

AEFLA Policy Update FY08

Eligibility for Services

Effective July 1, 2007, the maximum age requirement for compulsory school attendance in Colorado is 17 years. (Senate Bill 06-073, amending CRS 22-33-104: Compulsory School Attendance).

Therefore:

AEFLA funded programs (including EL/Civics): Federal law requires that AEFLA programs serve adults who are over the age of 16 **and not** currently enrolled or **required to be enrolled in school under state law**. This means that individuals under the age of 17 at the time of enrollment will not be eligible for AEFLA funded services in Colorado.

GED: Age waivers for 16 year old youth who wish to take the GED will no longer be available. Candidates who are under the age of 17 and have begun the GED but not completed it by July 1, 2007, will not be able to finish the test until their 17th birthday. Passing scores obtained before July 1, will remain valid until the GED test is updated by the GED Testing Service, an event scheduled to occur January 1, 2011.

See also: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeadult/GEDindex.htm>

Questions about implementing the new age/eligibility requirements for AEFLA and EL/Civics funded programs should be directed to:

[Pam Smith](mailto:pam.smith@cde.state.co.us), 303.866.6640

Questions about GED policy should be directed to:

[Bill Furney](mailto:bill.furney@cde.state.co.us), 303.866.6942

Local Tuition or Other Fees

Beginning in FY08, local programs that charge tuition or other fees for participation in AEFLA-funded services will submit an agency policy governing the collection, accounting, and use of tuition and other fees.

Questions about implementing this policy should be directed to:

[Bill Furney](mailto:bill.furney@cde.state.co.us), 303.866.6942

Critical and Current Information Required from Local Programs

Programs are required to provide current accurate information upon request from CDE. This includes surveys, questionnaires, forms, and reports. In addition, CDE updates its provider database annually based on information provided by local programs.

Questions about implementing this policy should be directed to:

[Douglas Glynn](mailto:douglas.glynn@cde.state.co.us), 303.866.6607

Pre/Post Test Target

The target pre/post test rate for FY08 is 70%.

Questions about implementing this policy should be directed to:

[Debra Fawcett](mailto:debra.fawcett@cde.state.co.us), 303.866.6914 or [Bill Furney](mailto:bill.furney@cde.state.co.us), 303.866.6942

Approved Assessments

The phasing out of CASAS Life Skills Reading is complete. AEFLA programs should have replaced Life Skills Reading with Life and Work Reading during the transition year (FY07). See: <<http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeadult/assessment.htm#CASAS07>>.

Questions about implementing this policy should be directed to:
Debra Fawcett, 303.866.6914 or Jane Miller, 303.866.6611

Authorization in Literacy Instruction (LIA)

Reminder: by FY08 (July 1, 2007), 50% of the instructors in AEFLA funded programs with 6 or more paid teachers, who work at least 20 hours per week, must be authorized; programs with 5 or fewer instructors must have at least one authorized teacher on staff; and all new hires with 15 hours or more per week must be authorized, be in the process of becoming authorized, or be committed to beginning the authorization process within six months of hire. Programs should plan to work toward compliance by requiring a sufficient number of unauthorized instructors to complete their LIA coursework or portfolios during FY07, in order to meet this requirement by July 1, 2007.

By FY09 (July 1, 2008), 50% of the instructors in AEFLA funded program with 6 or more paid teachers, who work at least 15 hours per week, must be authorized.

Questions about implementing this policy should be directed to:
Pam Smith, 303.866.6640

Professional Development

By September 24, 2007, at least 60% of each program's AEFLA teachers must complete and submit the Professional Development Self-Assessment for Colorado Adult Education Teachers. In the first quarter of the fiscal year, in consultation with their program director or supervisor, teachers who have completed the self-assessment should complete a FY08 PD plan that reflects the teacher's needs and the program's improvement plan. New teachers should complete a plan within 2 months of hire. Programs should maintain evidence of the following for at least 60% of their teachers: completion of the PD Self-Assessment, annual PD plan, completion of or progress toward LIA (if applicable), PD participation and accrual of PD Points/LIA Renewal Points.

At the end of FY08, programs will complete a PD summary, including total PD Points earned by at least 60% of teachers.

See also: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeadult/PDPolicy.htm>

Questions about implementing this policy should be directed to:
Jane Miller, 303.866.6611

LD and Special Learning Needs

As of FY07, it is required that all AEFLA programs have in place a Special Learning Needs policy. The policy should conform to the guidelines provided in the "Supporting Adults With Learning Disabilities in AEFLA Funded Programs" notebook that was distributed to all programs' Learning Needs Coordinators. Additionally, each program must appoint one staff member to serve as Learning Needs Coordinator (LNC) to coordinate special needs/LD training, policy, reporting, and accountability. LNCs are responsible for: sharing current information about learning disabilities issues with program staff, ensuring that students are informed about availability of accommodations as part of their enrollment process or orientation, and attending CDE sponsored and/or recommended training.

Questions about implementing this policy should be directed to:
Douglas Glynn, 303.866.6607
