



News to Use September 2005

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Policy updates

TABE Locator

Based on provider input and in consultation with TABE publisher CTB McGraw-Hill, KYAE has revised its policy language regarding the use of the Locator in administering the TABE assessment. This change was announced by e-mail on

August 19. For details, see the Policy and Procedures Manual and History of Changes at www.kyae.ky.gov/policy .

OVAE-required policy changes

In late May, representatives from the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Vocational and Adult Education (OVAE), met with KYAE staff and visited programs in Jefferson and Fayette counties. As a result of the visit, OVAE is requiring revisions in KYAE's assessment policy regarding post-testing, accommodated testing and the use of the A-LAS assessment. KYAE has submitted a revised assessment policy, which must be approved by OVAE before disseminating to providers. KYAE will communicate the changes as soon as possible upon OVAE approval.

Other OVAE-required changes include already completed enhancements to AERIN as follows:

- When an assessment scale score is entered, the NRS functional level is automatically populated in AERIN and the appropriate goal for completing that educational level is selected. When entering the post-assessment scale score, it must be from a different form of the assessment than the pre-test. Based on the scale score of the post-assessment, AERIN will automatically determine if an educational gain has been made.
- KYAE has added an AERIN screen to collect daily student contact hours. By policy, providers will be required to report daily hours by the 10th of the month for the previous month. The NRS definition of contact or attendance hours is "hours of instruction or instructional activity the learner receives from the program. Instructional activity includes any program-sponsored activity designed to promote student learning in the program curriculum, such as classroom instruction, assessment, tutoring or participation in a learning lab. (Note: Time spent on assessment can be counted only if the assessment is designed to inform placement decisions, assess progress or inform instruction. Time used to take the GED test, for example, cannot be counted as instructional activity.)"

Policy on location of service provision

Adult education providers are reminded of KYAE's policy on the location of service provision – "Fiscal agents shall provide services only in the counties for which they have contracted," p. 4, KYAE Policy and Procedure Manual at www.kyae.ky.gov/policy .

Fee for service policy

A recent question was raised about whether providers can charge for KYAE-funded services. The KYAE Policy and Procedure Manual states, "County adult education providers shall not charge students or employers for instructional or other

services that are covered by state and federal adult education funds.” See p. 4 of the manual at www.kyae.ky.gov/policy .

KYAE conference confirmation

If you have registered for the 2005 KYAE conference on September 19-21 in Louisville and have not received a confirmation, please contact Pam Franklin at (270) 831-9649 or Pamela.Franklin@kctcs.edu.

Funding recalculation

As announced previously, adult educators are reminded that the National Assessment of Adult Literacy and Kentucky Assessment of Adult Literacy results will be available in fall 2005. The new literacy data will potentially demonstrate a change in the percentage of Kentuckians at the two lowest levels of literacy in the counties. Applying the funding formula to the new literacy data and the latest census data may result in changes to base funding for the 2006-07 fiscal year.

KYAE is looking for math expertise

KYAE and others are partnering with the University of Louisville to write a U.S. Department of Education grant proposal that could afford Kentucky the opportunity to develop formative mathematics assessments that align with the new content standards. If the grant is awarded, KYAE plans to assemble several committees to write mathematics test items.

If you or someone you know has an expertise in mathematics and would be interested in serving on a committee and devoting approximately 20 days per year during a potential four-year grant period (accompanied by a stipend and travel expenses reimbursement), please respond by e-mailing Dr. Jacqueline Korengel at jacquelinee.korengel@ky.gov by COB **September 19, 2005**. The e-mail should include a biography (detailing the individual’s mathematics and adult education expertise) of no more than two pages that will be included in the grant proposal. Since this is a grant that has yet to be awarded and committee membership is limited, expressed interest does *not* guarantee selection to serve on a committee.

Second family literacy evaluation underway

KYAE has contracted with Thomas, Warren and Associates (TWA) to conduct a follow-up evaluation to its first family literacy program evaluation released June 2004 (see <http://www.kyae.ky.gov/reports/>). The intent of the evaluation is to identify best practices, trends over time and characteristics of high performance to assist KYAE with

improving the quality of family literacy services statewide. TWA, which conducted the first family literacy evaluation, anticipates using several research methodologies during this evaluation, including a Web survey, focus groups and case studies.

If you are contacted or in some other way requested to contribute during the information-gathering phase, please help TWA secure the best information possible. Thank you for your enthusiasm and cooperation during this process. If you have questions, please contact Dr. Jacqueline Korengel at jacquelinee.korengel@ky.gov.

Revised GED regulation in effect

A revised GED eligibility regulation went into effect on August 25. Information about the changes is available on the Web at:

- [Summary of changes](#)
- [News release](#)
- [Revised KYAE-6 form](#)

The GED Office has updated the Adult Educator's Handbook to reflect these changes. The eligibility requirements, a correctly completed KYAE-6 form with explanations, and the additional demographic questions have been added to the handbook.

The Adult Educator's Handbook section on accommodations has also been updated.

AERIN update

Adult educators may enter data into AERIN. Please remember to make sure all staff members are active in AERIN and to enter new staff.

New KYAE staff member

Marilyn Lyons has joined KYAE as a senior associate for program analysis. She will be involved in providing data-driven analysis of program performance, evaluation of performance and the relationship to instructional strategies and program best practices.

Most recently, Marilyn was an assistant dean for faculty and programs at The Graduate School, University of Kentucky. She earned a master's degree in educational policy studies and a bachelor's degree in anthropology, both from UK. Marilyn fills a vacancy created when a staff member transferred to another position within CPE.

Marilyn can be reached at (502) 573-5114 or Marilyn.Lyons@ky.gov.

Organizational Leadership doctorate

Western Kentucky University is determining the need for a doctoral-level program in Organizational Leadership and would like input from adult educators through a survey available at [Organizational Leadership Survey](#). Please take a few minutes to complete this important survey by **September 15**.

PD update

PDtrack

PDtrack, a new KYAE Web-based system for enrolling in, planning and professional development, will be operational in October. KYAE will provide training information available later this month. A description of PDtrack is available at www.kyae.ky.gov/pd.

PD Handbook

The 2005-06 Professional Development Handbook: A New Framework for Learning was mailed to county adult education providers in late August. Handbooks for counties in educational co-ops were mailed to Bill Bates, Jim King and Rocky Wallace. The handbook, which is also available online at [handbook](#), outlines professional development unit (PDU) requirements and the many options of meeting those requirements.

ESL

Maurice White of the Adult Education Academy for Professional Development wants adult educators to know about the following PD opportunities. More information about sessions is available on the PD Calendar at www.kyvae.org.

- ESL Lesson Planning I, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., September 15, Owensboro Community and Technical College.
- Workplace ESL, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., September 29, Woodford County Adult Education, Versailles.
- CASAS Implementation, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., September 30, Gheens Academy, Louisville.
- ESL Lesson Planning II, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., November 18, Central Kentucky location TBA.

Family literacy

Registration forms are available online for seven family literacy training opportunities between October 2005 and March 2006. All trainings are free to KYAE-funded programs. Go to the Kentucky Institute for Family Literacy Web site at www.famlit.org/kifl to download the registration forms.

Daviess County workforce education spotlighted

A workforce education project by the Daviess County Adult Education program is spotlighted in a recently released report by the Council on Advancement of Adult Literacy (CAAL). The Owensboro Community and Technical College's project with Owensboro Medical Health Systems is one of six programs profiled in the report.

"To Reach the First Rung and Higher: Building Healthcare Career Ladder opportunities for Low-Skilled Disadvantaged Adults" was co-authored by Forrest P. Chisman and Gail Spangenberg. The report is based on various CAAL explorations including an in-depth review of six exemplary career ladder programs offered in various institutional settings: a union, a hospital, a community-based organization (CBO), and three community colleges in partnership with an array of medical centers. The programs are profiled in depth and the authors discuss their principle findings based on CAAL's research to date. The paper contains ideas and suggestions for institutions that may want to either create a new healthcare career program for low-skilled, disadvantaged workers or improve existing programs.

The report is available at: www.caalusa.org/firstrungandhigher.pdf.

Kentucky adult educator on national workgroup

Julie Scoskie, director of the Jefferson County Adult Education program, has been asked to serve on workgroup planning a series of regional forums to foster community partnerships for improved systems of workforce training. The forums are sponsored by the Office of Vocational and Adult Education (OVAE) and the Department of Labor.

Learning for Life

KYAE has refreshed its logo by adopting a new tagline, "Learning for Life" to replace the "Go Higher" tagline that has been used for several years. County adult education providers are encouraged to use the KYAE logo on materials and signage. The new logo is available at www.kyae.ky.gov.

Bad math memories

The following is an Associated Press story by Will Lester:

People in this country have a love-hate relationship with math, a favorite school subject for some but just a bad memory for many others.

In an AP-AOL news poll, almost four in 10 adults surveyed said they hated math in school, a widespread disdain that complicates efforts today to catch up with Asian and

European students. Twice as many people said they hated math as said that about any other subject.

Still, many people – about a quarter of the population – said math was their favorite school subject, about the same number that preferred English and history, with science close behind, the poll found.

Recent studies have suggested that 15-year-olds in the United States lag behind those of the same age in Europe and Asia in math. Young people in many counties are stronger in the important subject of science, as well. Both subjects are critical in research, innovation and economic competitiveness.

New CTB McGraw-Hill representative

Peggy Levins has been named the new CTB McGraw-Hill representative for Kentucky. She replaces Connie Valentine, who was promoted to a national McGraw-Hill position. Peggy is in Tennessee and can be reached at (615) 599-6575 or peggy_levins@ctb.com.

Valuable links

The August 2005 issue of *Focus on Basics* spotlights corrections education with articles on writing, assessments, understanding inmates' learning needs and many other subjects. The newsletter is available at www.ncsall.net.

