



YONKERS PUBLIC SCHOOLS



## YONKERS PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS

One Larkin Center  
Yonkers, NY 10701


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For an appointment, call:  
914-376-8600  
Monday - Friday  
8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

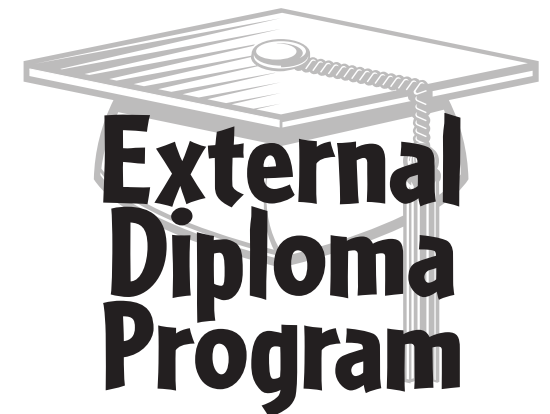
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*Do You Need  
Your High School  
Diploma?*



**External  
Diploma  
Program**  
**A High School Program for Adults  
Over 21 Years of Age**

# EXTERNAL DIPLOMA PROGRAM

## The External Diploma Program (EDP)

The External Diploma Program (EDP) offers mature adults an exciting option for earning a Yonkers Public Schools High School Diploma. This program acknowledges that adults develop competence in many areas through life experiences and recognizes these achievements for the diploma.

The EDP is free of charge and open to all New York State residents, 21 years of age and older, who do not have a high school diploma. The EDP is funded and sponsored by the New York State Department of Education and the Yonkers Public Schools. Registration is ongoing throughout the school year.

Because the EDP does not require candidates to attend classes, the ability to work independently is a necessary component. Candidates meet weekly with an assessor until the program is completed. Appointments can be arranged to fit most schedules.

First, applicants are evaluated in math, reading, and writing. Those who need to improve certain skills will be referred to basic skills classes.

Once these basic skills have been mastered, candidates must complete a series of realistic tasks and demonstrate occupational or special skills.

## Questions and Answers About The EDP

- **What is the External Diploma Program (EDP)?**

The EDP is a competency based assessment program for adults that leads to a high school diploma.

- **What is a competency assessment program?**

EDP competencies or skills include a variety of real-life situations that assess ability. Examples are reading a lease, writing a letter of complaint, or planning a vacation. An entry-level job skill must also be demonstrated, either by employment documentation, performance evaluation, or training history.

- **What type of diploma is issued?**

A Yonkers Public Schools High School Diploma is issued. It is approved by the New York State Education Department.

- **Who will accept this diploma?**

Employers, The U.S. Armed Forces, and colleges will accept it as proof of high school completion.

- **Are previous school or test records needed?**

No.

- **Who is eligible?**

New York State residents, at least 21 years of age, who do not have a high school diploma.

- **What is the first step?**

Math, reading and writing skills are evaluated using the TABE (Test of Adult Basic Education). Remediation is provided where needed.

- **What is the next requirement?**

Five tasks must be completed. These tasks demonstrate competencies in 65 areas. Work on the tasks can be done at home. Help may be obtained from many sources. However, the work must be done by the candidate. An assessment specialist will work individually with each candidate throughout the program. There are no classes. Weekly assessment sessions are scheduled at a convenient time, day or evening. Each session is about two hours.

- **How long will it take to complete the EDP?**

Once the required basic skills have been demonstrated, the length of time needed to complete the program varies from a few months to no longer than one year.

- **Can participation in the EDP be confidential?**

Yes. Information about EDP participation is **never** released without a candidate's prior approval.