



# Adult Basic Education in Minnesota

Adult Basic Education (ABE) serves a significant population of adult learners in Minnesota by providing a variety of programs: English as a Second Language for refugees and immigrants, GED and Adult Diploma for individuals who did not complete high school, Workforce Education to improve employability for workers and college prep.

## Helping Individuals, Families and the Economy

**For many years, MN ABE** has strongly focused on helping adults prepare for employment and higher education. ABE along with DEED and MNSCU collaboratively offer a variety of instruction, such as Integrated Education and Training (IET), to help learners grow into jobs and careers in medical services, child care, and commercial truck driving. These career pathways lead to certification and credentials directly related to employment in the field.

ABE has also developed a focus on using technology to improve service delivery to ensure digital equity and accessibility. It recognizes the importance of acquiring basic tech skills required for communication, the workplace and everyday interactions.

**ABE Delivery System:** 300+ public school systems belong to one of 39 ABE consortiums. Some consortia have one district and others may have partnerships such as employers, career force, MN state colleges or tribal. Services are provided through local school districts, non-profit/community-based programs, and other organizations. Programs have the adaptability and capacity to respond to local conditions:

- When a local business lays off workers, ABE can focus resources on helping laid off workers develop skills needed for re-employment.
- When local employers need to upgrade their workforce, ABE can partner with companies and provide specialized on-site instruction.
- When large numbers of refugees resettle in Minnesota, ABE works to add ESL classes to serve them as quickly as possible.



# HOW DO ABE SERVICES HELP OVER 60,000 MINNESOTANS EACH YEAR?



## English as a Second Language

ESL works with immigrants and refugees whose native language is not English. Students develop speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills to effectively communicate in their workplaces and communities.

## Basic Skills

Basic skills help students develop fundamentals that are covered in high school such as math, reading, and writing.



## GED/Adult Diploma

For adult learners seeking to complete a high school equivalency, ABE programs offer General Educational Development (GED) instruction. Other alternatives include the MN Standard Adult Diploma and the Adult Diploma Credit Recovery program.



## College Prep

College Prep helps to set students up to be successful in post-secondary education. ABE provides resources that teaches fundamental skills needed such as passing entrance exams, the financial aid process, and more.

## Workforce Education

Workforce Education in ABE equips adult learners with literacy skills to obtain, retain, and improve employability. Examples include certification in healthcare, food service, manufacturing, customer service and more.



## Corrections

The MN Department of Corrections operates a statewide consortia of ABE programs on-site at correctional facilities.

## Additionally

Digital Learning, Technology Instruction, Citizenship Preparation, English Language Civics, and Family Literacy build engagement and stronger families. Parents are able to help children succeed with reading and more.



### For more information contact:

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# Formula Distribution for ABE Funding

Adult Basic Education (ABE) Programs provide academic instruction to persons over age 16 who are not otherwise attending school, enabling them to obtain high school diplomas or equivalency certificates. The commissioner of education must provide these programs. A district or an organization offering an ABE program may charge a sliding fee to program participants.

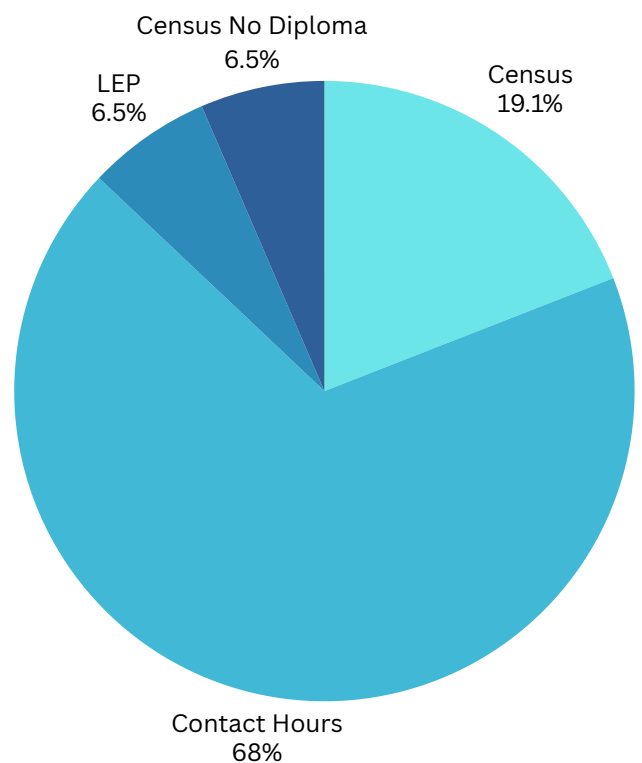
## The 4 Components to the ABE Formula:

- Contact hour aid, based on the number of hours in each consortia
- Total population in the service of each school district consortia
- Number of limited english proficient (LEP) students per service area of each school district consortia
- Number of adults 25 years and older without a secondary credential in the service area of each school district

ABE is funded federally through the Workforce Investment and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and through state funding. Funding from Minnesota is administered through a formula developed to provide fair and equitable access to ABE both in Greater Minnesota and the Metro area. Base funding in each district is tied to the population, the number of English language learners in K-12 and the number of adults without a secondary credential. Contact hour revenue is based on student hours that comprises the majority of funding for school districts and community-based non-profit organizations that offer ABE services.

## STATEWIDE DATA FOR THE PROGRAM YEAR 23-24:

- **39 CONSORTIA**
- **35,852,502 CONTACT HOURS**



### Data Resources:

1. *Minnesota Department of Education's Adult Basic Education Entitlement Report for 2024:* <https://public.education.mn.gov/MDEAnalytics/DataTopic.jsp?TOPICID=407>
2. *MN ABE Performance Targets and Results:* <http://mnabe.org/accountability-reporting/performance-targets-results>
3. *National Reporting System for Adult Education in Minnesota (MN) Reporting:* <https://nrs.ed.gov/rt/mn>