



State of Arizona  
Department of Education

Tom Horne  
Superintendent of  
Public Instruction

**MEMO**

**TO:** Mr. Robert Burns  
President, Arizona State Senate

Mr. Kirk Adams  
Speaker, Arizona House of Representatives

**FROM:** Karen Liersch  
Deputy Associate Superintendent, Adult Education Services

**DATE:** December 8, 2009

**RE:** **A.R.S. 15-232 Semiannual Report to the Arizona Legislature from  
Adult Education Services: June 1, 2009 – November 30, 2009)**

The Arizona Adult Education System consistently ranks in the top quartile of all states, producing over 2 grade levels of educational gains per student for less than \$1300 annually. Additional data from the U.S. Department of Labor reports that adults who complete Adult Secondary Education and earn their high school diploma by passing the GED Test earn an additional \$9000+ annually in taxable wages, producing tax revenue at both the state and federal levels almost immediately (in FY 2009 over 13,000 Arizona adults earned their high school diploma by passing the GED Test).

Arizona Adult Education Services (AES) intensified monitoring of state funded programs in FY 2009 and found 100% of monitored programs to be in compliance with the Proposition 300 amendment to ARS 15-232. Of the 18,488 people who applied for instruction in Arizona Adult Education during the reporting period, 523 people (2.82% percent) were denied instruction because they failed to provide acceptable evidence of citizenship or legal residence in the United States. The following table provides current and historical state totals for the number of people (1) who are waitlisted for classes in each AES service area, (2) who applied for classes, and (3) who were denied enrollment under the Proposition 300 amendment to ARS 15-232 during the reporting period.

**Arizona Adult Education ARS 15-232 Compliance Report Comparison June 2007 to December 2009**

<b><u>ARS Report Date:</u></b>	<b><u>Waitlist ABE/ASE*</u></b>	<b><u>Waitlist ELAA**</u></b>	<b><u>Waitlist TOTAL</u></b>	<b><u>ARS 15-232 Applicants</u></b>	<b><u>ARS 15-232 Service Denials</u></b>
<b>December, 2009</b>	<b>4775</b>	<b>3020</b>	<b>7795</b>	<b>18,488</b>	<b>523</b>
June, 2009	4048	2551	6599	19,040	890
December, 2008	4025	2877	6902	20,060	470
June, 2008	3347	2703	6050	16,373	771
December, 2007	3151	2434	5585	18,276	1149
June, 2007	2342	4382	6724	11,931	1403

\* ABE: Adult Basic Education (Reading, Writing, Math through 8th grade)  
 \* ASE: Adult Secondary Education (Reading, Writing, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies: grades 9-12)  
 \*\* ELAA: English Language Acquisition for Adults