

The mission of MN Adult Basic Education (ABE)

is to provide adults with educational opportunities to acquire and improve their literacy skills necessary to become self-sufficient and to participate effectively as

- Productive workers
- Family members
- Citizens

We provide the following services:

- Basic skills instruction (reading and math improvement)
- Digital Literacy (with North Star Digital Literacy Certification)
- GED instruction, practice testing, and official GED testing
- Duluth Public Schools Adult Diploma (credit recovery)
- MN Adult Diploma (Competency based) – coming this fall
- Brush Up Skills for College (including Accuplacer prep)
- Brush Up Skills for Training (contextualized math and reading)
- Pathways to College Success (transition to college class at LSC)
- Basic Work Skills (including Soft Skills)

We challenge our students to utilize and develop the following skills and strategies:

- Effective Communication
- Learning Strategies
- Academic Language and Skills
- Numeracy
- Critical Thinking
- Self-Management
- Developing a Future Pathway
- Navigating Systems

We have classrooms in the following locations:

- HOCHS
- Community Action Duluth (CAD)
- Soar Career Solutions
- St. Louis County Jail
- Duluth Workforce Center
- Lake Superior College
- Duluth Public Library

Agencies with which we have partnerships:

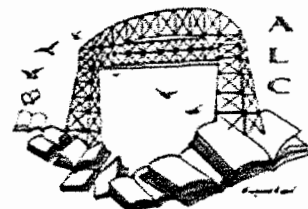
- Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency
- Lake Superior College
- Community Action Duluth
- Soar Career Solutions
- Workforce Center
- Duluth Public Library

Grants in which we are currently involved:

- NEW Grant (Non-traditional Employment for Women): LSC and Soar
- Innovations Grant (GED prep for young MFIP parents of color): St. Louis Co and CAD
- Disparities Grant (GED prep and transition skills for young MFIP parents): St. Louis Co., CAD, AEOA
- LTSA digital Literacy Grant (North Star Digital Literacy): Duluth Public Library and Friends of St. Paul Library

Grants Pending Approval:

- FastTRAC Grant (13 credit machinist certification): LSC and Soar
- Health Profession Opportunity Grant: LSC, Soar, Workforce Center, CAD



Duluth Adult Basic Education

Program at-a-Glance 2013-2014

May 2014

The Mission of ABE in Minnesota:
to provide adults with educational opportunities to acquire & improve their literacy skills necessary to become self-sufficient and to participate effectively as productive workers, family members & citizens.



Duluth ABE is one of 46 MN ABE consortia which serve about 74,000 adult learners annually.

The Duluth Consortium includes Duluth, Proctor & Hermantown School Districts.

Initiatives/Trends in 2013 – 14

Transitions to Further Education/ Employment (MN State ABE focus)

“FastTRAC” grant partnership (Round 4) with SOAR, LSC. An integrated program for health care phlebotomy and academic skills, with supportive services. ABE provides academic skills instruction before and during college classes.

Pathway to College Success. ABE class and study lab at the Lake Superior College Learning Center. Skills development for H.S./GED grads assessed as unready for college-level classes. Offered three terms per year. New emphases: skill development to bypass developmental education coursework.

Computer Literacy for Employment. Monthly class offered at Duluth Workforce Center by an ABE teacher. More extensive classes for UI recipients. New digital literacy grant with Duluth Public Library.

Other/Local

New outreach program at Community Action Duluth to MFIP recipients.

Decreased number of adult ESL learners (immigrants) **Emphasis** on preparing students for the challenge of the new, more rigorous, computer-based GED 2014.

Funding: under Community Education, Fund 04
 State ABE Aid: \$385,931 Federal Aid: \$12,625
 Special Grants: \$44,000
 Aid formula combines “base aid” to consortium and student attendance-hour aid.
 Special grants help fund transitions initiatives.

Staffing: Adult Learning Center/ABE Coordinator; ABE Assessment & Reporting Assistant; part-time Dropout Recovery specialist; hourly clerical; one contract & nine hourly instructors, assisted by three hourly educational assistants, & ten volunteers.

GED Testing Center

+ Tested **275 examinees** from 5/1/13-12/31/13; **207** completed the five-test battery & received a General Educational Development diploma from the State of MN.
 + Testing on Mondays, 46 weeks/year
 Currently Licensed by GED and Pearson Vue Testing Services and supervised by the MDE GED Testing Director to serve northern Minnesota and Wisconsin.

2013-14 total number of enrollees: 1097

English as a Second Language 48
 (from approx. 15 different countries)

Adult Diploma (21 & older) 33

GED Preparation 215

Basic Skills (pre-GED level) 140

Basic Skills - Corrections (SLC/Jail) 244

Dropout Recovery Program (advising) 78

Transitions Programs:

Brush-up Skills, post-diploma (at HOCHS) 16

Work Readiness (at SOAR) 140

FastTRAC - Adult Career Pathways 12

Pathway to College Success (at LSC) 50

Computer Literacy (at Workforce Center) 176

Direct Support Professional 37

(duplicated count; some learners in more than one program)

Total hours of study, all enrollees: 17,288

GED & Adult Diploma Graduates: 82

Participants (enrolled 12 hrs or more) showing

skill level increase on state tests: 45%

(meets state requirements)

Primary Site: Adult Learning Center, HOCHS



Schedule: Classes offered 12 months/year.

Weekly registration (excluding August)

Other sites: Lake Superior College

Duluth Workforce Center

SOAR-Career Solutions

Proctor Area Community Center (PACC)

St. Louis County Jail

Community Action Duluth

Minnesota's New State Adult Diploma

Defining the new state adult diploma

Minnesota's new state adult high school diploma is a standard competency-based diploma that is issued by the state department of education for adults that complete an approved ABE program.

CREATING A THIRD OPTION FOR HIGH SCHOOL COMPLETION

Adult Secondary Credential Options



K-12
Diploma



G.E.D.



New Adult
Diploma



Minnesota Department of

Education

Aligning to Minnesota's educational standards

Competencies for the Minnesota State Adult Diploma are based on Minnesota's current K-12 graduation standards and embed:

- College and Career Readiness Standards (CCRS) for Adult Education
- Academic, Career and Employability Skills (ACES) and
- Northstar Digital Literacy Standards

Minnesota State Adult Diploma Competency Domains

- A. English Language Arts
- B. Mathematics
- C. Career Development and Employability Skills, including Digital Literacy Skills
- D. Social Studies
- E. Science

Guiding adult students to success through advising, instruction & evaluation

Initial Advising Session

1. Identify student goals
2. Assess student skills and experience to determine what competencies that may already be complete for the transcript based on prior learning competency verification
3. Identify potential career pathway(s) and needs using career and postsecondary preparation assessments, similar to assessments used in Minnesota's K-12 system
4. Develop an individualized learning plan based on the student' identified goals and skills

Instruction and Evaluation

1. Implement individualized learning plan based on instruction and preparation on the competency domains.
2. Post-test learners using approved assessments for Minnesota's ABE programming
3. Track progress towards diploma and goals
4. Update and adapt individualized learning plan
5. Provide additional support services

Graduating Advising Session

1. Evaluate students' work in Adult Diploma Program to ensure completion of necessary competencies
2. Create transitions plan to students' future goals

Adult students demonstrate their skills

Adult diploma students may successfully complete each competency through one of the following ways:

- **Prior Experience-Based Competency Verification** (K-12, postsecondary or other experiences)
- **Test-Verified Knowledge** (approved standardized assessment for high schools, secondary credentials, ABE programs and/or postsecondary entrance exams)
- **ABE Course Completion** (classes that combine academic, college and career content, like special adult diploma classes, GED preparation, Accuplacer classes, college readiness classes, subject-specific classes, FastTRAC programming, etc.)
- **Applied and Experiential Learning** (through an approved project, like the National External Diploma Program.)

Making the State Adult Diploma available across Minnesota

Initial Development	<i>May-October 2014</i>
Pilot Phase One	<i>November 2014-June 2015</i>
Full Launch	<i>July 2015-ongoing</i>

Collaboratively leading implementation

Primary entities developing the state adult diploma and aiding local implementation with approved Adult Basic Education (ABE) consortia include the **Minnesota Department of Education**, an **adult diploma working group** and a new **consultation team**.

Where to find more information

- Read Minnesota State Statute 126D.52 (Subd. 8-9)
- Contact Brad Hasskamp at brad.hasskamp@state.mn.us or (651) 582-8594

Contact Hours	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	Program Year Total
	570,952	449,610	329,653	252,377	521,610	575,641	568,263	432,553	525,163	581,100	577,366	507,604	5,891,890.85
	577,950	398,278	321,980	257,447	510,678	653,026	549,280	412,422	541,198	565,101	495,388	561,537	5,844,285.01
	565,578	397,899	351,341	237,595	546,726	625,006	527,041	401,091	358,333	492,109	516,716	499,089	5,518,523.94
	503,719	370,485	328,630	227,313	554,908	593,166	465,571	420,571	481,649	536,645	549,828	491,122	5,523,607.42
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GED Testing	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	Program Year Total
	2,966	2,580	1,464	1,880	2,181	2,583	2,766	2,353	2,199	2,695	3,018	3,098	29,782.02
	3,338	2,265	2,086	2,261	1,984	2,591	2,482	2,461	2,489	2,927	2,754	3,035	30,669.07
	2,973	2,377	2,384	2,185	2,465	4,310	5,413	6,937	173	271	295	447	30,228.65
	405	467	469	459	452	599	594	636	603	872	1,036	716	7,308.45