



# Scan of Ontario School Board Literacy and Basic Skills (LBS) and Credit Programs

The Ontario Literacy and Basic Skills (LBS) program helps adults in Ontario to develop and apply communication, numeracy, interpersonal and digital skills to achieve their goals. The LBS program serves adult learners who aim to successfully transition to employment, post-secondary, apprenticeship, secondary school, or increased independence.

LBS is offered in 34 school boards in Ontario to help adult learners achieve their goals, including transferring into adult credit programs to complete their Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD).

In 2022, Dr. Lorraine Godden and Dr. Sandy Youmans performed an environmental scan of LBS programs offered in school boards and examined the working relationship between LBS and credit programs to highlight worthwhile practices.

LBS is offered in **47%** of Ontario school boards

## Environmental Scan

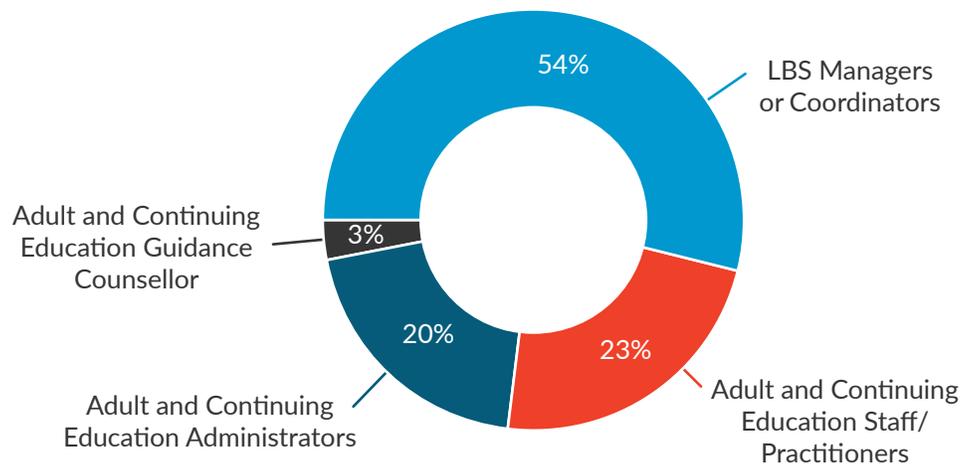
Data was collected through an online survey and semi-structured interviews.

**35** survey participants

**21** school boards

**13** follow-up interviews

Environmental Scan Survey



## Results

Survey participants reported that LBS programs help adult learners to:

- Develop confidence and skills required for credit programs
- Smoothly transition into credit pathways (e.g., guidance, technology, individual support)
- Receive individualized support needed to be successful in credit programs
- Understand and complete PLAR

**97%** of survey respondents indicated a working relationship between LBS and Credit programs existed

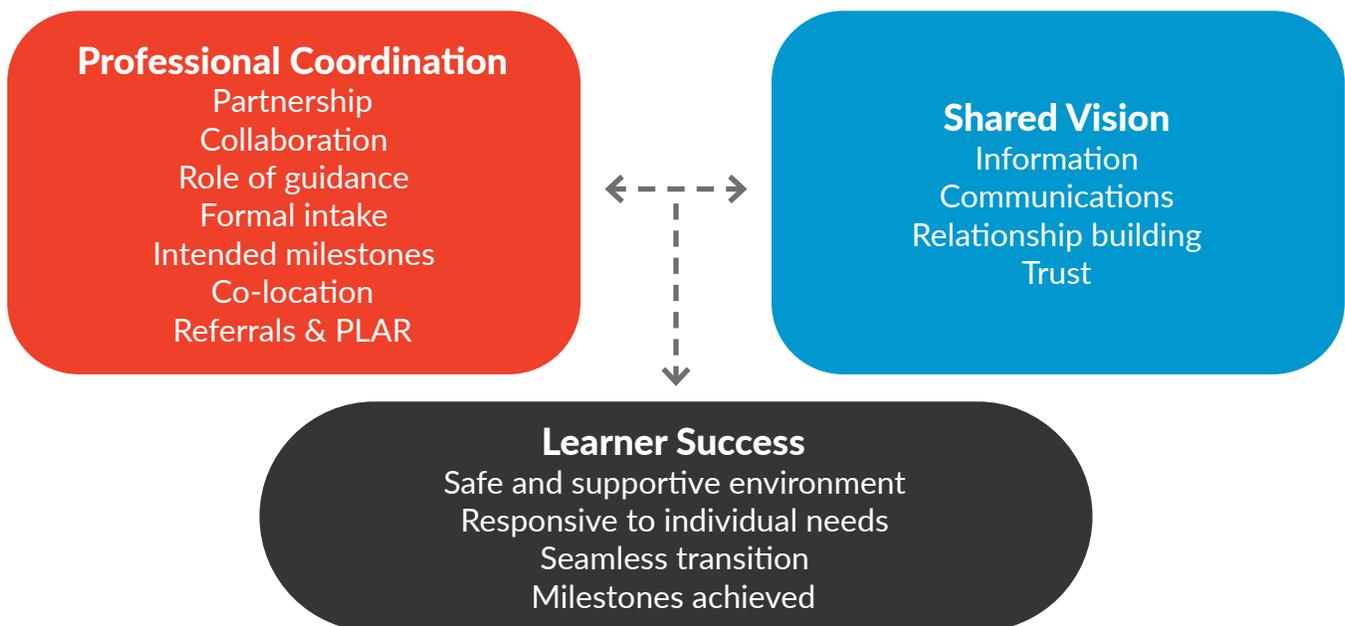
“I can attribute the relationship that was established with our credit program to relationship building.” (Interview 5)

“I can’t tell you how many times I stand at the back of the adult credit graduation and I say I know that person. I know that person because they have been through my LBS program at some point.” (Interview 3)



## Worthwhile Practices for Partnerships in LBS and Credit

Based on survey and interview data, notable partnership practices emerged in relation to the three overarching themes of professional coordination, shared vision, and learner success. Ultimately, strong partnerships marked by effective professional coordination and shared vision contributed to learner success.



The following actions are recommended to promote adult learner success:

- Prioritize LBS as a complementary program in Adult & Continuing Education to support adult learner success.
- Optimize effective working relationships in LBS and credit programs through co-location and intentional coordination of services.
- Establish and cultivate strategic partnerships between LBS and credit programs through transformational leadership.
- Create a shared vision for LBS and credit programs through regular and purposeful team meetings.

For the full report go to [www.cesba.com/resources/ontario-lbs-scan/](http://www.cesba.com/resources/ontario-lbs-scan/)

