

Adult Learners: Frequently Asked Questions

1. Am I too old for College?

Most adult students do better academically than traditional age classmates. Over 50% of the students at LGC are over the age of 25. The oldest graduate to date was 65 years of age.

2. Is the application the same as for traditional students?

The application process is the same. SAT or ACT tests are not required for students who have graduated from high school two or more years ago.

3. Will I need to take an entrance exam?

LGC does not require pre-admission testing. Students are evaluated on their prior academic record. The College seeks students who have demonstrated success in math and science courses. A high school transcript is required, as well as any post-secondary institution transcripts.

4. I didn't complete two high school science and algebra courses as required in your admission criteria. Can I still be admitted?

Applicants who did not complete the required high school courses will not be admitted directly to a major field of study. Students are best advised to complete these requirements at a community college, since LGC does not offer any remedial courses. Some individuals elect to take a course in college math or science at LGC as an open studies student. Open studies students do not qualify for financial aid grants or loans. Before choosing this option it is best to discuss your plans with an admission counselor or academic advisor at LGC.

5. Can I attend part-time?

Students can begin general admission courses on a part-time basis. The Associate in Science in Nursing, Associate in Applied Science in Radiography, baccalaureate programs, and EMT/paramedic certificate programs can be completed on a part-time basis. Our other majors require a minimum of 12 months of full-time study.

6. Are courses offered online?

Some general education courses are offered online each semester. The baccalaureate programs offer accelerated blended courses which require online learning. Courses in the associate degree majors require clinical competencies and cannot be offered online.

7. Are courses offered in the evenings and week-ends?

Many of the general education courses are offered at 4:00 p.m. or later on week-days. Offerings on the week-end are limited to the nursing evening/weekend program.

8. Will my previous college credits transfer?

Generally, credits will transfer for comparable courses completed at other colleges and universities if a grade of “C” or better was achieved. There is a ten-year time limit for anatomy/physiology and algebra, a five-year time limit for microbiology and nutrition, and a three-year time limit for introduction to computers. A competency test is available for anatomy/physiology, algebra, and microbiology if they were completed past the time limit.

9. How long will it take to obtain my degree?

The length of the program will be dependent on your major and whether you are part-time or full-time. Certificate programs are generally 12 months in length, associate degree programs average two years, and baccalaureate completion an additional two years in a part-time accelerated format.

10. What type of support is available?

All students are assigned an academic advisor to assist them in meeting their educational goals. The College’s Learning Resource Center offers academic support which includes help with study skills, time management, and test-taking skills. Counseling services are available onsite by a mental health clinical nurse specialist.

11. Can I work and attend class?

Many students work part-time while attending classes. A general recommendation for combining work and credit-load is as follows:

Working full-time - 3-6 college credits

Working 20 hrs per week – 7 to 11 college credits

Working fewer than 16 hours per week – 12 to 15 college credits

12. What is the cost?

The College charges a **fee per credit** as follows:

General education courses and bachelor program courses: \$360/credit. A 3-credit course costs \$1080.

Lab fees for anatomy/physiology and microbiology = \$175 per course

Health science courses: \$480 per credit. Cost averages \$16,000 per year for the full-time associate degree program.

Nursing courses: \$540 per credit. Cost averages \$16,000 per year for the full-time associate degree program.

Non-credit certificate programs bill a flat fee per program.

13. Is there financial aid?

Students who are admitted to a degree program are eligible for financial aid. Non-degree certificate programs are not eligible. Payment plans are available.

14. Will I receive financial aid if I already have a baccalaureate degree?

If you already have a bachelor's degree, you will still be eligible for Stafford loans.

15. How do I get started?

Contact the Office of Admission at 717-544-4912 Option 3, or secure an application from the webpage at www.lancastergeneralcollege.edu. Attend an Open House or schedule a personal visit with an admission counselor to learn more about college offerings and admission requirements.

Read what our students have to say:

"My experience at LGC has been phenomenal! As a non-traditional student, I was concerned initially about my ability to study and to retain information. Would I be able to keep up with the other students? My concerns were put to rest very quickly. The faculty and staff were eager to work with me to assure my success in the nursing program. The computer and simulation labs, the Health Sciences Library, and the Learning Resource Center were used when needed. Plus LGC encouraged the exchange of ideas from everyone so that all could benefit. I am grateful for the opportunities and the challenges that were presented to me so that I could succeed."

Yolanda Moul

Class of 2010

"The College has the framework in place for success at any age. If a person has the desire and puts forth the effort then he/she will have success. The classes and staff encouraged and assisted in my progression towards my rewarding professional future."

Douglas Spang

Class of 2009