



FAQ:

Frequently asked questions about the Professional Certificate Program

1) What is the difference between the certificate and degree programs?

The 18-hour non-credit SB professional certificate is intended to provide a body of knowledge that has applicability to many of the fastest growing careers. At six-3 hour modules, the time commitment required for the certificate is significantly less than the for-credit options. However, program graduates will be conversant in key sustainability topics emerging in numerous industries and professions.

In addition to the non-credit professional certificate, Aquinas College offers a for-credit certificate, which requires 6 semester-long classes. This deepens the understanding and knowledge acquired in the SB professional certificate. The for-credit Sustainable Business Certificate is particularly useful for those who want the "deeper dive" and already have a degree. With our current course sequencing, it would require a two-year commitment.

The for-credit 4 year-degree program in sustainable business is the pathway to an expertise in sustainable business that will be unmatched by any shorter programs. Upon completion of 65 credit-hours, graduates of this rigorous program receive a Bachelor of Science degree in Sustainable Business. For those who have already earned a bachelor's degree, Aquinas also offers a Master in Sustainable Business degree. To learn more about the for-credit programs, please visit the Sustainable Business Academic Department website: www.aquinas.edu/sb.

2) Will the certificate program prepare me for employment?

Aquinas College's reputation for sustainable business education is well-known in the region. While sustainable business is a non-technical training, it will contribute to your employment preparation.

3) Will I be able to consult after completing the certificate program?

The certificate program will introduce you to a new way of thinking, a language and an awareness of some of the key issues that are driving the interest in sustainability as part of a well-positioned business strategy. Those who take sustainability seriously understand that it is not a set of "10 easy steps." This offering may help you take the first step on a pathway to develop sustainability or sustainable business consulting expertise.

4) Are internship opportunities available?

We do not offer internships as part of the Sustainable Business Professional Certificate program. While we encourage all students to seek out additional opportunities to learn and apply knowledge, it is the individual's responsibility to acquire an internship if interested. Because internships are required for the 4 year-degree program in sustainable business, we help arrange internships for our undergraduate majors.

5) Where are graduates of the Sustainable Business Degree academic program employed?

To learn more about our graduates, please visit the Sustainable Business Academic Department web site at <http://www.aquinas.edu/sb/students.html#grads>.

6) I noticed the professional certificate program is approved for funding under the *Michigan Works! No Worker Left Behind* program (NWLB). How do I find out if I'm eligible for the program?

The first step is to visit your local *Michigan Works!* Service Center to begin the eligibility and skills assessment process. If your case worker determines the program is a good fit, an Individual Training Account (ITA) Referral and Funding Agreement will be provided for completion by Aquinas College and your case worker. The approval process may take several months. Visit the *Michigan Works!* site for more information (<http://www.michiganworks.org>).

7) According to your web site, the dates for the foundation modules have already passed. When will these classes be offered again?

We will continue to offer the series on an open enrollment basis throughout the year. Please check the registration page for updates, or contact Jessica Eimer at eimerjes@aquinas.edu.