

BRANDS FOR CANADA
FOR FAMILIES. FOR THE ENVIRONMENT.

The **EDGE** Program

THE EDGE PROGRAM - OVERVIEW -

Presented by: (add name)



An agency of the Government of Ontario
Un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario

AGENDA:

- EDGE program introduction
- EDGE soft skills and job training program
- EDGE job development and capacity building program
- Suitable Impression program
- Overview of EDGE module topics
- Program eligibility
- Program referral and registration
- Open discussion, Q & A

EDGE Program - Intro

Brands for Canada's EDGE Program supports individuals living with disabilities in developing their soft-skills, identifying and enhancing strengths and securing employment

The EDGE program consists of two parts:

- 1) A four-week soft skills job training program (presently offered on-line via Zoom)
 - 2) A job development and capacity building program
- If an agency referring a client offers job development in-house as ODSP Employment Supports organization, they may refer a client for the soft-skills job training program only, by simply indicating that preference during the referral process
 - In this scenario, the client would return to the referring agency for job development support, upon graduating from the EDGE soft skills job training program.

EDGE Soft-skills Job Training Program

Over the course of four weeks, participants build professional and life skills in the areas of:

- Emotional & social skills (EQ)
- Communication
- Conflict resolution
- Managing disabilities in the workplace
- Tools and techniques for managing stress
- Financial literacy

- The program runs three days per week (typically on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays), for four weeks, from 9:30am – 2:30pm
- Morning check-in is at 9:30am, morning break: 11am – 11:15am, lunch: 12 – 1pm and class wraps-up by approximately 2:30pm
- We are presently running the program on-line via Zoom

EDGE – Job Development & Capacity Building Program

Participants are supported for three years post graduating from the EDGE soft skills job training program!

Supports Included in the Job Development & Capacity Building Program (3 years):

- Career exploration and career path development
- Resume & cover letter preparation
- Job search workshops and support
- Curated job postings
- Facilitated introductions to employer partners
- On-going workshops to support personal and professional development
- Professional networking events
- Referrals to partner agencies to access additional resources or supports
- Support to embark on opportunities for new employment, or growth in existing employment

Suitable Impressions Workshop

When registered for the EDGE Program, clients also receive the “Suitable Impressions” One-Day Workshop

Suitable Impressions offers knowledge and resources to job-seekers regarding appropriate workplace attire, body language, mindset, confidence, stress management and financial literacy

Benefits for Clients:

- A certified Image Consultant teaches clients how to dress appropriately for diverse industries
- NEW work attire (\$500+ value), gift bag full of personal care items (\$75 value), free haircut or hair service (\$40+ value)
- Financial literacy and credit building awareness session hosted by Credit Canada

EDGE Program Module Topics (1)

- **Learning and Introduction** – getting to know one another, intro to program topics and workflow, establishing classroom agreements
- **Disability Rights** – self-advocacy, system of support, accommodations & disclosure, disability rights in the workplace
- **Strengths** – identifying individual strengths and strength spotting using the Via Strengths model
- **Emotions** – self-regulating and understanding emotions
- **Expectations and the World of Work** – employer versus employee expectations and how to balance the each

EDGE Program Module Topics (2)

- **Relationships** – health boundaries and negotiating, responding versus reacting
- **Vision & Goals** – using the power of visualization and creativity to set goals
- **Interviews** – understanding various formats, types of questions and preparation
- **Stress & Work / Life Balance** – how to plan for balance and success when starting a new job
- **Hero's, Role Models & Mentors** – discovering the significant part role models and mentor may play in our personal and professional development
- **Success, Change & Transition** – preparing for and defining our own success, learning how to manage change and transition
- **Closure & Graduation** – wrap-up, next steps and graduation ceremony with program certificate presentation

Program Eligibility

PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY:

- Identify as an individual living with a disability (does **not** have to be on ODSP)
- Committed to securing (part-time or full-time) employment
- Able to attend the EDGE pre-employment program, 3 days a week, for 4 weeks
- Completed grade 10 education
- Legally able to work in Canada

Program Referral or Registration

NEXT PRE-EMPLOYMENT TRAINING COHORT

- July 5 – 30, 2021

TO REFER A CLIENT:

- Please contact julie@brandsforcanada.com

TO REGISTER A CLIENT, OR FOR DIRECT REGISTRATION BY CLIENT:

- Please contact: julia@brandsforcanada.com

FOR MORE PROGRAM INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

- Link to the EDGE program info on the Brands for Canada site:
<https://www.brandsforcanada.com/about/programs/brands-for-canada-edge/>
- Or contact EDGE Program Director: inga@brandsforcanada.com

Thank you for your time and attention today!