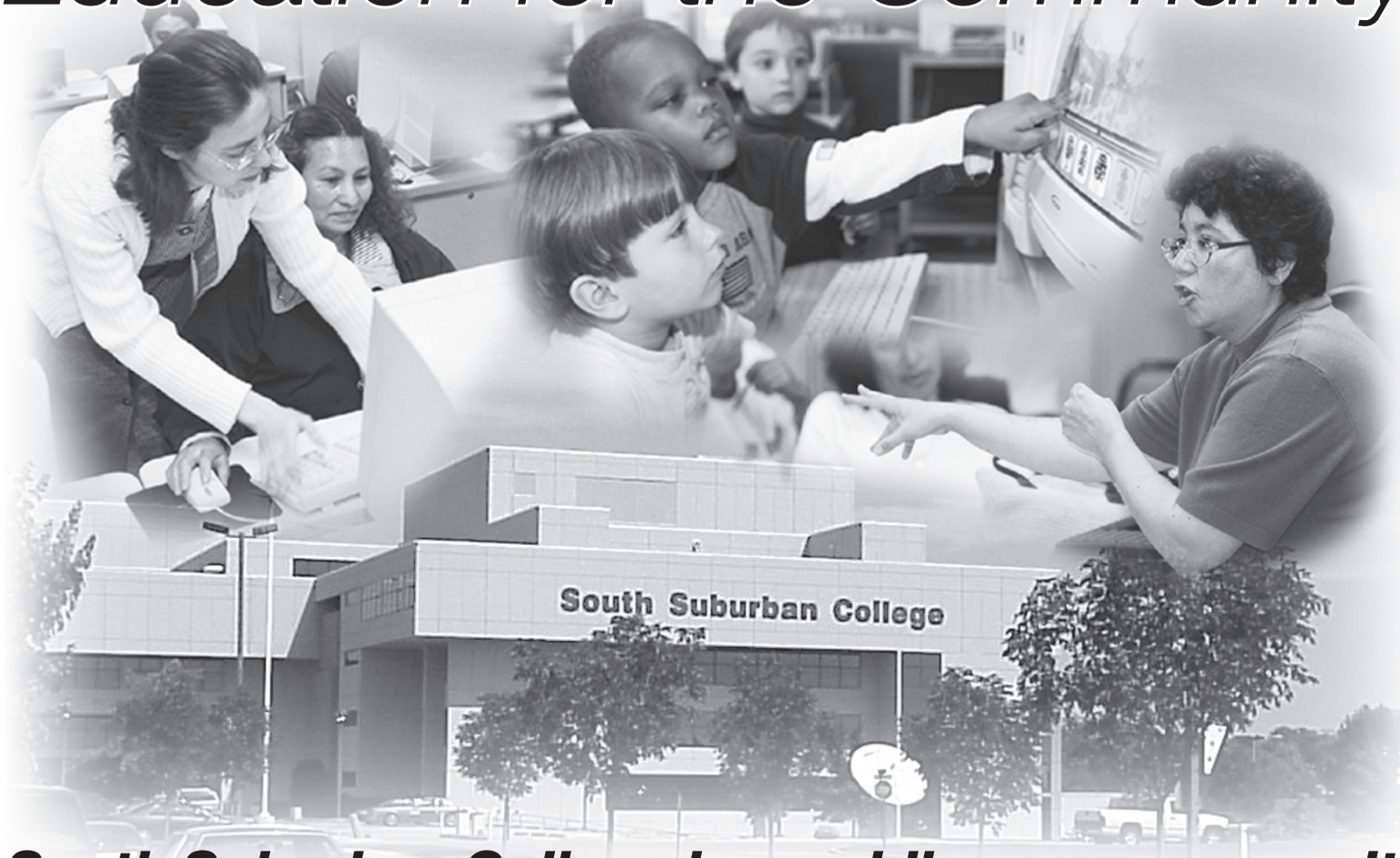


# Education for the Community



## **South Suburban College is providing our community with all of the fundamentals for success.**

South Suburban College's Division of Community Education provides residents of community college District 510 with a wide-range of opportunities to build the basic skills required for success. Students can take classes to improve their opportunity for advancement in today's competitive job market or to further their education through the Adult Basic Education (ABE), General Education Development (GED) and English as a Second Language (ESL) programs. These programs are conveniently offered both full-time and part-time, and at multiple locations. Full-time students can also take advantage of the college's child-care facility located on the main campus.

All of the Community Education programs are offered free of charge (Federal funds in the amount of \$400,788 provides 37% of the support of these programs). When registering, first time GED students ages 16 to 18 must have a State I.D. or Driver's License, and a Withdrawal Form from the last high school attended.

SSC's Community Education offers one of the few full-time curriculums in the state, and the staff is well-trained to administer to the needs of their students, including the use of computer technology at all levels. All GED program graduates are invited to participate in a cap and gown graduation ceremony and will receive a certificate.

### **Adult Basic Education**

ABE helps all men and women whose skill levels are below the eighth grade. ABE students improve their skills in reading, writing, and mathematics. Many adults choose to further build on these skills and pursue a high school education through the GED program.

### **General Education Development**

A GED certificate is a high school equivalency that is a key credential for employment, advancement, education and financial rewards. Adults who have not yet achieved their high school education and are not otherwise enrolled in school are encouraged to take part in the program. This program focuses on reading, writing, science, social studies, and mathematics. The goal of the GED program is to prepare adults to take the GED exam. For many, it is the first step towards success.

GED students who are unable to take GED classes in person may qualify for the GED-i online program which provides students with a convenient alternative in preparation for the GED exam. Students must take a test to enroll in the program, and must qualify with a Reading Level of 9.0 or above (TABE Level A), and a Math Level of 7.0 or above (TABE Level A or D.)

### **English as a Second Language**

This program assists non-native speakers who wish to improve their English skills from beginning to advanced levels. Each level includes a civics component to familiarize students with American history and government. SSC offers classes in listening comprehension, understanding, reading, and writing of English. ESL classes at SSC may be the first step for students seeking U.S. citizenship. In addition, the college offers a GED for ESL students transition course specifically to prepare them for the GED exam.

### **Financial Assistance for College**

Students who wish to further their education at SSC once they advance to college level classes will find many opportunities available through Financial Aid, tuition waivers, and scholarships. First, all South Suburban College GED students who score 3,000 (out of 4,000) or higher on the GED exam will receive 12 free credit hours for four semesters of college level courses at SSC. In addition, students who do not receive any Financial Aid and reside in District

510 can take advantage of one of several tuition waivers for a "tuition free" course. They include an ESL waiver, a GED waiver for students who have taken the GED exam, and a waiver for any student who is at least 25 years old who has not previously enrolled in an SSC credit course. Lastly, many scholarships are also available specifically for Community Education students and returning adults.

Registration for Community Education programs will take place during the week of August 18 at several locations. Community Education is also seeking volunteers to assist with these programs. For more information about registration dates and locations, volunteering with Community Education, or for general information, please call (708)596-2000, x2385 or x2227 or visit [www.southsuburbancollege.edu](http://www.southsuburbancollege.edu).

**"Community Education is a great opportunity for our residents to go back to school for the skills they need to succeed in the workforce. We offer one of the few full-time programs in the state."**

**Jane Ellen Stocker, Vice President,  
Enrollment & Community Education**