

ADULT WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
FRIDAY FACTS
FROM STATE PROGRAM STAFF
ADULT BASIC AND LITERACY EDUCATION
September 18, 2009

Stackable Certificates

The Stackable Certificates Initiative is an important initiative that provides accessible pathways for adults preparing for career-relevant postsecondary education and training. The Stackable Certificates Initiative, also, directly supports the Chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents' goal of increasing the number of students enrolling in postsecondary education and training. Because the initiative is a formal process, all programs participating must follow the Stackable Guidance when issuing the certificates. The guidance document will be coming out early next week. Please review the process before you begin issuing the certificates.

ABLE programs are not required to participate in the Stackable Certificates Initiative but are encouraged to do so. FY 2010 is the first year for the formal issuing of the certificates, thus it is considered a pilot year. Revisions will be made in the process based upon what is learned from field use.

Ohio ABLE Technology Point Person Clarification

Technology is an important tool for adult education. To utilize technology to its fullest, ABLE staff need to have a basic familiarity with computer operations and common applications.

We have appreciated your cooperation in assigning a Technology Point Person (TPP) for your programs; however, a point of clarification is needed. Some programs have asked if non-ABLE grant funded personnel can formally be approved as the TPP. We understand the rationale that this can stretch limited grant funds. Our office has decided

that the approved TPP must be supported by ABLE grant funds, at least partially. This gives ABLE programs administrative authority to manage this position's function. It also gives programs the capacity to reference professional development needs of this staff person in their FY 2010 Individual Professional Development Plan (IPDP) as well as the Program Professional Development Plan (PPDP).

We appreciate your continued understanding and cooperation with this initiative.

Release of ABLELink2010

Thanks for everyone's patience! The ABLELink2010 program is available for download on the OLRC's ABLELink site (click on Secure Login) for all FY2010 ABLE programs.

Following are the major changes in ABLELink2010. The programs now have the ability to:

- 1.) Enter supplemental and transition assessments (located on the Exit Form)
- 2.) Create a Student Achievement Report (SAR) (located under Reports)
- 3.) Record students' attainment of Stackable Certificates and corresponding certificate numbers
- 4.) Identify "Increased involvement in community activities" on the EL/Civics report

In addition, programming issues, forms, and reports have been cleaned up and amended to be easier to use.

Stackable Certificate templates and the Certificate Tracking Form have also been included. Look for more information on this coming from the State ABLE Program.

Please contact Technical Support at 800.765.2897 or ablelink@literacy.kent.edu if you need assistance downloading and installing ABLELink2010.

Student Achievement Record

The State ABLE Program is pleased to introduce the new Student Achievement Record (SAR). The SAR is a document that programs and students may use to report student achievement for assisting the students' transition to postsecondary education.

The Transitions Task Force, led by the Northwest ABLE Resource Center, recommended the key data elements contained in the record as well as the design. The data elements are all available as information entered into ABLELink. The SAR is

populated electronically through an easy process that will be described in a guidance document.

The Student Achievement Record is intended to be a resource to help students build their USO ABLE transitions portfolios. It is not a required document but all students should be made aware that they can request the SAR at any time. It would make most sense to generate this record upon a student's exit from the program.

The guidance document with specific information about how to begin generating this report will be available soon. Please watch for it.

ABLE Data Match Update

Due to the transfer of ABLE from the Ohio Department of Education to the Ohio Board of Regents, all interagency agreements for data matching needed to be redone and approved by each state agency's administrations and legal departments. The agreements are in the final stages of approvals. As soon as they are finalized, matches will be conducted and returned to programs for reporting. The State ABLE Office will send out a message when this begins. Thank you for your patience.

University System of Ohio's Statewide Leadership Conference

All ABLE program leaders are invited to attend a great opportunity, the Statewide Leadership Conference. This conference will be held on **October 19, 2009**, from **10:00 AM to 4:00 PM** at the **Nationwide and Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center** (2201 Fred Taylor Drive, Columbus, OH 43210). The conference is sponsored by Ohio Shifting Gears, an Ohio Board of Regents project, underwritten by a grant from the Joyce Foundation. Please take advantage of this opportunity to increase your knowledge of and engagement with Ohio's *Ten-Year Strategic Plan for Higher Education*, and network with your partners in education from community colleges, ABLE, and Adult Workforce Education.

Please register for the University System of Ohio's Statewide Leadership Conference no later than Oct 09, 2009. Please note: In order to register for this event, you must be a registered user of Hall Pass, an online user account system managed by eTech Ohio. To obtain a Hall Pass account, please complete the application at www.etch.ohio.gov by clicking on [Create One Now](#).

Once you have completed the application, and received a confirmation email, you can begin the registration process at www.otech.ohio.gov/shiftinggears . A \$20 per person registration fee will be charged for this event and should be paid during the online R.S.V.P. process.

Additional conference materials pertaining to this event will be posted online, rather than distributed at the event, so please periodically check the website for updates. Feel free to contact David Hamilton, Shifting Gears Coordinator, at (740) 674-4851 with any questions regarding the conference.

LD Policy and Planning Guide

The Central/Southeast ABLÉ Resource Center is currently revising and updating the content of the online FY 2010 LD Policy and Planning Guide. Please do not access the Guide at this time. It will be available for programs to access and update after October 15, 2009. At that time, you will be provided with guidance on the process for completing these forms.

State Directors' Meeting

As in the past, we would like to honor retirees at the State Directors' Meeting in November. If you are retiring or you know someone who has retired, please let us know. We need the name of the individual, the program he/she retired from, and any "gems" about him/her. Also, please include the contact information for the individual so we can extend an invitation to them for the luncheon. Forward this information to Donna Albanese at the State ABLÉ Program by October 15th. The form can be e-mailed to dalbanese@regents.state.oh.us or faxed to 614-466-5886.

ABLE Evaluation and Design Project

As a part of the ABLÉ State Leadership Network, the mission of the ABLÉ Evaluation Design and Evaluation Project at The Ohio State University (OSU) is to support the ABLÉ system through evaluation, technical assistance and research activities that help achieve the annual and strategic goals defined in the Ohio ABLÉ State Plan.

Practitioner input is vital to OSU's work. The project regularly convenes advisory groups and task forces as well as gathers survey responses from ABLÉ program staff. In recent fiscal years, for instance, with the help of ABLÉ program content experts, OSU has revised the ABE/ASE content standards, developed competencies for the Stackable

Certificates Initiative and facilitated the development of the ABLE Transitions Framework.

All programs have been mailed a packet introducing the ABLE Evaluation and Design Project at OSU. We hope that programs will take time to review this material and consider participating in the project's task force, advisory committee, and other initiatives.

If you or your staff would like to participate on an OSU committee, please complete the participant form at the link below or contact Traci Lepicki directly (614-292-7033 or lepicki.1@osu.edu).

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=flud5FT5N5krevkGQnfCpw_3d_3d

ESOL Training

The purpose of ABLE's Professional Development System is to assist adult education practitioners in developing skills and gaining knowledge to support improved student achievement and to ensure the program meets the intent and requirements of the grant. Starting this year, all teachers and support staff who work directly with ESOL students are required to complete *ESOL Basics* training within one year of hire.

Since most programs are now offering ESOL classes, it is important that the local staff are prepared for training language acquisition. The *ESOL Basics* training has been revised to include information about the characteristics of adult learners, the factors that affect language learning, and the principles of language acquisition. Veteran teachers are also encouraged to consider taking *ESOL Basics* if they are not ESOL certified, licensed or have a state endorsement. (*OR, if the concepts of fossilization, productive vs. receptive skills, reduction or acquisition are foreign to them!*)

To better serve the needs of the ESOL teachers support staff in the state, we need to know how many staff members need to take this course this year. Please take a few minutes to complete this two-question survey.

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=pEF_2f_2fRLxHLFTYTPMxbG6bQ_3d_3d

This will help us determine where and how much training we will be offering. Thank you.

For veteran ESOL teachers, the Resource Center Network (RCN) is offering an opportunity to attend the Ohio TESOL Conference. Attached is conference information. Contact the Northeast ABLE Resource Center with any questions either by e-mail, info@neable.org or by phone, 1- 800-361-7076.

Reminders

1. New ABLÉ Administrators' Orientation

The New ABLÉ Administrators' Orientation is **Thursday, October 1, 2009**, at the State Library of Ohio in Columbus. Registration begins at 9:00 am; the meeting will start promptly at 9:30. If you are planning to attend, please contact Jeff Gove at jgove@regents.state.oh.us by September 21st. After you are registered, you will receive additional information as to how to prepare for this important meeting.

2. Ohio Statewide Professional Development Day

The Fall Professional Development Day is **Friday, October 2, 2009** at the Online Computer Library Center (OCLC) in Columbus. For a map, to OCLC go to: <http://www.oclc.org/us/en/about/headquarters/maps/dublin.htm>

3. Important dates to remember for program management

- FY2009 Schedule A due September 25, 2009
- FY 2010 1st Quarter ABLELink Report due September 30, 2009
- FY 2009 Data Certification Checklist due September 25, 2009
- FY 2010 PPDP and IPDP forms due to OBR September 25, 2009
- FY 2009 FER's for CCIP grants submitted electronically by September 30, 2009

Quote of the Week



"The man who does not read good books is no better than the man who can't."

— Mark Twain