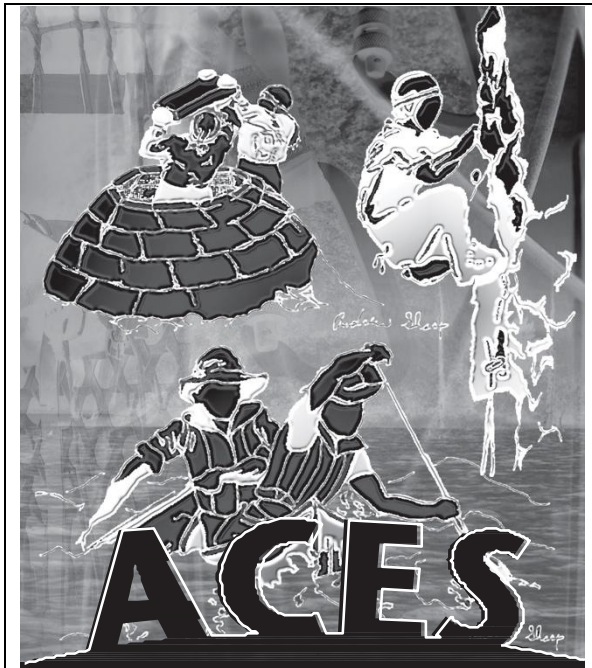

Yukon
Education

Achievement
Challenge
Environment
Stewardship

Student Application for ACES 10

Application Deadline: January 26th, 2026

Interview dates are on or between February 2 – 11, 2026

All applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application on or before February 18, 2026

Step 1:
Complete the two-page application found on the Wood Street Centre website.

Step 2:
Complete a letter in English including:

- Who are you? Describe yourself!
- When do you feel most comfortable, most yourself?
- Why do you want to spend time learning outdoors?
- What do you struggle with in school or in life?
- What are your strengths?

Step 3:
Send your two-page application and intro letter to:
applications-WSC@yukon.ca

Contact Colin Abbott at colin.abbott@yesnet.yk.ca if you have any specific questions

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For more information, please call (867) 667-8413 or visit our website at
www.woodstreetcentre.yukonschools.ca/

Student Information
This integrated experiential program is open to all Yukon Grade 10 students. Rural students can gain access to the program by arranging either one or both semesters in Whitehorse by boarding at Gadzoosdaa to attend Wood Street Centre and a parent secondary school. Students must be prepared to push themselves physically, mentally and emotionally at the Grade 10 level. Class size is limited to 16 students.

Student Expectations
Students will be expected to take part in all program activities. They will participate in self-evaluation and group analysis. They will be asked to keep a journal, both written and pictorial, prepare presentations during the term, regularly write in-term tests and take final exams. Students will also be expected to participate in volunteer and community service. Inappropriate or unacceptable behaviour that puts others at risk, whether in the classroom or outdoors, will result in not being invited on a specific expedition or dismissal from the program.

Home educators are welcome to the ACES program or to specific expeditions.

No outdoor experience is necessary, but the willingness to push yourself in new situations is essential.

Program Teachers/Instructors
The program will be taught and directed by a teacher and assistants who are highly qualified and certified in both academic studies and outdoor activities.

ACES 10 – A Journey for Body, Mind and Spirit

General Progam Description
ACES is about personal growth through personal challenge. Whether in the classroom or outdoors, learning experientially is about personalized education. ACES requires students to make a significant personal commitment since many of the program experiences take place in remote settings for a week or more. Expect to be actively involved in outdoor expedition settings. During these outings, you support and are supported by your fellow travellers in learning about yourself and about natural and cultural environments.
ACES encourages each student to become a responsible citizen with the self-confidence and skills needed to meet the many challenges of a rapidly changing society.

Goals and Objectives
To encourage students to develop:

- a reponsible attitude towards learning, themselves, and their role in society
- thinking and problem solving skills through an integrated approach to academic subjects and outdoor activities
- knowledge and appreciation of the Yukon's natural environment and cultural history
- a sense of stewardship for our natural and cultural environments
- a better understanding of history in Canada through study and firsthand experiences
- Self-confidence and self-discipline
- A heightened awareness and dedication to health and fitness
- Communication, teaching and observation skills
- Friendships and positive peer relationships
- Skill and knowledge in a range of low impact outdoor pursuits
- Co-operative attitudes and habits through group interaction

Major Expeditions
There will be a number of major expeditions planned for the semester. These expeditions integrate academic studies, leadership and outdoor experience. Our major trips are typically a trapline trip, backcountry ski trip, bike trip and canoe trip.

Program Costs
Students are to pay a program fee of **$400** at the beginning of the semester. Students are not expected to buy a lot of equipment. Those who already have suitable gear will be expected to use it. All students are expected to provide their own food (expect approximately the same cost as eating at home). All specialized equipment will be provided.

The ACES Year
ACES will be offered one semester per school year at Wood Street Centre. In the alternate semester students will attend regular classes at their home school.

ACES Semester	Alternate Semester
Socials Studies 10	English 10
Science 10	Math 10
Climate Change 10	Elective 10
Physical Education 10	Elective 10

Program Content
The four subjects offered in ACES follow the Grade 10 BC curriculum. Course content is integrated extensively in outdoor experiences.

Social Studies 10 (4 credits)
The Grade 10 Social Studies Curriculum focuses on developing competency in inquiry skills, including: gathering, interpreting, and analyzing ideas, and communicating findings and decisions. The course content focuses on First Nation and non-First Nation political systems and justice systems, what it means to be a citizen, the legacy of residential schools and other injustices committed by governments.

Sciences 10 (4 credits)
This course is highly integrated with our climate change course. Students will develop scientific thinking, methodology and innovation through the study of 4 Big Ideas:

- Genes are the foundation for the diversity of living things.
- Chemical processes require energy and its change as atoms are rearranged.
- Energy is conserved and its transformation can affect living things and the environment
- The formation of the universe can be explained by the big bang theory

Climate Change 10 (4 credits)
Climate Change 10 is a locally developed course that integrates action and experiences to understand and address the complex issue of climate change. There are three main topics: understanding the relationship between political and environmental degradation, understanding causes and consequences of climate change and practicing methods used to promote social and climate justice.

Physical Education 10 (4 credits)
Physical literacy and healthy and active living are integrated with outdoor pursuits. PE 10 will provide students with a wide range of exciting, challenging and rewarding daily physical activities, including: cycling, canoeing, cross-country skiing, backcountry skiing, snowshoeing, tobogganing, bouldering, broomball, etc. Risk management, leadership skills and Leave-No-Trace camping skills are emphasized. Also, students will learn the skills necessary to become better leaders of outdoor pursuits.