Section 223 State Leadership

Are you ready to lead?

Objectives

- Provide brief history of state leadership in past statutes and its purpose
- Develop an understanding of statutory requirements
- Discuss various ways section 223 funds are used in States

History

- 1964 Economic Opportunity Act – funds to establish pilot programs
- 1966 Adult Education Act – set aside for “special experimental demonstration projects and teacher training”
- 1974 – established 15% set aside
- 1988 – created section 353 with set aside of “not less than 10%”

History (continued)

- 1991 National Literacy Act – increased set aside to not less than 15%
- 1999 Workforce Investment Act – reduced set aside to not more than 12.5%
- 2014 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act – held set aside at not more than 12.5% and mandated “required activities”

WIOA Section 223 State Leadership

- Continues under section 223 State leadership
- Retains not more than 12.5% set aside
- Mandates funds be used for four required activities
- Continues to allow permissible activities
- Encourages collaboration to avoid duplication and maximize impact

Required Activity #1

- Alignment of adult education and literacy activities with other core programs and one-stop partners to implement strategies identified in the unified or combined State plan
  - Including development of career pathways to provide access to employment and training services for adult education participants

Required Activity #2

- Establish or operate high quality professional development programs to improve adult education instruction including:
  - incorporating essential components of reading instruction
  - instruction related to specific needs of adult learners
  - instruction provided by volunteers or other personnel
  - dissemination of information about models and promising practices

Required Activity #3

- Provision of technical assistance to local providers receiving funds including –
  - Development and dissemination of instructional and programmatic practices based on best available research in reading, writing, speaking, mathematics, English language acquisition, distance education, and staff training
  - Role of local providers as one-stop partners
  - Assistance in use of technology including staff training and improving efficiencies

Required Activity #4

- Monitoring and evaluation of the quality of and improvement in adult education
- Dissemination of information about models and proven or promising practices within the State

Permissible Activities

- Lists 12 illustrative activities including –
  - Resource centers, technology instruction investments, curriculum development, model development, achieving performance objectives, transition to postsecondary, content standards, and more….
- Includes other activities of statewide significance that promote the purposes of the adult education program

How States Obligate Section 223 Funds

- Fund grants and contracts
  - Must follow State procurement requirements
- Pay salaries of State staff who carry state leadership related duties on the position description
  - Must keep time and effort records

Review

- States may use up to 12.5% of allocation for Section 223 activities
- States must use funds for required activities
- States may also use funds for other activities that are of statewide significance
- States must follow procurement rules of the State
- Funds may be used to pay for State staff discharging leadership activities with proper documentation