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KENTUCKY COUNCIL ON
POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION



Kentucky
UNBRIDLED SPIRIT

Program Director Institute 2

Program Directors – Please remember to register for the 2010-2011 **KYAE Program Director Institute 2** by **April 21**. The two-day institute will be at three different locations (Somerset, Owensboro and Northern Kentucky). You may determine the site that is closest to you and fits your calendar. The program will be led by KYAE staff and includes information on KYAE Common Core Standards, the Red Flag Chart, Assessment, Instructional Technology and KYAE Updates.

AGENDA

Day 1 – 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Day 2 – 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Participation is required as follows:

- All counties are required to be represented by a program director.
- Fiscal agents with multiple counties may determine whether to send one program director to represent all counties or multiple program directors not to exceed one per county.
- Counties with multiple program directors may send only one program director.

You may register through the [PD Course Catalog](#). Details on locations and hotel reservations were provided in an April 14, 2011, e-mail and are available by [clicking here](#).

ABE to Credentials grant

KYAE, KCTCS and the Department of Workforce Investment have been awarded a \$200,000 ABE to Credentials design grant, making Kentucky eligible to develop a proposal for a \$1.6 million implementation grant. Staff members of the three agencies as well as representatives of adult education providers and community and technical colleges will be involved in the planning. The grant is a new initiative of Jobs for the Future, with funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and in partnership with Washington's State Board of Community and Technical Colleges, the National Council for Workforce Education and the National College Transition Network. More information is available by [clicking here](#).

KYAE staff changes

After more than 10 years of KYAE service, BJ Helton has announced her retirement effective April 30. BJ's leadership has led to several GED program enhancements, including digitization of paper records, streamlining the request process and development of nationally recognized GED examiner training. Please join the KYAE staff in wishing her well as she begins a new phase in her life.

Jim Thompson has transitioned to a position in the Office of Employment and Training where he is director of the Division of Workforce and Employment Services.

SkillUp Kentucky update

Seven counties are participating in six-month SkillUp Kentucky pilots, an innovative contextualized instructional program that combines GED attainment with stackable certificates and an opportunity to earn college credits toward a certification or degree program.

Participating sites:

- Bell and Harlan Counties – technology/computers
- Daviess County – allied health and construction
- Hardin County – technology/computers
- Jefferson County – allied health
- Mason County – energy/power plant operation
- Boone County – technology/computers

KET partnership

Many students are taking advantage of the KYAE/KET Partnership, which is beneficial to both adult education students and programs. Here's the partnership in a nutshell:

- Students are assessed and enrolled at an adult education center.
- Students pay \$20 and receive KET workbooks.
- They watch KET programs at home and study in KET workbooks; students may also attend classes at the local adult education center. Workbook lessons count as instructional time.
- After taking the OPT at a local adult education center and being determined test-ready, the student normally pays \$30 for a GED voucher for the test fee. Through June 30, 2011, the test fee for these partnership students will be covered by the KYAE-sponsored free testing.

KET will retain the same \$20/\$30 fee structure through 2011-12. [Click here](#) for information on the partnership process and registration forms.

Financial aid

Byrd Scholarships

Kentuckians who took the GED tests after July 2010 and achieved at least a 2700 composite score may apply for a Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship. The scholarships, worth up to \$1,500 per year, are administered by the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA).

GED graduates may apply through Zip Access at www.kheaa.com. To apply, sign in to Zip Access with your user ID and password. Those who have not used Zip Access should register to create a user ID and password. Interested GED graduates should apply as soon as possible, allowing adult education counselors adequate time to certify applicants for consideration before the June 30, 2011 deadline.

The Byrd Scholarship is named for longtime U.S. Sen. Robert C. Byrd of West Virginia, who authored the legislation establishing the program in 1985. Kentucky receives enough funding to award 90 scholarships to high school seniors and GED graduates each year. GED graduates are chosen by an independent panel, based on GED scores and adult education counselor recommendations.

For more information about Byrd Scholarships, call Danny McGaughey at (800) 928-8926, ext. 6-7391. To learn how to plan and prepare for higher education, go to www.knowhow2goky.org or www.gotocollege.ky.gov. For more information about Kentucky scholarships and grants, visit www.kheaa.com; write KHEAA, P.O. Box 798, Frankfort, KY 40602; or call (800) 928-8926, ext. 6-7372.

Go Higher grants

Adult Kentuckians interested in taking college classes may be eligible for a Go Higher Grant administered by KHEAA. The grants are available to adults age 24 or older who are enrolled in fewer than six credit hours at a participating Kentucky college or university. Applicants must show financial need. The maximum award amount is \$1,000 and covers tuition plus a book allowance of \$50 per credit hour.

To be considered for a grant, students must complete a Go Higher Grant application and the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Grant applications are available at www.kheaa.com. The FAFSA may be submitted online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. Although there is no application deadline, students are encouraged to apply as early as possible because funding is limited.

Adults Returning to School

Kentucky adults considering returning to college have a free resource to help them make decisions about higher education. Published by KHEAA, *Adults Returning to School* provides information about entrance exams, financial aid programs and Kentucky colleges and universities. It also includes information about adult education programs and GED testing centers, as well as other state programs that can help adult students. Free copies are available by e-mailing publtions@kheaa.com.

Adult education makes news across the Commonwealth

National Ad Council commercials

Commercials promoting GED attainment have begun airing on stations across Kentucky. One prominent placement was during Lexington's WKYT-TV special on the University of Kentucky men's basketball team's Final Four appearance. Watch your local stations for the [spot](#) developed by the National Ad Council.

Free GED testing

Numerous news organizations have carried stories about free GED testing. If your local media - newspapers and radio and TV stations - have not yet promoted free testing, please share the [news release](#) with them and urge them to cover this important opportunity for Kentuckians. Listen for radio commercials promoting free testing to begin soon.

Daviess County

The Owensboro Messenger-Inquirer's March 14 edition included an article about the Daviess County Adult Education Program's involvement in the KYAE SkillUp Kentucky project. See related SkillUp article in this *News to Use* issue.

Jessamine County

Misty Golden, a Jessamine County Adult Education student, was the National Student Speaker of the Year for the National Family Literacy conference in Louisville. Misty is a GED graduate, a family literacy program participant and mother of three.

Johnson County

Kentucky First Lady Jane Beshear visited the Johnson County Adult Education Program at Big Sandy Community and Technical College and spoke with program director Jennifer Leedy, instructors and students. The First Lady's visit was in recognition of Kentucky Literacy Week, February 28-March 4, during which she traveled across Kentucky to promote reading and literacy.

Logan County

The Logan County Adult Education program was recently honored with the Logan United Award given annually by the Logan County Chamber of Commerce to individuals or groups who have "gone to great lengths to make a lasting, positive impact on Logan County."

Mason County

CPE President Bob King recently visited the Mason County Adult Education Program at Maysville Community and Technical College. According to Bill Teegarden, Mason County Adult Education program director, President King spent about 30 minutes talking about GED and college prep programs with students and instructors. King also mentioned KYAE's move toward more managed classroom instruction and the importance of common core standards.

Pulaski County

The Pulaski County Adult Education program received \$5,000 from the Dollar General Literacy Foundation, which supports schools, libraries and literacy organizations.

National news

The Chronicle of Higher Education printed an excellent [article](#) summarizing the move toward a new more rigorous GED test aligned with Common Core Standards and the implications for adult education. The article also spotlights the Jefferson County Adult Education program's Educational Enrichment Services (EES) program to transition students to postsecondary education. The EES program was developed with KYAE funding.

7/8 Locators

KYAE has mailed 7/8 Locators to many programs requesting them. We are waiting for a second shipment of Locators to fulfill the remaining requests.

New GEDTS partnership

The GED Testing Service (GEDTS) has announced the creation of a new corporate entity formed jointly by ACE, the GEDTS parent company, and Pearson VUE, a leader in computer-based testing for information technology, academic, government and professional programs. This for-profit/non-profit joint venture will drive the future direction, design and delivery of the GED® testing program.

For important information on this new venture, [click here](#). At this website, you will find a news release, FAQs, fact sheets and other resources. The site also provides the ability to submit a question.

KYAE has no further information about this new GEDTS partnership but will continue to forward information as developments occur.

Adult Educator's GED® Handbook

The following items have been added to the appendices of the [Adult Educator's GED Handbook](#).

- **Sample withdrawal letters** – Please use the samples to inform your local school district of the best practice in submitting withdrawal verification for students. This requires information on school letterhead providing the student's name, SSN, DOB and withdrawal date or no enrollment this semester or year. There is also a sample letter for home school withdrawal. These are the forms test centers will expect to see.
- **Fact Sheets**
 - Superintendent's Fact Sheet
 - Judge's Fact Sheet
 - Jailer's Fact Sheet
 - Corrections Educational Officer Fact Sheet
 - Probation and Parole Officer Fact Sheet
 - Cabinet for Health and Human Services Fact Sheet
- **Special population identification documents**
 - State Agency Child
 - Department of Juvenile Justice

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- **Out-of-state score request** – GED Testing Service has developed a process to help get GED Test scores from other states for those wanting to complete the GED Tests in Kentucky. Now test-takers will no longer have to provide an official transcript with the non-passing scores from another state. Test takers will obtain the GED® Score History Report Request Form from test centers, sign section 1 and return it to the test center. The test center and GED staff will complete the process. Scores earned prior to 2002 are not available through this process. Also, this process is not for those with passing records in another state. This information is contained in the Adult Educator’s GED® Handbook, section 9.

Free ProLiteracy materials

Through May 2011, ProLiteracy is sponsoring the *Keys to Safety* Campaign, a national effort that promotes fire prevention and home safety education through local adult education and literacy programs.

ProLiteracy is providing free materials and support to help adult education, literacy, and ESL programs organize *Keys to Safety* activities in their communities, independently or in collaboration with area fire departments. Free fire safety materials for teachers and tutors to use with adult learners in instructional settings are also available through *Keys to Safety*.

Adults with limited literacy may find it difficult to read or understand critical fire safety information. Without this information, these adults and their families are at a greater risk for loss, injury or death due to fire. Adult educators can help. Find out how at <http://www.proliteracy.org/keystosafety/>. Or contact Katie Schisa, *Keys to Safety* project manager, at (315) 422-9121 ext. 250 or at firesafety@proliteracy.org

The project was made possible with funding from DHS/FEMA’s Grant Program Directorate for Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program – Fire Prevention and Safety Grants.