



CONNECTICUT STATE  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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# Adult Education Policy Forum

January 15, 2016



# Agenda

- Welcome/Introductions
- Connecticut State Department of Education Updates
- Connecticut Association for Adult and Continuing Education (CAACE)
- CT Adult Virtual High School (CTAVHS)
- CARS Updates
- ATDN Professional Development Updates
- College and Career Readiness Standards



# Agenda continued



- GED Updates
- Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Update
- State Grant Update
- Reminders
- Federal Grant Update
- National External Diploma Program (NEDP) Update
- CASAS Functional Writing Assessment (FWA) Update





# Update

- Sample Curriculum Available to guidance counselors for all online courses
- CAACE Conference - Online Learning Coordinator Roundtable
- Counselor Online Course (Summer 2016)
- Business Writing Course (2016)
- GED Prep Course and Test Packs Still Available
  - Available to all Adult Ed providers – not just AHSCDP



# CARS Updates

- CARS data entry deadline for the first semester is **Friday, January 29, 2016**
  - semester data include the completion of attendance, achievements, credits earned and assessments
  - all data are to be error free
  - contact the CARS helpdesk at [ewhelpdesk@ca.com](mailto:ewhelpdesk@ca.com) if you have questions or issues
  - data entry timelines are found in the *CARS Policies and Guidelines* manual that may be accessed through CARS home page or at <http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2620&Q=320698&sdePNavCtr=|45471|#45549>
- Providers are reminded that the *ethnicity* and *race* section of page one of the *Student Information Form* must be completed
  - remember, this data is critical for federal reporting requirements



# CARS Updates continued

REMINDER

- The CARS Report #5: *Student Transcript Report* has a new look and format
  - As was explained in CARS new and experienced users training sessions, the CARS CDP Transcript Report requires the **manual** completion of fields that will no longer be done automatically

All Graduation Requirement met?  Yes  
 No

Earned Diploma?  Yes  
 No

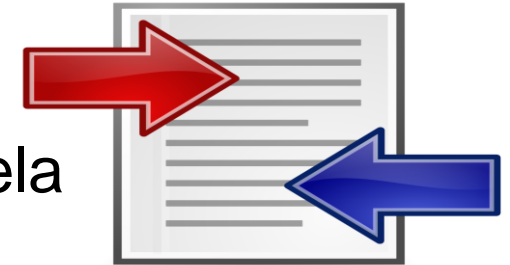
Graduation or Exit Date	
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- CARS data administrators are reminded to:
  - review the user list and the access levels users have within CARS;
  - check “*not active*” for any users who are no longer with the program; and
  - enter CDP transfer credits individually and NOT by one summarized/combined entry.





# CARS Updates continued



- Merge requests are done weekly by Angela
  - Please refer to pages 32 and 33 of the *CARS Policies and Guidelines* manual for instructions pertaining to a merge request and to obtain the business rules that apply to any merge request
- FY 2015 State and Local Program Profiles for all state and federal adult education providers will be available on the CSDE Web site by February 2016
- FY 2015 Provider Performance Summary (PPS)
  - The FY 2015 Explanation Document, the Statewide PPS and the individual provider PPS will be e-mailed to all adult education providers by February 2016



# ATDN Professional Development Updates



- CCR Standards Training ELA and Math
- Connecticut Competency System (CCS) Training
- GED Math and RLA Workshops
- Applying CCR Standards in Science
- Applying CCR Standards in Social Studies
- CCR Standards in Social Studies in GED Classes
- Technology Training Workshops



## April 28, 2016, 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Serving Adults with Disabilities

- *Water's Edge Conference Center in Westbrook*
- *Keynote speakers will be Steve Mundahl and Sharon Massoth*
  - *Become the Leader of Your Own Life: A Belief-Powered Approach*

Register at: [www.educationconnection.org/disabilities](http://www.educationconnection.org/disabilities)

**Refer to Professional Development Brochures**



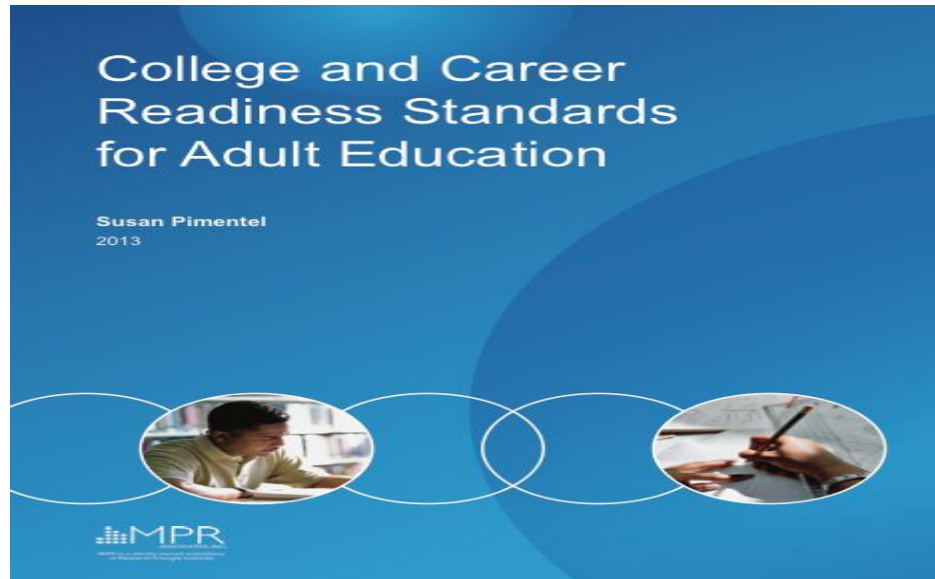


# Adult Education Teacher Evaluation Plan Highlights

- The adult education evaluation plan is designed to provide a basic and consistent framework for all adult education programs
- The guiding principles of the plan are aligned to the *Connecticut Guidelines for Educator Evaluation* and Connecticut's *System for Education Evaluation and Development (SEED)*
  - format, terminology, differentiated rubrics for teachers and service delivery
- The evaluation instrument is designed to:
  - provide sufficient flexibility to accommodate different site configurations
  - prioritize teacher performance indicators:
    - Learning Environment
    - Instruction for Active Learning
- The observation process is streamlined to realistic for the adult educational setting
- Evaluation training workshops planned for the Spring 2016



# College and Career Readiness Standards (CCRS)



- Why has Connecticut adopted these standards?
- Who needs to use them?
- When does implementation have to begin?

# College and Career Readiness Standards (CCRS)

## Connecticut Sustainability Plan for CCRS

- **Overall Goal**
  - By July 1, 2017, all CT adult education providers will implement/use CCRS to instruct and assess ABE, GED, and CDP adult learners
- **Goal 1**
  - Inform all adult education providers of the requirements of implementation of College and Career Readiness Standards in Action (CCR-SIA)
- **Goal 2**
  - Require each adult education provider to develop a CCR-SIA plan



# College and Career Readiness Standards (CCRS)

***HOW IS YOUR PROGRAM DOING?***

**CCR-SIA Checklist**



For more information:

<http://atdn.weebly.com/ccr-standards.html>



# College and Career Readiness Standards (CCRS)

***To Be Continued . . . .***

CAACE Professional Development Workshop  
January 29, 2016, 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon  
Bristol Adult Education  
210 Redstone Hill Road





# GED Update

## New way for students to obtain GED® News

- There is a new way for students to get the latest news on promotions and updates about the GED® program through text messaging! This free service offers students customized messages to help keep them motivated to continue their studies.
- Encourage your students to sign up for text message alerts by logging into MyGED® and clicking on *“Edit/Complete my profile”* under their name. They can then sign up for text messaging by editing their *“Contact Preferences.”*



# GED Update continued

## National Student Clearinghouse (NCS)

- Data match of **10,000** GED<sup>®</sup> graduates from 2014 to mid-year 2015
- Objective: To determine the progress of GED<sup>®</sup> graduates enrolled a wide range of post-secondary programs and institutions
- NSC *Student Tracker* database contains post-secondary education (PSE) data from 99% of U.S. PSE institutions including 4-year and 2-year colleges, technical colleges and trade schools to name a few



# GED Update continued

## National Student Clearinghouse

- As of July 2015 34% of 2014 GED® graduates had enrolled in and were attending some type of PSE program
- The rate of PSE enrollment compares favorably with data from the 2002 GED® test series
  - Most recent data was for graduates in 2004, 25% of whom were enrolled in PSE by the end of 2005
- 68% of those attending PSE colleges or institutions are attending two year institutions





# GEDWorks™ and Adult Ed



- Currently working with four major employers and thousands of students
- There are students in the program that could benefit from interaction with local adult education providers
- GEDTS is attempting to make those connections



# GEDWorks™ and Adult Ed continued

- Beginning in January, adult education providers may receive an e-mail or telephone call (based on the GED Testing Service directory information\*) if a potential student located near that adult education provider is identified
  - The adult education provider will be given the student's contact information
- Adult education providers, when contacted, are encouraged to reach out to potential students and invite them to participate in available programs

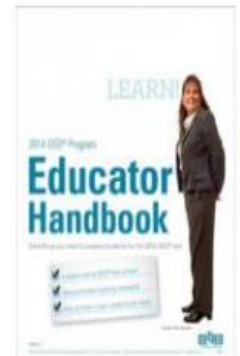
**NOTE:** Students participating in GEDWorks™ continue to receive free curriculum, free GED Ready® testing

\*If an adult education providers notices there is incorrect information, please visit [www.GEDtestingservice.com/prep](http://www.GEDtestingservice.com/prep) and complete a form to request a correction



# GED® Marketing Materials

- Beginning in January, all marketing material orders will be placed through Brand Central  
[www.gedtestingservice.com/educators/brandcentralinfo](http://www.gedtestingservice.com/educators/brandcentralinfo)
- All materials are FREE
  - adult education providers must simply pay shipping and handling
  - credit cards are the acceptable form of payment
- Adult Education providers are currently able to order erasable note boards for the classroom, test taker brochures, educator handbooks, calculator and math reference posters, etc.



# GED® Publisher Alignment










## Alignment certification added



### GED® Publisher Program



The GED® Publisher Program recognizes GED® test-aligned content from publishers who develop curriculum materials for the GED® test. To ensure that materials meet 100% of GED® test objectives, a professional content review organization has evaluated each product's alignment to GED® test objectives. Alignment is determined at a subject area level rather than at a publisher level. Many publishers are currently in the review process, however, not all content is subject to review at this time (including review content and practice tests). Publishers that have achieved 100% alignment with the GED® test with at least one of their products will be designated with a GED® Content Aligned logo.

PUBLISHERS	PUBLISHER DESCRIPTION	ALIGNMENT WITH THE GED® TEST	OFFERS GED READY® PRACTICE TEST
	<p>Founded in 1980 by educators, Aztec Software has been in the business of improving adult and young adult lives through computerized skills remediation from its inception. Aztec's computer-based GED® test instruction and preparation can be used as self-paced or in a blended-learning environment and can be accessed from computers, tablets, or smartphones.</p>		
	<p>At Houghton Mifflin Harcourt/Steck-Vaugh, we aim to spark a lifelong love of learning by inspiring curiosity in every person we touch. As one of the world's longest established publishing houses and largest providers of educational solutions, we specialize in providing dynamic, engaging content for learners and teachers through multiple channels and platforms.</p>		
	<p>KET is widely acknowledged as the premier producer of adult basic skills and workplace education programming, much of which is broadcast nationally on PBS and cable television stations.</p>		



# WIOA Update

## ***Let's Talk About WIOA***

What has changed for us  
and  
What has not



# WIOA Update

## Changes in State Plan Requirements

### WIA

- 5 Year State Plan
- Unified State Plans optional
- Strategic Planning Elements
- Plan submitted to U.S. DOE Secretary

### WIOA

- 4 Year State Plan
- Unified State Plans required
- Strategic **and** Operational Planning Elements
- Submitted to US.DOL Secretary, joint approval with U.S. DOE Secretary



# WIOA Update

## Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (AEFLA)

### TITLE II

#### **AEFLA Plan Elements**

- Align adult education content standards with State academic standards
- Fund local activities using thirteen considerations under AEFLA
- Use funds for adult education and literacy activities
- Assess and improve quality of adult education providers



# WIOA Update

## TITLE II Retains AEFLA Purposes

Create a partnership among federal government, states, and localities to provide adult education and literacy services that:

- Assist adults to become literate and obtain the knowledge and skills necessary for employment and economic self-sufficiency
- Assist adults who are parents or family members become a full partner in the education development of their children
- Assist adults in completing high school





# WIOA Update

## Expands AEFLA Purposes

Purpose expanded to:

- Promote transitions from adult education to postsecondary education and training through career pathways
- Assist immigrants and English language learners
  - improve reading, writing, math, speaking and comprehending the English language
  - acquire understanding of American government, individual freedom and responsibilities of citizenship



# WIOA Update

## WIOA New Activities

### Integrated Education and Training (IET)

- Service approach that provides adult education and literacy activities **concurrently and contextually with workforce preparation activities and workforce training**
- Targets training in occupations or clusters that assist adults in their educational and career advancement



# WIOA Update

## Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education (IEL/CE)

- Codifies (Sec. 243) the IEL/CE program, previously funded through annual appropriations
- Provides instruction in literacy and English language acquisition, civic participation and the rights and responsibilities of citizens and workforce training
- Activities must be **provided in combination with IET activities**
- Focuses program design and goal on **preparing adults for employment in in-demand industries and in coordination with local workforce systems**



# WIOA Update

## Workforce Preparation Activities

- Activities, programs or services designed to help an individual acquire a **combination of basic academic, critical thinking, digital literacy and self-management skills**
- Includes competencies in utilizing resources and using information and acquiring other skills necessary for successful transition into postsecondary education, training or employment



# WIOA Update

## Unified State Plan

- The DRAFT Unified State Plan is posted for public comment on CSDE's Web site at:

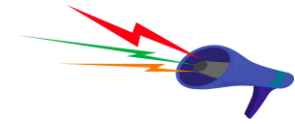
<http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2620&Q=320694&sdePNavCtr=|45472|#45553>

- Public comment period ends on February 1, 2016. All adult education comments should be sent to Susan Pierson at [susan.pierson@ct.gov](mailto:susan.pierson@ct.gov)



# Adult Education State Grant Update

## FY 2015-16



- The **FY 2016** Adult Education State Grant Revision Application, forms **ED-245** and **ED-245A** for adult education providers and CEE agency heads are available on the CSDE Web site and may be accessed at <http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2620&Q=320684&sdePNavCtr=|45472|#45554>.
- These forms will be due to the Bureau on or before **March 15, 2016**.
- Submission of the ED-245 and ED-245A revision application forms must also include the completed **Excel Budget Templates**. The Excel Budget Template Workbooks for the ED-245 and ED-245A are separate documents that consist of **three** Excel sheets:
  1. the instruction page;
  2. the budget narrative pages; and
  3. the ED-114 budget form page.
- The tabs for each sheet can be found at the bottom of Excel Budget Template Workbook.



# Adult Education State Grant Updates

## FY 2016-17

- The **FY 2017** Adult Education State Grant Application, forms **ED-244** and **ED-244A** for adult education providers and CEE agency heads will be available on the CSDE Web site in February and may be accessed at <http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2620&Q=320684&sdePNavCtr=|45472|#45554>
- These forms will be due to the Bureau on or before **April 15, 2016**.
- Submission of the ED-244 and ED-244A application forms must also include the completed **Excel Budget Templates**. The Excel Budget Template Workbooks for the ED-244 and ED-244A are also separate documents that consist of **three** Excel sheets:
  1. the instruction page;
  2. the budget narrative pages; and
  3. the ED-114 budget form page.
- The tabs for each sheet can be found at the bottom of Excel Budget Template Workbook.





# Reminders

- CASAS e-test units cost \$1.05 for 2015-2016
- The CSDE requires a signed *Confidentiality Statement Form* for CARS Data Entry personnel, GED Registrars and anyone with access to GED Manager
  - Signed statements are to be maintained by the provider and available for review by the CSDE
  - If you need a copy of the *Confidentiality Statement Form* or if you have any questions or concern regarding the form or who should sign it, please contact Sabrina Mancini at [sabrina.mancini@ct.gov](mailto:sabrina.mancini@ct.gov)





# Federal Grant Update

- The FY 2016 PIP Mid-Year Report and budget revisions are due to the Bureau on Friday, February 19, 2016. Documents may be accessed from the CSDE Web site <http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2620&Q=320696&sdePNavCtr=|45472|#45552>
- There will not be new RFP issued for FY 2016-17. The *Continuation Grant Application* for adult education federal grants will be distributed in March 2016



# NEDP Update

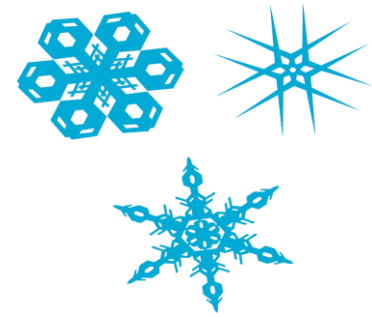
- All NEDP trained advisors/assessors should have been trained for scoring the Writing Diagnostic
- Writing Diagnostic training may be done through the CASAS Moodle course
- All programs need at least two certified advisors/assessors to score the NEDP samples
- Stay tuned for recertification opportunities
- NEDP Refresher Training will be held on Friday, February 5, 2016, at CREC/Coltsville. Please register using Protraxx <http://www.crec.org/events/index.php>



# CASAS Functional Writing Assessment (FWA)

- Effective July 1, 2015, Connecticut no longer uses the CASAS FWA
- E-mails were sent in July and again in October, 2015, requesting the return of all picture prompts (testing materials) to Susan Pierson at the CSDE, 25 Industrial Park Road, Middletown, CT 06457
- A signed inventory form must accompany the returns
- Contact Susan Pierson at [susan.pierson@ct.gov](mailto:susan.pierson@ct.gov) for an inventory form if needed
- Programs are asked to destroy the FWA training manuals at their site(s)





**Thank you for coming**

**Next Policy Forum:  
Friday, June 10, 2016**

