

***Syracuse Stakeholder Meeting
September 11, 2015
Crowne Plaza***

STATE PLAN for 2016

ACCES

AEPP

General Information

Handouts:

- ▶ State Plan power point presentation including web addresses and contact information
- ▶ Discussion questions

ACCES-adult education programs and policies:

<http://www.acces.nysed.gov/aepp/adult-literacy-educational-programs>

<http://www.acces.nysed.gov/hse/what-hsetasc-test>

Vision Handouts

- ▶ Vision of one-stop system (OCTAE program memorandum 15-3) at:

<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ovae/pi/AdultEd/octae-one-stop-vision.pdf>

- ▶ Vision for adult education and family literacy (OCTAE Program Memorandum 15-4) at:

<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ovae/octae-aefla-vision.pdf>

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act

4 Agency Partners Administer 6 Core Programs

- ▶ NYS Department of Labor
- ▶ NYS Commission for the Blind
- ▶ NYSED-ACCES – Adult Education Programs and Policies
- ▶ NYSED-ACCES – Vocational Rehabilitation

Plus the Trade Act making it a Combined State Plan

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act

- ▶ Signed into law July 22, 2014
- ▶ Designed to help job seekers access employment, education, training and support services to succeed in the labor market and to match employers with the skilled workers they need to compete in the global economy
- ▶ Comprehensive workforce system: quality focused, employer-driven, customer centered, and tailored to the needs of regional economies

WIOA vision (continued)

- ▶ Partner programs, including Title II Adult Education and Family Literacy, collaborate to “create a seamless, customer-focused One-Stop delivery system that integrates service delivery across all programs and enhances access to the programs’ services.”
- ▶ Pages 4-7 (OCTAE PM 15-3) provide characteristics and service design of high quality One-stop centers (newly branded as American Job Centers)

Some Key Focus Areas:

- ▶ Youth (ages 14- 24 at time of enrollment with ability to serve beyond 24)
- ▶ Priority service: Individuals with “ a barrier to employment,” including “individuals who are English language learners, individuals with low levels of literacy, and individuals facing significant cultural barriers.”
- ▶ Career pathways for all core programs
- ▶ Business engagement
- ▶ Service coordination
- ▶ Unified data and reporting on six measures

NYS Combined State Plan

- ▶ WIOA requires each state to submit a single 4-year strategic plan for core programs for preparing an educated and skilled workforce by March 3, 2016
- ▶ In NYS, plan for ACCES VR and AEPP will require Regents approval (tentatively December 2015)
- ▶ State Workforce Board discussion and Governor final approval (January/February 2016)
- ▶ Close interagency partnership in writing the plan
- ▶ Broad stakeholder input, including online review of proposed state plan on DOL website
- ▶ Final federal guidance in 2016 so that 2016-17 sets in motion steps and provides foundation for major changes

Combined State Planning in NYS

Core programs are committed to working together hand-in-glove to:

- ▶ Foster better alignment of Federal investments in job training
- ▶ Integrate service delivery across programs/break down bureaucracy
- ▶ Ensure that the workforce system is job-driven and matches employers with skilled individuals

New York State Department of Labor Workforce Development for People with Disabilities

- ▶ 95 Career Centers in 33 Local Areas
 - Career Center Locator - <http://labor.ny.gov/career-center-locator/>
- ▶ All centers provide physical and programmatic access to people with disabilities under Section 188 of WIA/WIOA and the ADA of 1990
- ▶ All people with disabilities receive priority of service
- ▶ Specialized representatives for veterans and eligible spouses
- ▶ Appropriate referrals to community resources and outside agencies

New York State Department of Labor Workforce Development for People with Disabilities

- Resource Rooms
- Workshops
- One-on-One Services
- Online Resources
 - Labor Market Information, Job Fairs, Business Information
 - www.JobZone.ny.gov and www.CareerZone.ny.gov
 - Jobs Express
- Training Opportunities
- A variety of programs and services are available to help business customers whether they are growing or contracting:
- <https://labor.ny.gov/businessservices/localcontacts/localcontactsindex.shtm>



Commission for the Blind

- ▶ New York State Commission for the Blind (NYSCB) is the state vocational rehabilitation agency that provides employment services to those residents of New York who are **legally blind**.



Commission for the Blind

- ▶ What is Legal Blindness?
- ▶ A visual acuity of 20/200 or less in the better or stronger eye with best correction, or
- ▶ A restricted field of vision of 20 degrees or less in the better or stronger eye.

If you are unsure if you or someone you know is legally blind, NYSCB can assist you in determining eligibility.

Toll Free: 1-866-871-3000

What is ACCES-VR?

- ▶ **ACCES-VR is NYS's designated vocational rehabilitation agency to serve individuals with disabilities other than those who are legally blind**
- ▶ **Variety of services, including supported employment**
- ▶ **15 District Offices across the state**
- ▶ **About 300 counselors**

ACCES-VR 2014 Performance

- ▶ **TOTAL Employment Outcomes: 12,059**
- ▶ **Average Hourly Wage at Closure: \$11.10**
- ▶ **Supported Employment Outcomes: 2,115**
- ▶ **Youth Outcomes: 5,407**
- ▶ **Individuals on SSI and SSDI Outcomes: 2,935**

ACCES-Adult Education Programs and Policies (AEPP)

NYSED's Office of ACCES-Adult Education Programs and Policies (AEPP) is NYS's designated "eligible agency" for administering and supervising WIOA Title II policy for adult education and literacy activities in the State.

New York's Adult Education System

- ▶ \$40 million in WIOA Title II funding supplements over \$104 million in state funding
- ▶ 172 adult education programs serve 115,000 adult students each year
- ▶ WIOA supports: Professional Development for over 5,500 adult education teachers and volunteers through 7 Regional Adult Education Network (RAEN) centers; statewide performance and data reporting system;
- ▶ Made in NY: 49 literacy zones support comprehensive case management and referral in high poverty communities (www.nys-education-literacyzones.org)

Public Comment Period

- for the ACCES-Adult Education Component

- ▶ E-mail: AEPolicy@nysed.gov
- ▶ Mail to: ACCES-Adult Education Programs and Policies
Room 460 EBA
89 Washington Avenue
Albany, NY 12234
- ▶ Comments used will inform draft Combined Plan
- ▶ October 2, 2015 deadline for comments

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act State Plan features

- ▶ Vision for the entire system
- ▶ Operational elements identified across the programs that support the vision
- ▶ The vision and the operational strategies are based on a thorough understanding of the economic opportunities and workforce needs of the state

Adult Education and Family Literacy (AEFL) 2016 State Plan Requirements

1. Aligning of Adult Education with “State-adopted challenging academic content standards”
2. Core funding local adult education programs, including: programs that provide such academic instruction and training concurrently (integrated education and training), postsecondary transition, and career pathways
3. Corrections Education and other institutionalized individuals
4. Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education programs

State Plan Title II (AEFL) requirements

5. State Leadership : Professional Development, RAEN centers, Accountability Technical Assistance, NYS NRS data system—ASISTS
6. Assessing Quality of providers of AEFL activities
7. Required certifications and assurances

Critical guidance not final; \$ flat

- ▶ Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRMs) not final until 2016---thousands of comments received and major issues and questions for Title II
- ▶ Proposed specifications for cross-cutting data system just released (comments September 21)
- ▶ National Reporting System (NRS) guidance not released—anticipated major changes including shortened reporting cycle (60-90 days)
- ▶ Competitive rebidding of One-stop Operators

1. Aligning with Academic Standards

- ▶ NYS leading nation in preparing 5,500 adult education teachers for rigor of common core and an academically rigorous new HSE diploma assessment (TASC)
- ▶ 2016-17 will sponsor five CUNY developed Teacher Leader institutes for 72 Teacher Leaders/Master Teachers to turn-key training in seven regions of the state through funded RAEN centers
- ▶ Two new websites dedicated to professional development: www.TeachingtotheCoreNY.org and www.CollectedNY.org; expanded ASISTS data base.
- ▶ Training and web resources expanded—career pathways, restructured EL civics, integrated education and training, digital literacy

2. Programmatic Challenges

- All local applications reviewed by local workforce boards (33) either once or twice to inform AEPP how well application aligns with local workforce plan and supports the One-stop system
- Potential restructuring of \$10 million in EL Civics programming
- How to support career pathways throughout the system, especially at lower levels of ESOL/ABE?
- Integrated Education and Training a new priority
- Mission to include HSE preparation and postsecondary transition
- Technology/digital literacy a priority
- Role of adult education in career services (Title 1)

3. Funding Challenges

- ▶ Expected guidance from OCTAE regarding re-bidding of federal funds
- ▶ Local workforce reviews must be given time to be completed and a review template developed
- ▶ Local boards, One-stop operators, approved local workforce plans will need to be in place
- ▶ Title 2 funds are fully subscribed to support a continuum of service---how balance new priorities
- ▶ Fresh look at state funding to match federal funds

4. Data Reporting and Accountability Challenges

- ▶ In NYS, performance data and ASISTS data base used for more than federal WIOA reporting (report cards, corrective action including enrollment targets; EPE State aid claims; diagnostic HSE data for TASC)
- ▶ Anticipate alignment of reporting timelines moving up National Reporting System deadlines significantly
- ▶ How count and track career pathways, co-enrollment
- ▶ Gearing up for U.I. data reporting
- ▶ Will there be sampling for employment outcomes to report performance for LEP students without SSN/Visa?
- ▶ Key measures not defined, e.g., cultural barriers

5. ASISTS Database—Key Changes

- ▶ Data interface screens will need to be updated to include barriers to employment
- ▶ Programs will need fields added to provide data collection on student status - updates as required
- ▶ Must create/maintain link to DOL database
- ▶ Collect and report employment status and wage information
 - Employer identification
 - Salary range choices in data system
 - Reporting tools to monitor these data

6. Fully Utilize E-rate to Support Technology and Broadband Infrastructure

▶ What is E-rate?

- Based on the Telecommunications Act of 1996, the FCC created the E-Rate program to provide schools and libraries affordable access to advanced telecommunications services.
- This program provides discounts ranging from 20% to 90% on Telecommunications Services, Internet Access, Internal Connections, and Basic Maintenance of Internal Connections to eligible schools and libraries subject to a \$2.25 billion annual cap.

E-rate for NYS Adult Education

- ▶ **E-rate website:**
<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/technology/programs/AccessErate.html>
- ▶ Breakthrough: Adult education students and facilities at schools, libraries, and other ACCES-funded adult education providers will be able to tap into E-rate funding for 2016-17
- ▶ First priority: those programs with approved agency E-rate applications
- ▶ 2017+ priority: new applications
- ▶ Stay tuned

Performance

- ▶ Adult Education Students served annually = 115,000
 - Adult Basic Education Students = 44%
 - English Language Learners = 56%
- ▶ 58% or 66,700 Students Demonstrated Educational Gain annually
 - Each Educational Functioning Level = a minimum of 2 grade levels
- ▶ 4,700 adults achieved their High School Equivalency Diploma in 2014
- ▶ 10,600 adults entered Postsecondary Education or Training

Performance cont'd

- ▶ 47,000 Adult Education Students are part of the workforce while in literacy programming
- ▶ 60k Students are considered Low Income under Federal guidelines

Discussion Questions

1. The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) requires joint planning in the provision of services. How should ACCES-AEPP, ACCES-VR , DOL, the NYS Commission for the Blind collaborate in supporting access to educational and workforce services for adult learners with limited literacy or English proficiency and those who lack a High School Equivalency (HSE) diploma?



Discussion Questions

2. How can career pathways become a priority approach in providing adult education? What capacity and technical assistance needs to be developed?



Discussion Questions

3. NYS adult education has a long-standing commitment to serving the hardest to serve, with the most limited literacy and English language skills. How can NYS maintain a continuum of service for adult learners?



Discussion Questions

4. Each of the 33 workforce boards now has a Title II representative? How can ACCES-AEPP and partners ensure that all funded adult education programs in the workforce area are informed of, and have timely input into, local workforce board policies?



Discussion Questions

5. How can adult education programs build new or strengthen existing partnerships with One-stop centers and the workforce development system?



Discussion Questions

6. How can funded adult education providers identify and collaborate with new or existing youth service contract operators in order to increase services to disconnected, out-of-school youth and reconnect youth to education and jobs?



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Stakeholder Meeting Syracuse

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89 Washington Avenue

Albany, New York 12234

**Comments Please by
October 2, 2015**

ACCES **AEPP**