



Foundations in Educational Support Program (FEDS)

“A Program for Teacher Assistants”

October - 2023 DRAFT

Program Description

The Foundations in Educational Support Program (FEDS) is designed in conjunction with the South Shore Regional Centre for Education (SSRCE) to provide required training for the Teacher Assistants (TAs). Employees and potential employees of the SSRCE will develop skills and knowledge to be successful in a variety of educational settings. An emphasis is placed on the development of strategies to promote student learning and independence for the individuals they will support. The program will encourage the TA to recognize the value of lifelong learning and consider the role of education in professional development.

This 20-month customized program will follow a part-time delivery format. Course delivery will be on Campus, online and blended (a combination of on Campus and online). The course schedule will be a combination of evenings, weekends and/or late afternoons, as outlined in the attached tentative Program Schedule.

This program, and subsequent courses, require a minimum enrolment of 20 students.

Admission Requirements

All applicants will require a high school diploma or equivalent, a recent child abuse registry check and a recent criminal records check. Please contact Donna Halverson (dhalverson@ssrce.ca or 902-541-3080) at South Shore Regional Centre for Education for instructions on completing the required background checks, and/or submitting completed forms.

Following SSRCE's verification of the above requirements, applicants' names will be sent to NSCC. Registration information will be sent to applicants at that time.

Courses

There are eight courses in the Foundations in Educational Support Program (FEDS)

Introduction (Orientation)- 6 Hours - On Campus

The introduction to the program will support the learner to recognize the value of lifelong learning and consider the role of education in professional development. It will require the learner to demonstrate authentic engagement in reflective activities for personal awareness and growth with specific attention to personal wellness and reflective practice. It will also introduce the student to online learning: WHMIS and Introduction to NS OH&S Act.

Professional Practice: EA Roles & Responsibilities (FEDS 1000)- 30 Hours - On Campus

This course covers the historical development of inclusive education and how the school system functions in Nova Scotia. It also covers Nova Scotia Legislation as it applies to the Teaching Assistant (TA) position, the roles of those providing education and the components of effective teamwork and professional practice.

Communication for Educational Assistants (FEDS 1006)- 30 Hours - On Campus

This course provides the learner with an introduction to basic communication skills required by workplaces within the Health and Human Services sector. The learner is introduced to concepts in interpersonal communication, written communication and basic computer applications used in today's workplace. It will also introduce the student to portfolio learning.

Classroom Skills and Learning Strategies (FEDS 1015)-60 Hours - On Campus

This course is designed to familiarize the learner with key concepts, approaches and instructional strategies that may be used by the teacher or other professional. Emphasis is placed on how the teacher or other professional might adapt strategies, materials and activities including the use of technology to assist learners with challenges to meeting personal or curricular outcomes. This course will also address the role that Teaching Assistant (TAs) can play in supporting this.

Growth and Development (GDEV 1005)- 30 Hours - Online

Upon completion the learner will acquire an understand of the process of growth and development including physical, cognitive, psychosocial, and developmental tasks across the lifespan.

Exceptional Learners (FEDS 1002)- 60 Hours - Online

This course introduces the learner to an overview of disabilities that may affect learning including intellectual, developmental, and physical challenges.

Enhancing Performance of Students with Health Care Needs (FEDS 1003)- 60 Hours - On Campus

The purpose of this course is to give the learner an opportunity to develop the attitudes and skills necessary to support health, safety, and daily routines. All aspects of this course will include discussions about the scope of practice.

Promoting Positive Behavior (FEDS 1012)- 60 Hours - Blended

Upon completion of this course the learner will have acquired a basic skill set of behavioural support strategies to effectively work in the school.

Practicum I (FEDS 1051) & Practicum II (FEDS 1052) 120 Hours- Divided into two 60-hour blocks

The purpose of the practicum is to ensure that learners have opportunity to gain meaningful experience within a school setting, to apply theory to practice. During the practicum period the Teaching Assistant (TA) will work under the direction of a South Shore Regional Centre for Education (SSRCE) member who will provide the evaluation. The candidate will support the needs of learners in the implementation of their Individualized Program Needs (IPPs). Exceptionalities that candidate may encounter will include behavioural, communications, intellectual/developmentally delayed, physical and/or multiple exceptionalities. The practicum may be completed while working in a paid position within SSRCE.

Program Schedule (Tentative)

Program	Course ID	Course Hours	Tuition	Dates
Introduction to the Program (Orientation)	N/A	6	No cost	October 10 & 17, 2023. Tuesdays 6:00pm to 9:00pm
WHMIS (Workplace Hazardous Management Information Systems)	SAFE1000	4	\$37.00	Online Independently
OH&S (Occupational Health & Safety)	SAFE1001	4	\$37.00	Online Independently
Professional Practice: EA Roles and Responsibilities	FEDS1000 On Campus	30	\$239.00	October 24, 31 2023. November 7, 14, 21, 28 2023. Tuesdays, 4:00pm to 9:00pm
Communication for Educational Assistants	FEDS 1006 On Campus	30	\$239.00	December 5, 12, 2023. January 9, 16, 23, 30, 2024. Tuesdays 4:00pm to 9:00pm
Holiday Break- No Classes				December 19, 2023-January 2, 2024
Classroom Skills and Learning Strategies	FEDS1015 On Campus	60	\$478.00	February 6, 13, 20, 27, 2024. March 5, 19, 26 2024. April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 2024. Tuesdays 4:00pm to 9:00pm
March Break- No Classes				March 11-15, 2024
Growth and Development	FEDS1005 Online	30	\$239.00	May 7,14, 21, 28, 2024. June 4, 11, 2024 Tuesdays 4:0 pm to 9:00 m
Practicum I (<i>coordinated and monitored by SSRSB</i>)	FEDS1050	60	No Cost	April 15, 2024 to May 3, 2024. (Coordinated and monitored by SSRCE)
Enhancing Performance of Students with Health Care Needs	FEDS1003 On Campus	60	\$478.00	June 18, 25, 2024. July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 2024. September 3, 10, 17, 24, 2024. October 1, 2024. Tuesdays 4:00pm to 9:00pm or 9:00am to 2:00pm
Summer Break- No Classes				August 6 – August 27, 2024
Exceptional Learners	FEDS1002 Online	60	\$478.00	October 8, 15, 22, 29, 2024. November 5, 12, 19, 26, 2024. December 3, 10, 2024. January 7, 14, 2025. Tuesdays 4:00pm to 9:00pm
Holiday Break- No Classes				December 17 - December 31, 2024
Promoting Positive Behavior	FEDS1012 Blended	60	\$478.00	January 21, 28, 2025. February 4, 11, 18, 25, 2025. March 4, 11, 25, 2025. April 1, 8, 15, 2025. Tuesdays 4:00pm to 9:00pm
March Break- No Classes				March 17-21, 2025
Practicum II (<i>coordinated and monitored by SSRSB</i>)	FEDS1050	60	No Cost	April 21, 2025, to May 9, 2025. (Coordinated and monitored by SSRCE)
Total Program Hours/Costs		464	\$2629.00	

PLEASE NOTE: Course Costs are subject to change. Any increase in 'tuition' will be made at the beginning of each Academic Year and only if directed by College Policy.

If 'textbooks' are required, details will be shared in advance. Costs will be added to the above tuition. They will be purchased by the campus and distributed in class by faculty.

Contact Information:

For more information, please contact **Blair Lipsett** NSCC Lunenburg Campus
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