Flexible Options Help Adult Students Earn a Diploma

Melissa needed only one credit to finish her diploma when her living situation required she move to Massachusetts. With a young child at home and no car, she was unable to continue taking classes at DALT. Plato allowed her to finish from home and earn her diploma.

Aaron got within a few points of passing the GED when the test changed. Facing beginning again, he chose to earn credits. He took online and in person classes and completed alternative credits to complete the diploma requirements in two semesters. He graduated in June.

There are two ways to finish high school at Dover Adult Learning Center:

1. Pass the HiSET and earn a certificate from the state of NH.
2. Earn credits toward an adult high school diploma.

For adults who left school in their junior or senior year to work or raise a child, for medical reasons or because their family moved, the diploma can be a good choice. Students who have test anxiety may also find success in a program that allows them choices in how they demonstrate their knowledge and skills.

Credits can be earned in a traditional classroom or via alternative credit options. Competency based options allow busy, working parents to fit course work into their schedules and mesh it with their other responsibilities.

Anywhere there is a computer and internet, students can put in time on the course. Plato, the platform we use at DALT, allows the teacher to monitor the student’s work and step in if it looks like they need help.

Community Service, Home Management and Career Exploration can all be a means to earning credits. By meeting certain minimum conditions and successfully completing a standards based assessment, a student can use real world experience to earn high school credit.

Prior learning can also be applied. Work experience, military service or college coursework all qualify.

Which way is right for you?

HiSET or
Adult High School Diploma

Our counselor can help you decide
In Our Own Words: My Nongtang Life by Aiting

“Nongtang” is a typical old residential community in Shanghai, consisting of many residents but in a small place. I was born and grew up in Nongtang. I spent my entire childhood there. It became one of the happiest time in my life.

I lived with my parents and my grandma. It was a small home. We didn’t have a private bathroom and kitchen. There was a public one for us to use. But most of the time, my parents would put me in a small basin and pour some warm water to give me a shower. Because of our small space, they had to take the basin and me out of my home, directly on the street in Nongtang.

Maybe it was so weird and unacceptable for you, but for me, it was so happy and fun at that moment. Every one who walked by that street would say hello or make a smile at me while they saw I was taking bath. They were all my neighbors. We had a very good relationship with them. They were so nice. If you had any difficulties, the neighbors would help you immediately.

We had no air conditioning in the summer, most of the adults would go outside and take a seat to chat just to be in the cool air. Children were playing around their parents. There was much laughter in the Nongtang. Since we lived very close, my Nongtang friends and I were in the same school. We walked to school together hand in hand. After school, we went to each others’ home to play. That was such a wonderful time in my life.

When I started my high school, I moved to another place, far away from my friends and Nongtang. Although I had a bigger home than before, I still missed them very much. People in my new home were not as friendly as my old neighbors. They weren’t willing to help you. They just cared about themselves.

Even now, there are many Nongtangs in Shanghai. Although the building have been updated, still retains the old Shanghai’s elements and customs.
Center Stars - Our Citizenship Students

Throughout the year, we honor individual students or volunteers as our “Center Stars,” to recognize them for their hard work, dedication and perseverance.

This time, we thought we would give a big thumbs up to our citizenship students.

Our current students hail from the Philippines, Cambodia, Brazil, and China. Cheered on by their teacher Carol Birch (back row).

Congratulations and best of luck and keep up the good work.

Programs in Focus: Adult Learner Service/Adult Tutorial Program

The Adult Tutorial Program is a state and federally funded program that serves under-educated adults in all 13 towns of Strafford County.

It is located in the McConnell Center in Dover as part of the Dover Adult Learning Center.

The program offers free, confidential, one-to-one instruction in basic reading, writing, math and English as a second language, US citizenship test, adult diploma classes and high school equivalency (HiSET).

Volunteer tutors are all ages and come from many different backgrounds and careers.

Patience, humor, and an open mind are much more important, as well as the willingness to work as one adult helping another adult in a partnership of mutual respect.

Tutors receive training and ongoing support as they work in partnership with their students to help them achieve educational goals they have set for themselves.

To learn more about the Adult Tutorial Program go doveradultlearning.org/programs/ac.

It is truly amazing what personal instruction, attention, and encouragement can accomplish!

Brothers Thien Le (Left) and Thao Le are learning English. Here they meet with their volunteer tutor David Ramsay.
Save the date for Red’s Race

Sunday, April 8 Join DALC for The 37th Annual Reds Race for a Better Community

Would you like to be a part of our efforts?

♦ Serve on a committee
♦ Become a volunteer tutor
♦ Join our Board of Directors
♦ Take an enrichment class
♦ Teach an enrichment class
♦ Become a Friend of the Center by making a donation
♦ Include DALC in your estate planning and become a member of the Helen Phipps Heritage Society
♦ Become a corporate or event sponsor

Go to doveradultlearning.org/support