

# Adult Education State Directors

Moving Adult Education to the Future: The Time Is Now!

February 2–4, 2010 • Washington, DC

## AGENDA

### Objectives:

- To provide an opportunity to interact with senior administration leaders and Congressional staff on policy related to the reauthorization of the *Workforce Investment Act*.
- To provide a forum to network with colleagues about the impact of reauthorization proposals on the preparation and implementation of state plans.
- To provide learning opportunities related to the administration of the adult education state grant, including the development of new programs and services to support the transition of adults into postsecondary education and training.

## Monday, February 1

8:45 a.m.–5:15 p.m.

### **Pre-Conference Meeting for Policy to Performance Participating States**

This pre-conference event is for representatives from eight states participating in OVAE's new transitions-focused national activity, Policy to Performance.

Room: *Quorum*

## Tuesday, February 2

7:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

### **Registration and Information**

Room: *Ballroom Foyer*

8:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

### **Exhibit: LINCS Free Resources and Professional Development Opportunities**

Room: *Ballroom Foyer*

This exhibit will showcase the Literacy Information and Communication System (LINCS) structure and numerous free online resources and publications selected by an expert review panel.

8:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

### **Exhibit: Conversations With Student Achievement in Reading (STAR) Staff**

Room: *Ballroom Foyer*

This exhibit will highlight the new training package options that are now available to states through STAR.

8:15–9:30 a.m.

**Opening Session: A Welcome to Washington, DC**

*Room: Ballroom ABC*

*Presenters: Arne Duncan, Secretary  
U.S. Department of Education*

*Martha Kanter, Under Secretary  
U.S. Department of Education*

*Brenda Dann-Messier, Assistant Secretary  
for Vocational and Adult Education  
U.S. Department of Education*

*Cheryl Keenan, Director  
Division of Adult Education and Literacy  
U.S. Department of Education*

*Michelle Johnson, State Director  
Adult and Family Education  
Office of the State Superintendent, Washington, DC*

9:30–11:00 a.m.

**Plenary Session: Administration Initiatives Related to Adult Education**

*Room: Ballroom ABC*

*Moderator: Cheryl Keenan, Director  
Division of Adult Education and Literacy  
U.S. Department of Education*

*Panelists: Brenda Dann-Messier, Assistant Secretary  
for Vocational and Adult Education  
U.S. Department of Education*

*Jane Oates, Assistant Secretary  
for Employment and Training  
U.S. Department of Labor*

*Martha Coven, Special Assistant to the President  
for Mobility and Opportunity  
White House Domestic Policy Council*

11:00–11:15 a.m.

**Break**

11:15 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

**State Networking Sessions**

*Group 1 Room: Monet 1*

*Group 2 Room: Monet 2*

*Group 3 Room: Monet 3*

*Group 4 Room: Monet 4*

This session will provide an opportunity for state representatives to discuss key themes raised by administration officials in the opening session.

12:15–2:15 p.m.

**Working Lunch: American Community Survey (ACS)**

*Room: Ballroom ABC*

*Presenter: Scott Boggess, Chief  
American Community Survey Coordination  
U.S. Census Bureau*

A representative from the U.S. Census Bureau will share information about content being tested for the 2013 ACS survey instrument and discuss new 5-year ACS data products to be released this

year for the first time. The ACS is a new data source used to allocate formula grants to states under the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (AEFLA). This presentation will include discussion of the data collection process and content changes implemented in 2008 and 2009. It will help state staff understand 1-, 3-, and 5-year ACS estimates.

2:15–2:45 p.m.

**Plenary Session: Federal Adult Education History—An American Heritage**

*Room: Ballroom ABC*

*Presenter: Gary Eyre, President  
Advance Associates and Consultants*

This session will provide a retrospective on development of the federal role in adult education and establish a context for current efforts to strengthen and improve services for low-income learners seeking employment in a global economy.

2:45–3:00 p.m.

**Break**

3:00–4:00 p.m.

**Plenary Session: Congressional Panel on *Workforce Investment Act (WIA)* Reauthorization and Other Legislative Proposals**

*Room: Ballroom ABC*

*Moderator: Glenn Cummings, Deputy Assistant Secretary  
for Vocational and Adult Education  
U.S. Department of Education*

*Panelists: David Johns, Senior Education Advisor  
Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee  
Kelly Hastings, Professional Staff Member  
Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee  
Kara Marchione, Professional Staff Member  
Committee on Education and Labor, House of Representatives  
Allison Dembeck, Professional Staff Member  
Committee on Education and Labor, House of Representatives*

Majority and minority professional staff from both Senate and House authorizing committees share the latest developments on WIA reauthorization as well as highlight other legislation that may impact adult education. Participants will have an opportunity to submit questions on cards provided for panelists' responses during the question and answer portion of this session.

4:00 p.m.

**Adjourn for the Day**

## Wednesday, February 3

7:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

### **Registration and Information**

Room: *Ballroom Foyer*

8:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

### **Exhibit: Conversations With Student Achievement in Reading (STAR) Staff**

Room: *Ballroom Foyer*

This exhibit will highlight the new training package options that are now available to states through STAR.

8:30–10:00 a.m.

### **Concurrent Sessions**

#### **Concurrent 1: *The Maine College Transitions Program: Implications for Best Practice***

Room: *Monet 1*

Presenter *Jeffrey A. Fantine, State Director of Adult Education  
Maine Department of Education*

Expanding employment opportunities for low-skilled adults requires preparing them to enter and succeed in postsecondary education. This session will be valuable for states considering implementation of a postsecondary transition initiative. The presenter will discuss Maine's successful development of postsecondary transition services during a 2-year project funded by the state legislature.

#### **Concurrent 2: *Opportunities and Challenges for Adult Education in Serving Out-of-School Youth***

Room: *Monet 2*

Moderator: *Christopher Coro, Division of Adult Education and Literacy*

Panelists: *Susan Traiman, Director of Public Policy  
Business Roundtable*

*Linda Harris, Director of Youth Policy  
Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP)*

*Gregg Weltz, Chief of the Division of Youth Services  
Employment and Training Administration (ETA)  
U.S. Department of Labor*

Nationally recognized youth policy analysts will join federal policymakers in a panel discussion. Panelists will help state personnel better understand the challenges and opportunities encountered in preparing out-of-school youth for both postsecondary education and the workforce. Examples of promising practices will be presented.

#### **Concurrent 3: *Assessing Work and Career Readiness***

Room: *Monet 3*

Moderator: *Rebecca Moak, Division of Adult Education and Literacy*

Panelists: *Josephine Reed-Taylor  
State Director of Adult Education for Georgia*

*David Stout  
State Director of Adult Education for South Carolina*

*Dianne S. Glass  
State Director of Adult Education for Kansas*

*Ginny Chidsey  
State Director of Adult Education for Wyoming*

Interest in validating a learner's readiness for employment is increasing nationally. Many states are investigating work readiness certificates, while other states are developing stackable credentials that support career pathway approaches. Four states will present their efforts in creating work readiness certificates and engage participants in a discussion about the opportunities and challenges to be expected in linking work readiness to adult education programs.

**Concurrent 4: *What's New in the National Reporting System (NRS)?***

*Room: Monet 4*

*Presenter: Michael Dean, Division of Adult Education and Literacy*

*John LeMaster, Division of Adult Education and Literacy*

This session will provide a forum for information-sharing and group discussion on accountability issues including: new race/ethnicity reporting requirements (effective July 1, 2010), the pros and cons of revising the Financial Status Reports (FSRs) to include reporting specific expenditures for English literacy instruction, and continuing implementation and reporting outcomes of distance education programs.

**Concurrent 5: *Common Core State Standards Initiative: Frequently Asked Questions***

*Room: Renoir Room*

*Moderator: Ronna Spacone, Division of Adult Education and Literacy*

*Presenter: Dane Linn, Director, Education Division  
National Governors Association Center for Best Practices*

*William G. McCallum, Director  
Institute for Mathematics and Education  
University of Arizona*

*Chris Minnich, Strategic Initiative Director  
Standards, Assessment and Accountability  
The Council of Chief State School Officers*

*Susan Pimentel, Education Analyst and Standards Consultant*

This session will familiarize state personnel with the Common Core State Standards Initiative and the development of college and career readiness standards, the initiative's first step. Panelists will address topics including: why the initiative is significant, how common English-language arts and mathematics standards are developed, how states plan to adopt and implement the standards, and how assessments that can be aligned with standards.

10:00–10:15 a.m.

**Break**

10:15–11:45 a.m.

**Repeat Concurrent Sessions**

11:45 a.m.–1:30 p.m.

**Working Lunch and Presentation: GED and Adult Education: Working Together for a Better Future**

*Room: Ballroom ABC*

*Presenter: Nicole M. Chestang, Vice President and Executive Director  
GED Testing Services  
The American Council on Education*

Ms. Chestang will describe new developments within the GED Testing Service as it reconsiders the scope of the GED Program. Discussion topics will include plans for 2010 and beyond, such as creating a more rigorous college and career readiness assessment, instructional systems that can help accelerate learning and proficiency gains for adult learners, and milestones achieved to date.

1:30–1:45 p.m.

**Break**

1:45–4:45 p.m.

**Mini-Training Institutes**

***Adult Career Pathways***

*Room: Monet 1*

*Presenter: Richard Hinckley, President and CEO  
Center for Occupational Research and Development (CORD)  
Hope Cotner, Vice President, Community College Initiatives  
Center for Occupational Research and Development (CORD)*

Participants in this interactive workshop will have the opportunity to work with representatives from the Center for Occupational Research and Development (CORD). CORD published *Adult Career Pathways: Providing a Second Chance in Public Education* in 2007. Authors Dan Hull and Dick Hinckley issued a national “call to action” in that work on behalf of the millions of adult Americans searching for a second chance to complete their education. The authors will provide research, analysis, and detailed solutions for the complex and critical issues facing educators, students, and the nation as a whole. CORD staff will work with participants in this mini-institute to help them better understand, plan for and implement career pathways for adults.

***How Technology Can Improve Your Adult Education Programming***

*Room: Ballroom ABC*

*Presenter: Jerome Johnston, Director  
Project IDEAL Support Center  
University of Michigan  
Leslie Petty, Assistant Director  
Project IDEAL Support Center  
University of Michigan*

The last few decades have seen an explosion of technological solutions to many educational problems: online courseware for learners, virtual forms of teacher training, and a host of new Web tools that promise to improve access and efficiency in education. This workshop will introduce state staff to a number of the most promising innovations and describe the costs (hardware, software, maintenance, and training) associated with adopting them. Presenters will highlight strategies to assess the needs of local programs and provide the professional development that teachers and administrators must have to integrate technology into instruction. Presenters will describe key elements of a state technology plan and help participants draft “next steps” to guide planning.

***Understanding and Evaluating Assessment for the NRS***

*Room: Monet 3*

*Presenter: Dwayne Norris, Vice President  
Division of Education, Human Development, and Workforce  
American Institutes for Research*

*Larry Condelli, Managing Director  
Division of Education, Human Development, and Workforce  
American Institutes for Research*

This session will help state personnel answer questions from program directors or teachers, such as the reasons why programs must use a certain test, test students at specified intervals, and use specific test forms and levels when pre- and post-testing students. Participants will learn basic principles of good assessment, how to identify types of assessments, and how to use them (such as placement tests, formative assessments, achievement tests, authentic assessments). They also will learn about factors affecting test administration, scoring and interpretation of scores, and more.

4:45 p.m.

**Adjourn for the Day**

## Thursday, February 4

8:00–8:30 a.m.

### **Special Interest Session: Understanding Maintenance of Effort Requirements**

*Room: Ballroom ABC*

*Presenter: Michael Dean, Division of Adult Education and Literacy*

This session will provide participants with a description of the statutory maintenance-of-effort (MOE) and matching requirements. Participants will learn how to calculate MOE using both aggregate expenditure and cost per participant options. They will hear about a variety of possible impacts of reduced non-federal spending. This session also is an opportunity to receive technical assistance on specific state concerns with meeting the MOE requirement. Each state attending this session will receive an individualized state profile containing aggregate expenditure and cost per student data for the past 10 years.

8:30–9:30 a.m.

### **Regional Meetings**

*Room: Monet 1*

*(Northeast, incl. VI and PR)*

*Teresa Bestor*

*Room: Monet 2*

*(South)*

*Sharon Lankford*

*Room: Monet 3*

*(Midwest)*

*Rebecca Moak*

*Room: Monet 4*

*(West)*

*Cay Buser*

*Room: Renoir*

*(Outlying Areas)*

*Sarah Newcomb*

9:30–9:45 a.m.

### **Break**

9:45–10:45 a.m.

### **Plenary Session: Living and Learning for a Viable Future—The Power of Adult Learning, the Sixth International Conference on Adult Education (CONFINTEA VI)**

*Room: Ballroom ABC*

*Moderator: Brenda Dann-Messier, Assistant Secretary  
for Vocational and Adult Education  
U.S. Department of Education*

*Panelists: Judith Alamprese, Principal Associate  
Abt Associates Inc.*

*Israel D. Mendoza, Director  
Adult Basic Education  
Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges*

*Emily Spencer, Education Program Officer  
Office of International Organizations  
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)*

The Sixth International Conference on Adult Education (CONFINTEA VI), which was hosted by the government of Brazil in Belém December 1–4, 2009, provided an important platform for policy dialogue and advocacy on adult learning and non-formal education at a global level. The conference drew together UNESCO member states, United Nations agencies, multi- and bi-lateral cooperation agencies, community-based organizations, the private sector, and learners from all world regions. Delegation lead, Assistant Secretary Brenda Dann-Messier, and members of the delegation will discuss the implications of this global conference on adult learning policy in the United States.

10:45–11:00 a.m.

### **Break**



11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

**Special Session: WIA Community Conversations**

*Room: Ballroom ABC*

*Presenters: Brenda Dann-Messier, Assistant Secretary  
for Vocational and Adult Education  
U.S. Department of Education*

*Cheryl Keenan, Director  
Division of Adult Education and Literacy  
U.S. Department of Education*

*Johan Uvin, Senior Advisor  
Office of Vocational and Adult Education  
U.S. Department of Education*

OVAE Assistant Secretary Brenda Dann-Messier has been hosting Community Conversations about the reauthorization of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) with a broad cross section of stakeholders across the United States since her appointment in October 2009. This session is designed to share the information from all of the Conversations with the state directors, asking them to validate the themes and priorities. Following the presentation of information, the Assistant Secretary will invite the state directors to participate in a final Conversation, during which the participants will have an opportunity to react to themes of previous sessions, add what may be missing, and highlight important points.

1:00–1:30 p.m.

**Closing Remarks**

*Room: Ballroom ABC*

*Presenter: Cheryl Keenan, Director  
Division of Adult Education and Literacy  
U.S. Department of Education*