



Accelerated Pathways™  
GEDWorks™

# Bridge-to-College Program Led by GEDWorks™ and Pearson Accelerated Pathways

*Boosts College Readiness and  
Confidence for GED® Grads  
at Leading Global Tech and  
Ecommerce Company*



# About the Program

According to the U.S. Department of Education, over 67% of students in four-year colleges had to start with at least one remedial class; many of these students left college without degrees.

Through GEDWorks, organizations can sponsor their employees to earn their GED credential. To set up individuals for success beyond the high school diploma, GEDWorks helps them bridge the gap to college through Pearson Accelerated Pathways. This program is a non-traditional, online college experience for learners to earn college credits in a more flexible, affordable way.

## Bridge-to-College Courses in Action

A leading company in tech and ecommerce brought the new Bridge-to-College program to their employees who recently achieved their GED credentials. This proved to be an excellent opportunity to enable adult learners to bypass up to two semesters of college and start earning credits right away without spending time or tuition budget on remedial courses. While GED learners have been piloting the Bridge-to-College courses,

this program is valuable to any high school graduate thinking about college.

The Bridge-to-College Program consists of three courses designed to prepare students for hybrid (combined remedial and traditional) college-level work: College Success, College Algebra, and English Composition I. All three of these courses run in an instructor-led model so that learners have support from their instructors and coaches throughout. College Algebra and English Composition I are 16 weeks long. College Success is an 8-week, first-year experience course designed to prepare learners for the rigor of college-level coursework.

During the program, focus groups led by Pearson leadership were conducted with participants at checkpoints between courses to gain insights into the learners' thoughts and overall experience with Bridge-to-College. Learners were enthusiastic about providing feedback and the results were very positive.

# Key Findings

**Learners feel more prepared to succeed in college than before taking the College Success course.**

*"I'm less nervous about starting English [next month] compared to when I started the course. I don't feel intimidated anymore."*

— Program participant

**Learners feel more confident about doing college level work compared to how they felt before taking the College Success course.**

*"I began to feel more confident as I was learning, especially with the discussion posts. It was really different having to put thoughts down in writing."*

— Program participant

**Learners are more likely to enroll in a degree program after taking this course.**

*"Going through this course has introduced me to new testing and studying techniques, and better ways to schedule my time. I feel like I can apply for a degree program."*

— Program participant

**Learners are eager to tell friends and family about the program, as it would help them achieve their educational goals as well.**

*"I actually have a work buddy who just finished her GED; this program would be perfect for her. When I started the GED, it was a big thing to know if I had the foundational skills needed to continue to college, to know that I have what it takes to keep going. It's great to work my way up the ladder and grow through education as well."*

— Program participant

**Learners feel more confident about their next courses.**

*"Thanks to what I've learned, it will be easier to transition to the next course now that I feel prepared, as opposed to doing so directly from the GED."*

— Program participant

## Results and Next Steps

Overall, participants in the Bridge-to-College courses feel confident about their future and are excited to pursue their college degrees. The quick start — no placement exam or application required — removes common obstacles and makes it easy to begin. Classes and assignments are all online and designed

to fit busy schedules, so studying does not affect work performance or create stress outside of work. Upon completion, the credits earned are accepted in over 2,200 colleges and universities nationwide — guaranteed.

**To learn more about the Bridge-to-College courses by Pearson Accelerated Pathways, please visit <https://www.pearsonaccelerated.com/bridge-courses/>**