



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



TO: Adult Education Directors
Federally Funded Grantees
Cooperating Eligible Entities

FROM: Paul F. Flinter, Chief
Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education

DATE: September 5, 2008

SUBJECT: Adult Education Operational Memorandum # 01-09

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Statewide Policy Forum September 12, 2008

The first policy forum for Fiscal Year 2008-2009 will be held on Friday, September 12 from 9:00 A.M to 12:00 noon at the Sheraton Four Points in Meriden. For directions, please visit <http://www.crec.org/cetes/atdn/directions/sheraton4pts.php>. Directors are encouraged to bring at least one Program Facilitator to the forum.

The statewide meeting for Program Facilitators only will be held in the afternoon of September 12 from 1:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. at the same location. Critical updates relative to the Connecticut Competency System (CCS) will be discussed at this meeting. Program Facilitators are also encouraged to attend the Statewide Policy Forum on the morning of September 12. Facilitators who will also attend the policy forum must note that lunch will not be provided.

Performance Targets for Fiscal Year 2007-08

The U.S. Department of Education has approved Connecticut adult education's State Plan extension for Fiscal Year 2008-09. This plan includes adult education's performance targets for the federal core indicators of performance and can be downloaded from <http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/lib/sde/pdf/deps/adult/accountability/stateplan2009.pdf>.

Improving Persistence through the Goal-Based Outcomes Report

This report is accessible through the Connecticut Adult Reporting System (CARS). It identifies the students who were enrolled during FY 2007-08 with either the *Earn a Diploma* or the *Enter Postsecondary* goal but failed to achieve their diploma. If the program is able to encourage more non-graduating learners to return to adult education in FY 2008-09, it will greatly improve Connecticut's overall performance on federal core indicators. This report can be accessed through the CARS Web site in Fiscal Year 2008 under "Reports" (see report #21). It is also being discussed in the CARS training sessions. If there are any questions, please contact Ajit Gopalakrishnan at ajit.gopalakrishnan@ct.gov or (860) 807-2125. For a detailed explanation about this CARS report, please refer to page 3 of the Operational Memorandum #01-07 from August 2006 (see <http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/lib/sde/pdf/deps/adult/op0107.pdf>).

Program Improvement Project (PIP) Grants Year End Reports

The FY 2008 PIP End of Year Reports are due to the Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education on or before **September 15, 2008**. **A separate report must be completed for each project funded.** Be sure to submit **two** stapled, typewritten copies (one with original signature) along with a copy of your program's FY 2008 Program Profile report from CARS.

Professional Development Activities

The FY 2008 End of Year Reports for Site Based and Stipend Professional Development activities are due to the Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education on or before September 26, 2008 to the attention of Maureen Wagner.

Applications for FY 2009 Site Based Professional Development activities are due to the Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education by October 3, 2008 to the attention of Maureen Wagner.

Due to professional development needs necessitated by Program Improvement Projects funded for 08-09, the Bureau has had to reallocate some professional development dollars; therefore, this year's award amount for Site Based Professional Development activities has been reduced and Stipend Professional Development awards have been eliminated.

New GED Test to Begin on January 1, 2012

The purpose of the GED Test is to "enable adults who have not graduated from high school the opportunity to take the GED Tests to demonstrate the attainment of developed abilities normally acquired through the completion of a high school program of study." As high school curriculum changes, the GED Test must also change to accurately reflect what graduating seniors know and are able to do when they complete a traditional four-year program of study. Therefore, the GED Testing Service develops and releases a new GED Test approximately every ten years.

As a result, GEDTS™ will be releasing a new English GED test series—the fifth in test history—on January 1, 2012 (Editions in Spanish and French are anticipated to be released on January 1, 2013). For more information, you can go to the following website:

http://www.acenet.edu/Content/NavigationMenu/ProgramsServices/GEDTS/2012/taker_faq.htm

National External Diploma Program (NEDP)

The NEDP Directors meeting will be held on October 2nd from 9:30 to 12:00 at the Department of Education in Middletown in the SERC Classroom. Program directors and lead assessors are expected to attend.

The National External Diploma Council's national conference will be held from October 22nd to the 24th in Baltimore, MD. Registration and hotel information is available at www.nedpc.net.

Family Learning Curriculum Connections

Renewal applications will be distributed to the programs who received awards during FY 2007-08. These programs will be asked to build on their language arts/writing projects which were developed this past year. Applications will be due by September 30th.

Writing Contact Person Meeting

The annual Writing Contact Person (WCP) meeting will be held on Friday, September 26th from 9:00 to noon at CREC and on Friday, October 3rd at ACES. The Department expects that the WCP will register for ONE of these meetings through the Capitol Region Education Council (CREC) registration system. If your program's WCP has changed, please notify Susan Pierson at susan.pierson@ct.gov with the name and email address of the new staff person as soon as possible.

We look forward to seeing you on the 12th.

Thank you.