



Ted Strickland, Governor
Eric D. Fingerhut, Chancellor

Board of Regents

University System of Ohio

ADULT WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

FRIDAY FACTS

**FROM DENISE L. POTTMEYER, STATE DIRECTOR
ADULT BASIC AND LITERACY EDUCATION**

July 10, 2009

ABLE Grant Process Completed

Decisions regarding ABLE Instructional and English Literacy and Civics Education (EL/Civics) grantees for FY 2010 have been made. Agencies have been sent approval and non-approval letters from the Chancellor.

This was a very difficult process, as it was the first time since 2002 (for the 2003-2004 period) that the State had conducted a competitive grant process for ABLE. With approximately \$2 million dollars less than the FY 2009 amount, and requests for funds exceeding the amount available by \$4 million, nineteen applicants did not receive funding. The Ohio Board of Regents is working with funded agencies to fill service area gaps to the degree possible.

Sixty-eight out of 87 applicants will be providing ABLE services, of which 13 are consortia comprised of multiple agencies. Twenty-two out of 36 EL/Civics grantees were approved. The lists of FY 2010 approved agencies for both grants are attached.

We appreciate all applicant agencies and the work they do to support adult learners. Regardless of ABLE funding, we hope that they will continue to partner with our office and other provider agencies.

Congratulations to FY 2010 ABLE and EL/Civics grantees! We look forward to the year ahead as we continue to help adults with their education and employment goals.

Using CCIP for FY 2010 ABLE and EL/Civics grants

This year, as in the past, the Ohio Board of Regents State ABLE Program is requiring all grantees to use the budget process in the Ohio Department of Education's (ODE) Comprehensive Continuous Improvement Plan (CCIP) to manage funds. This will allow grantees to continue to use the automatic "Project Cash Request" (PCR) and "Final Expenditure Report" (FER) functions for the grant finances.

To use these functions, certain elements will have to be placed into CCIP before the grantee can access the FY 2010 funds. The CCIP process for the FY 2010 ABE and EL/Civics grants have been designed to eliminate much of the input. See the guidance document attached and follow the directions provided.

Before you begin entering information into CCIP, the ABE and EL/Civics funds must be loaded into the system by the Ohio Department of Education. This should be completed by the end of this week. If you have any questions about the process for entering the information into CCIP, contact your State ABE Program Staff representative at the Ohio Board of Regents.

CASAS

The Comprehensive Student Assessment Systems, CASAS, are approved ABE/ASE and ESOL assessments in ABE. For programs to purchase and administer these tests, at least one person from the program must complete a full-day face-to-face training. He/she may then train local staff to administer the tests. A CASAS ESOL training, focusing on the Reading and Listening tests will be offered in August, if there is a need. Please contact Donna Albanese at dalbanese@regents.state.oh.us or 614.466.6204 by July 31st if you are interested in attending the CASAS ESOL training.

National Update - taken from:



June 2009 Policy Update

Workforce Investment Act

It now appears that we will not have a reauthorization bill for the Workforce Investment Act until the fall.

In the Senate, consideration of WIA has been postponed while the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions considers health care reform legislation. Similar legislation is also under consideration in the House Committee on Education and Labor.

The Senate HELP Committee has scheduled a hearing on WIA for July 16. **Kathy Cooper from the Washington state staff** is one of the witnesses. The remaining witness list has not been released yet.

National Institute for Literacy

Associated with the reauthorization of WIA is the issue of the future of the National Institute for Literacy (NIFL). The President's budget proposes eliminating NIFL and transferring the funds to the U.S Department of Education's Office of Vocational and Adult Education (OVAE). Even though

NIFL has served the field well for over a decade, the last few years it has been plagued with problems causing the President to recommend its elimination.

At the present time, there are at least two groups working on recommendations for authorizing a new national institute or center. The draft bill authored by Congressmen Patrick Kennedy (D-RI) and Ruben Hinojosa (D-TX) continued NIFL with some modifications. However, it is uncertain as to whether or not other Members of Congress are willing to go against the wishes of the President.

The National Coalition for Literacy has put together a working group considering changes to current law that would address some of the concerns raised in the 2010 Budget proposal. NAEPDC is part of the working group and has had conversations with appropriations staff members about options for a national center or institute.

Appropriations

The House Appropriations Committee's Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services and Education will markup their 2010 spending bill on Friday, July 10. The Senate Subcommittee will markup its 2010 funding measure on July 21. NAEPDC has been working with Committee staff to encourage them to include not only the increased funding proposed by the Administration, but additional funding to further address the problem created when OVAE had to change the census data used for the formula for distributing adult education funding among the states.

Both the House and Senate bills will still be considered by the Full House and Senate Appropriations Committees and the Full House and Senate, so there will be additional opportunities to increase funds if these initial Subcommittee markups do not include funding increases for adult education programs.

Even Start

During testimony before the House Appropriations Committee's Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services and Education, Secretary of Education Arne Duncan was questioned by Congresswomen Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) and Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-CA) questioned the wisdom of eliminating Even Start by pointing out that it was the only early childhood education program that also focused on the importance of educating parents.

On the authorization side, a small group of individuals, including former Congressman Bill Goodling, has been visiting Congressional offices mustering support for continuing Even Start, possibly with a new name and some program modification. So far, the visits have been very positive.

Quote of the Week

“When the door of happiness closes, another opens; often we look so long at the closed door that we don't see the one which has opened for us.” – Helen Keller