



Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Title II Adult Education Update

Minnesota Association of Workforce Boards (MAWB) Job Seeker Services Meeting

September 25, 2024

Ability-to-Benefit (ATB):

The ability to benefit (ATB) is a federal financial aid rule that allows students without a high school diploma to qualify for financial aid. Minnesota State and Adult Education are working together to implement a state plan. The goal is to assist an individual in earning their high school diploma and receive financial aid to take career and technical education coursework.

The nine colleges currently participating are listed below. If you would like to know more about how clients can access ATB, or about how to engage your local Minnesota State college or ABE program please contact Jim Verhoye at james.verhoye@minnstate.edu.

	Minnesota State	Adult Education
1	Hennepin Technical College	Adult Options in Education Metro South ABE Osseo ABE Robbinsdale ABE
2	Lake Superior College	Duluth ABE
3	Minneapolis College	Minneapolis ABE Project for Pride in Living
4	Minnesota State College Southeast	Winona ABE Red Wing ABE
6	Pine Technical and Community College	Metro East ABE St. Croix River Education District (SCRED) ABE
7	Riverland Community College	Austin ABE Owatonna ABE
		Albert Lea ABE
8	Saint Paul College	St. Paul Community Literacy Consortium (SPCLC)
9	South Central College	Mankato ABE Faribault ABE

Online Statewide Training Course Available:

Job Seekers looking for training opportunities, but who may need additional language and academic support, can contact their local ABE program or Julie.Dincau@state.mn.us for more information on these trainings.

Course	Registration / Start Dates
Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS) Course	Onboarding Wednesdays 1-4pm on Oct 23 , Nov 20, Dec 18
Paraprofessional Preparation Course	Onboarding Mondays 9-11am on Oct 7 , Nov 4, and Dec 2
Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) Preparation Course	Fall dates filled. Spring dates to be announced.
Commercial Driver's License (CDL)	Registration: Aug 1 - Oct 1 Course Dates: Oct 1 - Dec 17
Personal Care Assistant (PCA)	Registration: Aug 1 - Nov 6 Course Dates: Oct 15 -Dec 19

Reminder:

Minnesota has two High School Equivalency (HSE) exams. Many documents and websites still only refer to the GED®. Please use High School Equivalency (HSE) when referring to completing an exam equivalent to a high school diploma.

What is happening in the field:

- Several programs have mentioned having wait lists for learners to enroll in classes.
- Programs are having more beginning literacy students enroll.
- Some programs are having difficulty hiring teachers.
- More employers are connecting with Adult Education providers to offer classes onsite.

To help a person locate an adult education program that fits their needs use the [Adult Literacy Hotline](#).