

NEW HAMPSHIRE
NARRATIVE REPORT 2012-2013

1. State Leadership Activities

The most successful activities supported with state leadership funds were: continued coordination for statewide staff development efforts between the State Bureau of Adult Education and the statewide staff development center located at Second Start in Concord, further improvement in the use of the state constructed NRS web-based data program, continued connections between local program staff and state level policy makers, and a wide variety of activities coordinated through the New England Literacy Resource Center located at World Education in Boston.

The Bureau of Adult Education received 5% increase in state funding for Fiscal Years 2014 and 2015.

Additional noteworthy activities included the continuation of teacher focus groups, the expansion of the work of our mentor teacher team, the Learning Disabilities Task Force and a series of specific workshops focused on aligning adult education curricula to the common core standards. The Bureau of Adult Education continued its cooperative relationships with DHHS Welfare Advisory Committee, Refugee Resettlement Committee, and Immigrant Rights Committee.

All of the activities above were included under Section 233 (a), (b) in the New Hampshire State Unified Plan, (as amended), Title II, Adult Education and Family Literacy Act.

2. Findings from Evaluations of the Effectiveness of Activities on the Core Performance Indicators.

The following observations are based upon a review of the NRS data from local programs during this program year:

- A. The percentage of students completing ABE Beginning Literacy and ABE Intermediate Low levels increased significantly from previous year.
- B. The number of students at the ESL Intermediate Low and High levels increased significantly over previous year.

3. Integration of Activities

Agencies working with the Bureau of Adult Education to provide services to adult education clients at the local level included: Post Secondary Community College System, One Stop Centers, Community Action Agencies, County jails, libraries, Vocational Rehabilitation, Employment Security, Faith-based Organizations and the state's university system. The eligible agency is represented on the State Workforce Investment Board by the Commissioner of Education with additional representation on important working committees of that body by the Director of the NH Department of Education's Division of Adult Learning and Rehabilitation. Each of the 13 local Workforce Investment Boards has representation from local adult education program providers.

A new major effort was undertaken with the seven New Hampshire community colleges. The process has resulted in the beginning of the transition process of developmental education classes from the community colleges to the adult education system.

Core and other services are provided through the One Stop system by direct referral between the organizations represented in that organization. The estimate of Title II funds used to support activities and services to clients in the One Stop system for 2012-2013 is \$376,222.

4. NH EL/Civics Report, PY 2012-2013

EL/Civics funds supported citizenship education and learning activities for 536 participants in five local programs. A variety of activities helped participants prepare for citizenship and for active involvement in their communities. All programs included community awareness activities such as visits to libraries, city halls, and community festivals and awareness about how to access local resources including public transportation, helping agencies, employment agencies, and public schools. Participants also practiced English language skills related to successful involvement in the community and the workplace.

Each local program also developed specific activities in response to the needs of their adult learners. Below are some examples:

- Dover participants reviewed all steps of the citizenship application process including the vocabulary on the N-400 form, viewed films of citizenship interviews, and participated in practice citizenship interviews with volunteer interviewers followed by individual critiques with their teacher. They discussed citizenship rights and responsibilities and wrote letters to public officials.
- Manchester Adult Learning Center offered citizenship classes during the year and added a writing class with a focus on community, incorporating American culture, history, and government in writing activities. The program also supplemented classes with personal tutorials for students close to the date of their citizenship interviews.
- Nashua students used computers to take practice citizenship tests and to research information on their city and state. They discussed the rights and responsibilities of citizenship. They also researched American history events and presented information to classmates as historical figures in character. They attended a Career and Education Fair, took part in workshops on how to apply for jobs, and practiced filling out online applications. Visitors to their class included community health representatives and the United Way asset Group which provided workshops on tax preparation and family budgets.
- Keene classes emphasized the development of community and connections to local resources. Students visited the public library several times, learning to use the resources there. They wrote letters to public officials, visited several local places of historical interest, and participated in class projects such as a large Thanksgiving dinner for their families. Students preparing for citizenship received individual instruction to help them prepare.
- At the International Institute, citizenship prep classes included U.S. history, U.S. government, and American holidays. Learning this information was combined with instruction in vocabulary and sentence patterns and with practice in speaking, reading, and writing English. Students were encouraged to become active in community and civic affairs and to vote regularly when they become citizens.

In addition, the New Hampshire Coalition for Occupational Safety and Health continued to develop and present curricula on occupational safety and workplace knowledge and skills in formats that include vocabulary, writing and speaking practice, skits and class discussion. They made presentations to 344 participants in EL/Civics classes, teaching about safety equipment, OSHA rights, caution signs, kitchen safety, and sexual harassment. COSH representatives emphasized home as well as work safety. They also continued to develop and present lessons on job hunting skills and to maintain a website with information on workplace safety, worker rights, and immigrant rights.

NEW HAMPSHIRE
STATE ADMINISTERED ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM
PROGRAM YEAR 2012-2013

CORE PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

	<u>State Plan</u>	<u>Actual</u>
ABE Beginning Literacy	42%	36%
ABE Beginning Basic	37%	38%
ABE Intermediate Low	37%	44%
ABE Intermediate High	45%	43%
ASE Low	51%	58%
ASE High		48%
ESL Beginning Literacy	39%	37%
ESL Beginning Low	47%	50%
ESL Beginning High	46%	46%
ESL Intermediate Low	33%	35%
ESL Intermediate High	36%	37%
ESL Advanced	24%	25%
Entered Employment	36%	45%
Retained Employment	55%	89%
Obtained a GED or Secondary School Diploma	88%	74%
Entered Postsecondary Education or Training	44%	16%