

THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY, NY 12234

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FROM: Marisa Boomhower, AEPP Fiscal/EPE Lead

SUBJECT: Crossroad's Café/ESL Distance Education status

We have been informed by the vendor, Intelecom Intelligent Telecommunication, that live streaming of the Crossroad's Café video series has been discontinued as of June 30, 2021. In addition, there is a shift in the publication rights for these products to a different company, National Geographic Learning. Due to these changes, the AEPP office is prepared to update the requirements for the ESL distance education for EPE funded programs.

The unavailability of the Crossroad's Cafe live streaming is disappointing, however, EPE programs may continue providing these program materials to ESL students. The Crossroad's Café program includes 26 videos in DVD format; this cost for these videos is permissible under the EPE expense structure so a program can purchase the DVDs and continue to use them with students. In addition, we have been informed that the local Public Broadcasting Stations (PBS) continue to air the 26 video episodes. The live streaming was an added feature AEPP recommended for use during the pandemic that was indeed convenient but never necessary or required.

EPE funded programs may continue using Crossroad's Café to support their ESL students. The new training that is planned to be rolled out in September will outline a new process for EPE funded programs that included ESL distance education in their FY2021/2022 EPE application. After September, those programs approved for ESL distance education, will be given an opportunity to identify additional ESL curricula that may be used in place of the Crossroad's Café learning series. However, if an EPE funded program is satisfied with the Crossroad's Café learning series, they may continue to use the series and new orders for materials can be made through the new vendor, National Geographic Learning. The link for ordering follows:

https://eltngl.com/search/showresults.do?N=4294918395+200+4294919015&Ns=Level%7C0%7 C%7CP_Product_Title%7C0

The Train the Trainer event for all three of the EPE funded home study programs is on the calendar for mid-September. The trainers will then turn key the training through each of the RAEN offices. More process details will be available, after the training, as to how programs may implement other curricula and materials within each two-week packet for the ESL distance

education programming. Until that time, programs must continue to use the Crossroad's Café materials. Should a program need further guidance regarding the materials, <u>please contact your regional RAEN director</u>.

A reminder for all EPE funded distance education programs, SMART, GRASP, and ESL, programs must continue to maintain three completed documents for every two-week packet completed by students:

- Teacher Assignment Document, one for each packet provided to students
- Student Work Time Record, one from each packet assigned and returned
- Teacher Curriculum Log, one for each packet assigned and returned

These documents are auditable and may be summoned for review by the AEPP team and the Accountability office.

Cc: Dr. Patricia Mooney, AEPP Kimberly Malcolm, AEPP Lisa Pearson, AEPP Tim Jones, AEPP