

# **AZ Adult Education**

# News to Use - June 2025

#### From the State Director...

#### Estimated Adult Education State Award Amounts Released for FY2025

The Department of Education-Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education, released the estimated grant funds each State will be awarded for FY 2025 (July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026) under the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (AEFLA), Title II of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). The Full-Year Appropriations and Extension Act, 2025, provides \$629,600,400 in formula grants to States to carry out adult education and literacy activities. This represents level funding for the national basic adult education formula grant program in comparison to the appropriation for this current FY 2024.

The FY 2025 Basic State Grant for Arizona is \$14,697,799 and represents level funding from FY 2024. It's important to note that these grant funds do not include Section 243 funds (IELCE). Per DOE-OCTAE, no final decisions had been made regarding FY 2025 IELCE state grant allocations. The continuation of the Basic State Grants is good news for FY 2025 and the adult education students we serve.

# FY2025-2026 WIOA Title II Adult Education PRELIMINARY Grant Award Letters Sent to Contracted Adult Education Providers

On May 16, the preliminary Grant Award Notification (GAN) for Year Two of the *FY 2025-2028 WIOA Title II Arizona Adult Education Grant* contract was sent to adult education providers. Please note, the grant award allocation included in the notification letter is contingent on <u>available Federal and State funding</u>. Final grant award notifications will be sent AFTER the state office receives official notification of the Federal and State funding awarded to ADE for Title II for FY 2025-2026

#### <u>Update: Annual Business Meeting and Assessment Coordinator Webinars</u>

The Arizona Adult Education Annual Business Meeting and the Annual Assessment Coordinator meeting are currently on hold pending final funding notification from the DoE-Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education and the Arizona State Budget Office. We will schedule these meetings as soon as possible and will continue to update you on new information as we receive it.

#### Congratulations to the Class of 2025 AZ HSE Graduates!

Thank you to the adult education programs and staff for providing educational services, coaching, support, and encouragement to adult education students during this program year. And, special thanks for planning and coordinating the celebrations for your HSE, ELL, and IET graduates, and their

families and friends. The AES staff love attending your graduations and celebrating with you and your students!

Please continue to send us pictures of your celebrations!



**Cochise College Adult Education** 



**Central Arizona College Adult Education** 



**Mesa Adult Education** 



**Santa Cruz County Adult Education** 

#### **Building Stronger Workforce Connections Across Arizona**

ADE's Career and Technical Education (CTE) and Adult Education and High School Equivalency (HSE) Services sections have been hosting meetings as part of a statewide initiative. The *Student Industry Partnership (SIP)*, has been launched to strengthen Arizona's workforce pipeline.

The Regional Ecosystem Workforce Development Collaborative meetings in Yuma County, Pima / Santa Cruz Counties, Cochise County, and Graham / Greenlee Counties have brought together a wide range of local partners— CTE administrators, CTED school superintendents, Title II program administrators, community colleges, ARIZONA@WORK administrators, and regional employers – all working together to strengthen career pathways and support workforce readiness for students of all ages in our communities.

Each meeting featured a warm welcome from the host organization, a look at local labor market and economic trends, and updates on CTE and Adult Education programs. Attendees also participated in roundtable discussions to share ideas and explore ways to better align education and training with the needs of local employers. The conversations were rich with insight and collaboration, and they highlighted the importance of working together to prepare Arizonans for success in today's job market.

Thank you to Arizona Western College (Yuma), Pima Community College (Tucson), Cochise College (Sierra Vista), and Eastern Arizona College (Thatcher) for hosting the events. The next meeting will be in Navajo / Apache Counties at Northland Pioneer College — Snowflake/Taylor on June 16. Stay tuned for more updates as this important work continues across the state through 2025!



Eastern Arizona College - May 22, 2025

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### **Fiscal Services**

#### **Adult Education Program GME Reminders**

- FY 2025 FINAL grant award <u>Reimbursement Requests</u> are due in approvable form <u>before or by June 15, 2025</u>. Contact <u>janice.cruz@azed.gov</u> with questions.
- FY 2025 FINAL <u>Funding Application Revisions</u> must be submitted prior to the end of the project (before June 30, 2025) to allow for sufficient time for review and approval as well as any potential required edits (<u>2 CFR 200.211 (b)(5) and (b)(6)</u>). If a revision is submitted on June 30, 2025, it may be cancelled. No exceptions.
- GME Virtual Technical Assistance is available with your assigned Grants Coordinator to assist with submitting Reimbursement Requests, Completion Reports, or other processing needs. Please contact 602-542-3901, option 2, to schedule a virtual technical assistance session.
- FY 2026 funding applications listed below must be submitted by June 30, 2025, to be substantially approved to obligate and expend funds starting on July 1, 2025.
  - o Adult Education Consolidated Continuation
  - o Adult Education Workforce System Federal

# **Program Operations & Accountability**

#### Reporting

Semi-Annual Eligibility & Waitlist Report: Program directors should have received an email with the link to complete the report form for the period of December 2024 – May 2025. If you did not receive the email, please contact your liaison immediately. This report is due by June 15.

#### Year-End Reports:

- Templates for the following reports were sent to program directors on May 28. If you
  did not receive the email, please contact your liaison. These reports are due by July
  31.
  - Final Year-End Narrative Report
  - IET Validation Report
  - Career and Training Services Report
- Additionally, the Professional Learning Report will be due by July 31. There is no template for this; it will be the final version of the PLIP with the revisions of what was done throughout the year.
- **Open Office Hours** will be held on the dates shown below and will be for drop-ins. The dates also contain hyperlinks to join the Teams meeting rooms. *No registration is needed*, and there is no requirement to attend.
  - June 19, 2025: 10:00a 12:00p
  - July 9, 2025: 2:00p 4:00p
  - July 24, 2025: 1:00p 3:00p

#### **Current Title II Program Data as of April 2025**

The PY2024-25 Arizona Minimum Target Performance Measures (MSGs) is 43%.

Statewide Enrollment	Enrollment: 18,523 Total Qualified PoPs: 13,043
Statewide MSG Rate	44.5%
Statewide Progress Test Rate	52.1%
Statewide Progress Test Success Rate	57.2%
Average Attendance Hours Per ABE Students (Statewide)	71 hours
Average Attendance Hours Per ELL Students (Statewide)	84 hours

Next steps: Analyze your program's current MSG Rate and Average Attendance Hours.

## **High School Equivalency Services**

#### **GED® Mathematical Reasoning Test**

GED Testing Services recently discovered a single-select multiple-choice question (item) within one test form of the GED® Mathematical Reasoning test that included two correct responses. Upon discovery, the test form with the item in question was removed from operational testing, the question was revised, and the revised test form was then made operational.

#### Discovery of Mathematical Reasoning Question that Required Action

- During a routine review of test materials by the Psychometrics team, one single-select multiple-choice question (item) was identified on one test form of the GED®
   Mathematical Reasoning test that required action.
- This review identified that the item contained two possible correct options, but only one option was scored as correct.
- The item in question was operational from January 1, 2025, through March 31, 2025.

#### Actions Taken

- Upon identification of the item in question, immediate steps were taken to remove from circulation the test form in which it appeared, the item was revised, and the revised test form was made operational.
- An internal audit has been conducted to confirm that no other test forms contain similar errors.

#### Impact

- We conducted a thorough analysis to identify all candidates who, when awarded the additional point:
  - would have passed the GED® Mathematical Reasoning Test
  - would have achieved the GED® Credential
  - would have achieved the GED® College Ready status
  - would have achieved the GED® College Ready + Credit status

#### Next Steps

- All affected tests will be rescored to award one additional point to all candidates who
  chose the unintended second correct response in the item but did not receive credit.
  Rescoring should be completed within two weeks.
- Communication will be sent to affected candidates in the four focal categories informing them of the situation and the impact on their status.
- Refunds will be issued to affected candidates in the four focal categories who
  registered for and took another GED® Mathematical Reasoning test after taking the
  test form with the item in question.
- Revised Parchment transcripts will be provided at no cost to affected candidates in the four focal categories.

# **Teaching & Learning**

#### **Curricula Changes**

#### Closeout

- The Adult Education EdReady site will no longer be accessible after June 30, 2025. If you or
  your teachers need to retain any reporting data, we strongly encourage you to download it
  before June 30, 2025, as it will not be available once the Arizona site is retired.
- For students who may benefit from continued use of EdReady, feel free to direct them to EdReady's public site at <a href="https://edready.org">https://edready.org</a>. While the public version does not support

- customized scopes/goals or reporting features, learners can still work independently to strengthen their math and English skills using the available learning paths.
- If your organization would like to purchase an EdReady subscription, please contact Angie Smajstrla at <a href="mailto:asmajstrla@nroc.org">asmajstrla@nroc.org</a>.

#### **Education Workplace and Computer Essentials Closeout**

- Essential Education's Workplace and Computer Essentials state purchased seats will no longer be available after June 30, 2025. Programs utilizing these seats have received an email notification.
- This change **does not** impact your access to GED and TABE Academy at this time.

If your program would like to purchase Workplace and/or Computer Essential seats, please contact Derek Papa at <a href="mailto:derek@essentialed.com">derek@essentialed.com</a>

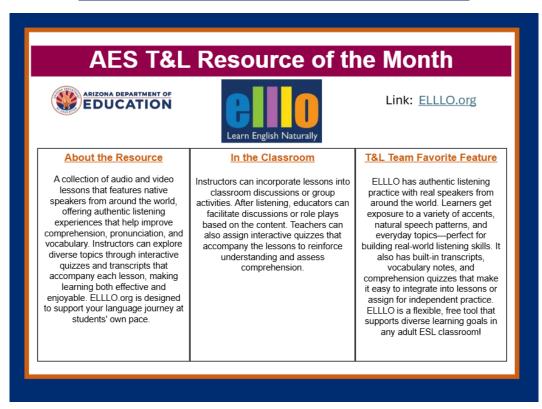
#### The Arizona Talking Books Library – A Valuable Statewide Resource

The Arizona Talking Book Library provides free audio book delivery/downloadable services to the visually impaired, physically limited, and print disabled throughout the state; any person who cannot read standard print, hold a book, or turn pages is eligible for this free service. www.azlibrary.gov/talkingbooks.

All business is conducted by phone, email, fax, and USPS postal service, and the library is delivered to the eligible client. Each person has direct access to their own personal librarian, and receives materials, including the player and headphones, free of charge. The **Talking Book Library** is a full-service library and "reading" materials come in either audio or braille formats.

Medical and education professionals can certify the application for service. The library also provides services to the organizations that support our clients. Once an application is completed and signed, please email it to <a href="mailto:apply@azlibrary.gov">apply@azlibrary.gov</a>.

#### Teaching & Learning Resource of the Month - June 2025



## **Upcoming Training and Events**



Teaching & Learning Webinar Series

# VISUALIZE CLASSROOM DATA

Discover Key Tools to Inform Instruction

Part 1: June 4th 3:00-4:00 PM

Part 2: June 18th 3:00-4:00 PM

Bring your classroom data to life without needing to know how to code or be a graphic designer. Join Kenneth in the exploration of three no-code data visualization tools: Flourish, Datawrapper, and Canva Graphs. In this session we will demonstrate tracking student progress in a visually meaningful way, create an infographic to showcase TABE test scores and attendance correlations, and take a guided journey through a lesson content data sets. No prior data analysis required. Bring your own data or use our sample data to follow along!



Contact Us:





#### **Arizona HSE Diploma Pathways: Reviews and Updates**

This webinar is designed for College and Career Navigators at state Adult Education programs.

Participants are expected to have a solid understanding of the three approved Arizona HSE Diploma pathways, as this session will only provide reviews and updates.

Wednesday, June 18, 2025, 11:00a - 12:30p

#### **REGISTER NOW**

#### PY2025-26 July Teaching & Learning Webinar Series

Join Jennifer Lane, ADE-Adult Education Services, for *Clever Creations with Canva*, a hands-on webinar designed specifically for instructors looking to bring creativity and digital literacy into their classrooms using Canva.

In this two-part session, you'll explore innovative ways to use Canva's free tools to support reading, writing, math, and digital skills development. Learn how to guide adult learners in creating personalized learning materials. You'll also discover strategies for collaborative projects that build confidence and foster community. Whether you're new to Canva or looking to expand your toolkit, these sessions will leave you inspired and ready to design with purpose.

Part I: Wednesday, July 9, 2025, 3:00p - 4:00p

Part II: Wednesday, July 23, 2025, 3:00p - 4:00p

#### **REGISTER NOW**

#### Reminder for Self-paced Courses Ending June 30, 2025

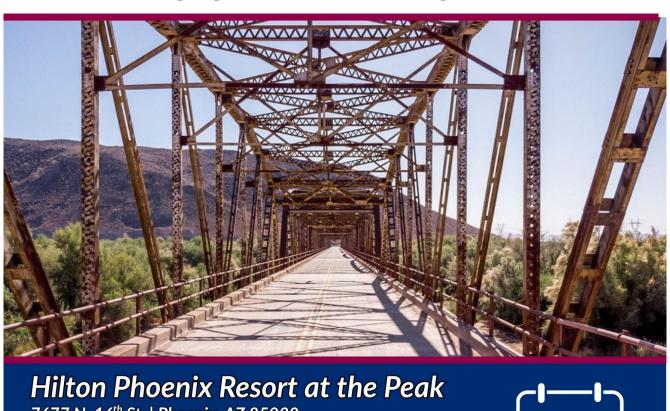
New registrations for the PY2024-2025 AES self-paced courses will close on June 15, 2025. If you are currently enrolled in a self-paced course, you will receive an email notification the last week in May to remind you to complete the current course/s before June 30, 2025.

Please note, if you are registered and do not complete the self-paced course by June 30, 2025, you will automatically be dropped from the course and will need to reregister for next year's section after July 1, 2025. Contact Kari Ann Patrick Albert or Carolyn Urish if you have questions.

# Arizona Adult Education Institute

September 4 - 6, 2025

**Upskilling for Tomorrow:** Bridging Skills and Building Futures



7677 N. 16<sup>th</sup> St. | Phoenix, AZ 850<u>20</u>



