

PRESS RELEASE

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New program in Ascension Parish to help adults complete high school diploma

Gonzales, LA – It's never too late to graduate. A high school diploma is within reach; all you need to get started is a library card. Ascension Parish Library is offering a program called Excel Adult High School, a free accredited high school for residents 21 and older. Applications will begin being accepted on January 8, 2024.

"Connecting our residents with educational support leads to skill and workforce development," said APL's Assistant Director Carrie Goodall. "We're excited to give people living in Ascension Parish the opportunity to rewrite their future."

Statistics from the Ascension Economic Development Corporation show in 2020, 10.4 percent of Ascension Parish residents had not graduated from high school or received a GED.

Excel High courses are 100 percent online, allowing students to have access anytime, according to their schedule and pace. Students will have up to 24 months to complete the program, and unlimited one-on-one tutoring sessions and support from success coaches.

Excel Adult High School is accredited by the Middle States Association Commissions on Elementary and Secondary Schools (MSA-CESS) and is accepted by colleges, employers, and the military.

Space in the program is limited. Participants must live in Ascension Parish and have an Ascension Parish Library card. Library cards are free at all library locations. Interested residents can email <u>AdultHS@myapl.org</u>.

About APL

Ascension Parish Library (APL) is an award-winning library system committed to providing opportunities for lifelong learning to all ages. APL delivers needed resources through traditional library services, digital materials, and innovative programs. Ascension Parish Library encourages residents to read, learn, and create by visiting their local library. To learn more, visit https://www.myAPL.org/.