they will be noted on OSSD transcripts with a special code.

### 27. What is Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)?

Mature students age 18 and over often have life experiences that fulfill some of the learning expectations of the Ministry of Education's curriculum. Students can apply to have their life and work experience reviewed to see if they have sufficient learning that would be equivalent to 110 hours of instruction in an Ontario secondary course. For more information and the application, please talk to a guidance counsellor.

### 28. Can I do an Ed-Vance at another location?

There are four locations for Ed-Vance programs in the TDSB. CALC S.S. is the most centrally located, has the largest number of students, and has the greatest selection of courses. Other programs are located at:

- Burnhamthorpe, 500 The East Mall, 416-394-7130
- Yorkdale, 38 Orfus Road, 416-393-3350
- SCAS, 720 Midland Avenue, 416-396-6921

## HOW TO REGISTER

### 29. How do I register for Ed-Vance at CALC?

To register for Ed-Vance you must attend an information session and have a brief interview with the vice-principal to make sure the program is suitable for you. Then, you will meet with a guidance counsellor who will go over your application and transcripts to determine if you are eligible and proceed with selecting courses.

### 30. When and where are the next information sessions to apply for Ed-Vance at CALC?

The information sessions start two to three weeks prior to a new term until the program is fully enrolled.

Students must pick up an appointment form at the Ed-Vance Guidance office between 9am-11am. For more information you may call 416-393-9740 ext. 20048.

- Q1 Registration late August – School start Sep. 6<sup>th</sup>.
- Q2 Registration late October– School starts Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Q3 Registration mid January – School starts Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- Q4 Registration early April – School starts Apr. 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### 31. Where is the City Adult Learning Centre (CALC) located?

Our school is located at 1 Danforth Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M4K 1M8 on the southwest corner of Broadview and Danforth (Broadview Subway Station).

#### The Ed-Vance Guidance office is in Building C

located up the ramp above the parking garage. There is NO student or visitor parking, and this downtown neighbourhood has hourly paid street parking, so we strongly recommend that you use the TTC.

### 32. How much does it cost to register in Ed-Vance?

While students are under the age of 21, Ontario taxpayers (through the Ministry) continue to fund education for full-time students who are Ontario residents. There is a student activity fee of \$40, which applies for the academic year (September-June). This non-refundable fee, payable by debit card, Visa or MasterCard applies to every student and covers the costs of programs like the weight room, intramural sports and clubs.

### 33. What do I need to bring to register?

Students must bring to the info/reg session:

- Up-to-date official transcript/credit counselling summary
- Canadian birth certificate or citizenship card (plus photocopy)
- Photo identification (plus photocopy)
- \$40 student activity fee (debit/Visa/MC)
- Your postal code and address
- Patience. You will need to spend a few hours at CALC to meet with administrators and counselors and go over forms and courses.

[www.calconline.net/edvance](http://www.calconline.net/edvance)