

44 North Coast Adult Education Consortium

Plans & Goals - Consortium Approved

Executive Summary

The North Coast Adult Education Consortium (NCAEC) serves Humboldt and Del Norte Counties. Membership consists of three K-12 Districts and one Community College District. Various other K-12 Districts, community agencies, and adult education supporters partner and collaborate with the NCAEC. All allocations have been consistent with the three year plan to support adult learners, program development, and streamlining of services. Allocations remain strategic and aligned with the three year plan, in the midst of the CAEP budget reductions. The vision of the NCAEC is to offer adult education classes at locations geographically accessible to learners with the NCAEC region. Based on identified workforce needs, NCAEC classes will increase educational attainment and career success by providing the preparation and skills needed for employment, continuing education, and personal growth of the residents of our region. The NCAEC's region strives for student equity and accessibility. Strategies to increase equity include access to technology, transportation assistance, and educational resources in Spanish, as 27% of NCAEC students identified as Hispanic. The pathway to become a student is welcoming and streamlined. Accomplishments from the 19/20 year include an increase in the number of CTE classes amongst all members, professional development of members, and increase in the number of college noncredit certificate completions. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, high school equivalency and work readiness classes were set to expand into the Eel River Valley and through a collaboration with the Department of Health and Human Services. In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the 20/21 goals include offering relevant adult education classes which will lead to employment or post-secondary education, supporting student participation, and persistence. The NCAEC will continue to work toward curriculum alignment across members to increase a no wrong door approach for adult learners. The NCAEC will continue to gather student data and utilize the data in driving decision-making.

Regional Planning Overview

In order to reach rural and remote students during the COVID-19 pandemic, the NCAEC is committed to offering online classes and limited face-to-face classes, in alignment with public health. Loaning technology to support adult learners will be a key strategy to promote access and equity with online class offerings, to rural and remote populations. Members continue to collect student data and use that information to drive decision-making. The NCAEC is continuing to work on curriculum alignment across the membership.

Meeting Regional Needs

Regional Need #1

Gaps in Service / Regional Needs

The NCAEC has identified offering ABE, HSE, AWD, and ESL courses as key regional needs.

How do you know? What resources did you use to identify these gaps?

The NCAEC identified this gap through use of research data, determining distance between education sites and students of origin, communication with partners, and analysis of fluctuating enrollment data.

How will you measure effectiveness / progress towards meeting this need?

The NCAEC will measure effectiveness through enrollment maintenance or increase, and/or employment gains.

Regional Need #2

Gaps in Service / Regional Needs

The NCAEC identified the regional need to provide additional CTE and WR classes.

How do you know? What resources did you use to identify these gaps?

California unemployment rose to 15.5% in April 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The rate of unemployment claims in April 2020 for the region was 13.7% Humboldt County and 13.1% Del Norte County (<https://www.edd.ca.gov/Newsroom/unemployment-may-2020.htm>). NCAEC members and partners have also shared that CTE and WR courses will support adults become more employable.

How will you measure effectiveness / progress towards meeting this need?

Effectiveness will be measured through enrollments, additional classes, and outreach.

Regional Need #3

Gaps in Service / Regional Needs

A regional need is to develop a clear pathway between members and partners for employment, career, and post-secondary training.

How do you know? What resources did you use to identify these gaps?

The gap was identified through the NCEAC membership.

How will you measure effectiveness / progress towards meeting this need?

Effectiveness will be measured through articulation agreements and a regional repository of curriculum between members.

Gaps In Service

New Strategies

Strategy #1

The NCAEC membership foresees most adult education classes occurring through a remote or distance education modality in the upcoming year. As such, the NCAEC has identified lack of technology as a gap in service for students. The NCAEC plans to lend technology to students who lack technology to access classes.

Strategy #2

Transportation is an ongoing gap within the region. The NCAEC will work to increase transportation assistance to adult students.

Strategy #3

Continue to work and expand upon community partnerships to provide better service and attainment of adult learner's desired outcome.

Seamless Transitions

New Strategies

Strategy #1

Increase faculty and member use of CASAS and/or MIS data to drive instruction, plan courses, and advise students.

Strategy #2

Work with ABE, ASE, and ESL students to assist with their transition to post-secondary pathways with lead to employment or better employment opportunities.

Student Acceleration

New Strategies

Strategy #1

To accelerate high school diploma completion use credit recovery opportunities and competency based tests to earn.

Strategy #2

Continue to offer compressed course scheduling, along with yearlong classes in HSE, WR, AWD, and ESL to meet the rural adult learner schedule.

Professional Development

New Strategies

Strategy #1

Increase consortium members' awareness and engagement with upcoming CAEP sponsored trainings and webinars.

Strategy #2

Use the expertise of other consortium leads and consultants to enrich the professional development of all.

Leveraging Resources

New Strategies

Strategy #1

As possible during the COVID-19 pandemic, leverage the NCAEC partnership's locations to interface with new and potential adult learners.

Strategy #2

Collaborate with NCAEC's partners to meet the education need of adults who require ABE, ESL, AWD, or WR skills to attain employment goals.

Fiscal Management

A narrative justifying how the planned allocations are consistent with the annual adult education plan which is based on your CAEP 3-year plan.

Allocations presented in this budget are appropriate to support the FY 20/21 adult education plan with the context of the CAEP three year plan. The funds are used to maintain infrastructure to house and offer adult education classes, expand courses upon community need, and facilitate community partnerships.

An approach to incorporating remaining carry-over funds from prior year(s) into strategies planned for 2020-21.

Remaining carry over funds will be used to establish new CTE programing and support the expansion of adult education classes.

Certification

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