

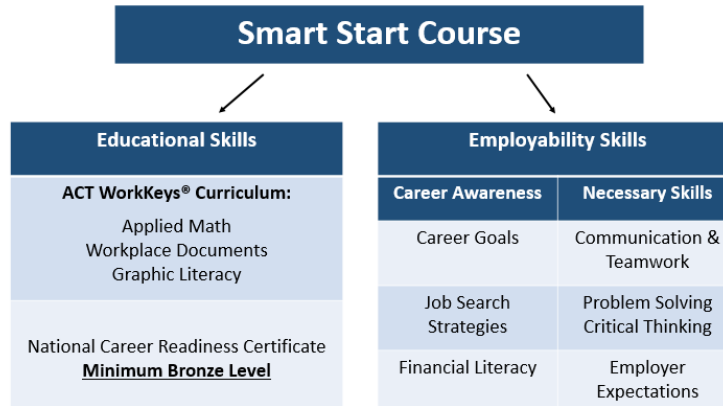


# Mississippi Community College Board Office of Adult Education & High School Equivalency



## Smart Start Course Fact Sheet

The Office of Adult Education has primary responsibility for implementation of the Mississippi Works Smart Start Career Pathway Model through the Smart Start Pathway Course.



- **What is the Smart Start Pathway Course?** This course prepares participants for middle-skill level employment. Participants will develop job skills needed for their careers, learn and practice good work habits, and effective communication necessary for successful employment.
- **Why is this course important for participants?** Participants have the opportunity to earn a Smart Start Credential which includes a National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC). The NCRC demonstrates to employers the participant has the skills needed to be successful in a job. Participants will complete the WorkKeys tests for **Applied Math, Graphic Literacy and Workplace Documents**. Participants will also learn new skills for future careers and increase their ability for middle-skill level jobs which results in higher pay.
- **How is the course offered?** Smart Start Pathway Courses can be taken face-to-face, online or both face-to-face and online.
- **What are the requirements for participating in a Smart Start Pathway Course?** Participants must be registered in MS WORKS to participate in classes.
- **What is the cost?** This course is free.
- **What are the minimum requirements for achieving a MS Smart Start Credential: (minimum 45 hours required)**
  - **Educational Skills**
    - ACT WorkKeys® Curriculum
      - Applied Math
      - Graphic Literacy
      - Workplace Documents
  - **Employability Skills**
    - Career Awareness (ex: Career Goals, Job Search Strategies, Financial Literacy)
    - Necessary Skills (ex: Communication & Teamwork, Problem-Solving & Critical Thinking, Employer Expectations)
  - **ACT WorkKeys® resulting in,**
    - National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) - Minimum Bronze Level even though Silver is encouraged for increased job opportunities.

