IMPORTANT CHANGES TO THE
ABILITY TO BENEFIT TEST

In order to receive Federal financial aid, a student MUST have a high school diploma or its recognized equivalent. The Department of Education considers the following to be equivalent to a high school diploma:

- a General Education Development (GED) certificate, or
- completion of homeschooling, or
- completion of an Ability To Benefit (ATB) test, or completion of
  6.0 degree applicable units AND enrollment in an approved program of study PRIOR TO JULY 1, 2012.

WHAT IF I DO NOT POSSESS A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA OR ITS EQUIVALENT?
If you do not have a high school diploma or its equivalent, you are NOT eligible for Federal financial aid.

WHAT IF I MEET ONE OF THE EQUIVALENCIES?
If you have taken and passed an Ability To Benefit test OR completed 6.0 degree applicable units AND were enrolled in an eligible program of study prior to July 1, 2012, YOU MUST NOTIFY the Financial Aid Office for a review of your eligibility. You will be required to provide proof of your high school diploma equivalency.

CAN I STILL TAKE THE ATB TEST?
No. College of the Canyons no longer offers an Ability To Benefit test.

WHAT IF I NEVER TOOK THE ATB TEST OR COMPLETED 6.0 UNITS BY JULY 1, 2012?
Students without a high school diploma, who fail to complete the ATB test requirement or complete 6.0 degree applicable units by June 30, 2012, are ineligible until they acquire a GED.

WHERE CAN I GET INFORMATION ABOUT THE GED?
For more information on how to obtain your GED, please visit College of the Canyons’ Continuing Education website at www.canyons.edu/Offices/ContinuingEducation/Pages/GED-and-Success-Skills.aspx

For more information, please contact the Financial Aid Office at:
(661)362-3215 or finaid@canyons.edu