Learning to Achieve

Learning to Achieve (LTA) is a program developed by the National Institute for Literacy (NIFL) to provide knowledge and skills to individuals who are working with adults with learning disabilities. The materials are based on the most up-to-date research available on learning disabilities in adults. The LTA program consists of eight face-to-face modules, as well as additional online modules. For ABLE, the modules have been organized to comply with Ohio’s training requirements. Part of the LTA will be used in the revision of LD 201, now called “Introduction to Learning to Achieve,” which is coming out in January, 2011. Other pieces are offered in a workshop setting which replaces LD 202. Some online modules are prerequisites for the Learning to Achieve workshop. By gaining a better understanding of the difficulties faced by individuals with learning disabilities, and by using instructional practices that help those individuals become successful learners, ABLE instructors can help those individuals work toward a more secure future.

The C/SE staff will be offering a LTA workshop during the Spring PD Day in early April, 2011. Trainers, located throughout Ohio, will be offering training for staff at their institutions and can offer sessions for other programs interested in sponsoring a workshop. To schedule a workshop, contact Kate Fergus at fergus@ohio.edu.

Announcing a new Stipend/ Reimbursement Request Timeline

Beginning on January 1st, 2011, the timeline for requesting stipends will be more structured. The policies regarding eligibility to receive financial incentives remain the same. The timelines are to help the RCN to manage the professional development activities.

Face-to-Face Training Deadlines

Anyone attending a face-to-face training has a 30-day window of time in which to request a stipend. For example, if you attend training on January 8, 2011, you would have until February 8, 2011 to apply for a stipend.
For your convenience, the expiration date for a stipend request will appear on the registration page of the online PD System. When the 30 days has elapsed, the “Request Stipend” option will be grayed out, you will not be able to request a stipend for that activity.

Self-directed options

For self-directed (alternative delivery) options, there are two important time frames to remember. First, anyone using this option has six weeks in which to complete the coursework. Second, once completing the materials, there is the same 30-day requirement for requesting the stipend.

The following statements will appear on the registration page:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Completion Deadline**</th>
<th>Date in which the material must be completed (this is six weeks from registration date)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stipend Request Deadline</td>
<td>Date in which the stipend must be requested (this is ten weeks from registration date)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Completion requires all materials and assignments to be returned to the sponsoring resource center for stipend processing approval.

When the ten weeks has elapsed, you will not be able to request a stipend for that activity.

For Professional Development between July 1, 2010 and December 31, 2010

For those who have not requested stipends for professional development activities completed between July 1, 2010 and December 1, 2010, act now! Requests must be received no later than December 31, 2010 to be eligible for payment.


Adult Education State Directors, OVAE Plan 2011 National Meeting

The federal Office of Vocational and Adult Education, (OVAE) held a day-long meeting on Nov. 30, to begin planning the National Meeting for State Directors of Adult Education slated for May 10–12, 2011. Participants worked with the evaluation results
submitted by state personnel who attended the 2009 and 2010 national meetings. They also discussed emerging issues in the states around which to structure sessions.

Issues included but were not limited to the importance of states’ adult education systems helping more adults to successfully transition to postsecondary education or training opportunities. State directors and staff members who participated in the planning committee with OVAE personnel were Naomi Scales (Ala.), Amy Iutzi (Alaska), Reecie Stagnolia (Ky.), Anne Serino (Mass.), Dianne Duthie (Mich.), Kevin Smith (N.Y.), Jeff Gove (Ohio), Joanie Rethlake (Texas) and Randall Stamper (Va.). Details of the meeting will be posted on the OVAE home page as they become available.

**The Change Agent: Teaching Literacy and Numeracy**

The *Change Agent* provides a low-cost teaching resource that inspires and enables adult learners to improve their literacy and numeracy skills while making civic participation and social justice part of their learning. The publication, as well as the lesson plans included, are written for use in multilevel classrooms. The related website includes strategies for using the articles, on-line activities, and teaching with political and editorial cartoons.

*The Change Agent* accepts unsolicited submissions related to the theme of the issue in progress. The editors especially encourage teachers and students of adult education to consider writing for them. Fifty dollar stipends are provided adult education students whose work is accepted for publication.

A bulk subscription costs $60 per year. It includes a set of 25 copies of each issue of the magazine. The 56-page newspaper is published twice a year in March and September. Regional ABLE Resource Centers maintain copies for loaning out and local ABLE programs can also purchase annual subscriptions. For more information, visit *The Change Agent* website at [http://www.nelrc.org/changeagent](http://www.nelrc.org/changeagent)

**The Politics of Adult Education**

Adult education communities across the country are faced with continued assaults on adult education funding at both the state and federal levels. One answer to this crisis is a systematic mobilization of the field to make the political case for restricting cuts, regaining level funding or gaining increases.
Over the past four years the National Council of State Directors of Adult Education has sponsored focused training sessions for adult educators on the philosophy, tactics and strategies that will help to maximize the influence of the adult education community in the policy making arena primarily on the state level.

These sessions have usually taken place as part of a national, regional, or statewide conference. The most popular format seems to be a 30-40 minute keynote presentation followed by a two-three hour workshop on the key elements of successful state level advocacy campaigns. Some important topics examined during the presentation/workshops include: Essential Elements of State Advocacy Campaigns, Targeting Important Policy Makers, The Role of Students in Advocacy and Finding Allies to Move our Message.

Art Ellison, New Hampshire’s State Adult Education Director and Policy Committee Chair for the National Council of State Directors, provides most of these sessions but other Council staff are available as well. Since this work is supported by the National Council there is no cost to local organizations for the time of the presenters; however, local organizations are responsible for the travel and other accommodations for the trainer. Over the past four years, this training has been conducted in 32 states, some on multiple occasions. If your organization is interested in this training, please contact Art Ellison, Single Point of Contact (SPOC) network administrator, at aellison@ed.state.nh.us.

**OAACE Public Awareness Grant**

Congratulations to C-TEC!

The OAACE Public Awareness Grant, Fall 2010, has been awarded to C-TEC Adult Education in Newark, Ohio. The program will use the funds to assist with a marketing campaign (benefitting both ABLE/GED and ESOL) that will include the use of billboards. Grants will be made again in the spring. Don’t wait. Make a plan now. Submit your ideas to increase public awareness of your center and adult education. Applications and guidelines can be found at [www.oaace.org](http://www.oaace.org). Applications are due by March 31, 2011.

**Reminders**


3. **Friday Facts** – There will be no *Friday Facts* on December 24, 2010, the day before Christmas. The Next *Friday Facts* will be sent on January 7, 2011.

**Quote of the Week**

“First keep the peace within yourself, then you can also bring peace to others.”

—Thomas a Kempis (ca. 1380-1471), Monk, writer

**The Ohio Board of Regents and State ABLE Team wish you and yours peace and joy this Holiday Season.**