Discover your potential

The Enriched Support Program (ESP) offers you the chance to start university now.

Sometimes grades don’t tell the whole story. That’s why Carleton University offers the ESP—a unique way to qualify for degree admission while taking first-year courses.

What is ESP?

ESP is a full-time program that offers the opportunity to:

- enrol in first-year university courses
- earn admission to a degree
- strengthen your academic skills

Who applies to ESP?

- high school or college students with the potential to succeed at university, but who do not meet traditional entrance requirements
- students who would like support as they begin university studies
- mature students who would like support as they return to studies

Rosa Bodourova, 
B.A. Law.

“I am grateful that this program is offered at Carleton University because it gave me the opportunity to prove to myself that I can succeed at university.”

From ESP to a degree

ESP can help you earn admission to a degree. Students who successfully complete the program with the required average are eligible for admission to a degree program at Carleton University.

Credits earned in ESP count toward your degree. 80-90% of students who fully participate are eligible for admission to a degree program after ESP.

Program of study

We offer pathways to a variety of degree programs. During their ESP year, students take courses and workshops.

ESP students have access to a network of supports that include peer mentors, weekly workshops, student advisors and academic coaches.

ARTS & SOCIAL SCIENCES STREAM

Students enrol in:

- One first year seminar credit course
- Two First-year elective courses, such as: Anthropology, English, Film, Geography, History, Human Rights, Law, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology and Social Work
- Two non-credit workshops designed to build the skills needed to excel in university studies

BUSINESS STREAM

Students enrol in:

- A first-year seminar credit course
- First-year Economics
- First-year Calculus and Linear Algebra
- Two non-credit workshops designed to build the skills needed to excel in university studies
- One credit course of your choice in the early summer term

Prerequisite Subject: 4U Functions (min 60%)

SCIENCE STREAM

Students enrol in:

- One first year seminar credit course
- First-year Introduction to Chemistry
- First-year Calculus and Linear Algebra
- Two non-credit workshops designed to build the skills needed to excel in university studies

Prerequisite Subjects: 4U Functions (min 60%), 4U Chemistry (min 60%)

Prerequisite Subjects: 4U Functions (min 60%), 4U Chemistry (min 60%), 4U Physics (Physics may be taken concurrently, min 60%)

Steven Richardson, 
B.A. Honours Sociology, Minor in Philosophy.

“For me, the ESP is the perfect program for students who have potential for university, but not the grades. The program launched me into what it is to be a university student. Through the program I rediscovered my eagerness to learn.”
Kizzy Roy,
B.A. Honours Psychology, minor
Linguistics; Certificate in Teaching English
as a Second Language; M.A., Applied
Language Studies.

“A second chance is what this program is all
about... It was an opportunity for me to show
my potential to succeed as a post-secondary
student.”