

**Illinois Community College Board  
Adult Education and Literacy  
NRS/Core Outcome Measures**

The National Reporting System (NRS) for Adult Education is an outcome-based reporting system for the state-administered, federally funded adult education program. Developed with the support of the U.S. Department of Education's Division of Adult Education and Literacy (DAEL), the NRS continues a cooperative process between state adult education programs and DAEL to manage a reporting system that demonstrates learner outcomes for adult education. The NRS meets the accountability requirements for the adult education program in Title II of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

ED and the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) collaborated on the implementation of the performance accountability requirements in section 116 of WIOA. This important effort focused primarily on (1) developing the definitions and data elements for each of the six primary indicators of performance in section 116(b)(2)(A) and their applicability to the six core programs including the AEFLA program, (2) developing the statistical adjustment model required by section 116(b)(3)(A)(viii), (3) decisions concerning the model's application in setting adjusted levels of performance, and (4) decisions concerning the approach to negotiations for establishing adjusted levels of performance.

The primary indicators of performance are

- (I) the percentage of program participants who are in unsubsidized employment during the second quarter after exit from the program
- (II) the percentage of program participants who are in unsubsidized employment during the fourth quarter after exit from the program
- (III) the median earnings of program participants who are in unsubsidized employment during the second quarter after exit from the program
- (IV) the percentage of program participants who obtain a recognized postsecondary credential or a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent (subject to clause (iii)) during participation in or within one year after exit from the program
- (V) the percentage of program participants who, during a program year, are in an education or training program that leads to a recognized postsecondary credential or employment and who are achieving measurable skill gains toward such a credential or employment
- (VI) the indicators of effectiveness in serving employers.

Under WIOA, each State submitting a Unified State Plan is required to identify expected levels of performance for each of the primary indicators of performance for the first two years covered by the plan. The State is required to reach agreement with the Secretary of Labor in conjunction with the Secretary of Education on State adjusted levels of performance for the indicators for each of the first two years of the plan.

The collection of state outcomes enables states to correlate practices and programs with successful outcomes and also assists states in assessing progress in meeting their adult

**Illinois Community College Board  
Adult Education and Literacy  
NRS/Core Outcome Measures**

education goals. For local providers, the NRS helps instructors and administrators plan instructional activities and services to enhance student achievement.

Criteria for student inclusion in the NRS include the following

- Student must earn a minimum of **12 attendance** hours (For fixed entry programs, the student must also be successfully retained through the midterm.).
- Student must be assessed based on instructional type provided with an appropriate and approved assessment and recorded in the Adult Education data system.
- All necessary data must be collected and reported within the data system. The student must be free from all data errors as reported by the data collection system.
- Excludes Foreign Language HSE only students.
- Excludes VOC only students.

Federal law requires that states demonstrate continuous improvement in achievement of the outcomes negotiated. **Applicants will be required to meet and/or exceed all targets as set by the ICCB according to Federal National Reporting Systems (NRS) guidelines.** Eligible applicants funded will be required to use data to improve program service and delivery.

Funded applicants failing to meet these guidelines will be placed on a watch or a probation status as determined by the ICCB. After a second year of failing to meet an acceptable standard, the ICCB reserves the right to **defund** any provider who does not meet the outcomes.

The required measures for FY20 include the following:

- **Measurable Skill Gains**
  - *Definition:* Learner completes or advances one or more educational functioning levels from starting level measured on entry into the program. Allowable assessment to be used in measuring student functioning levels can be found in Appendix B of this application.
  - *Applicable Population:* All students meeting the criteria for NRS inclusion are automatically a part of this measure.
- **Employment 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter after Exit**
  - *Definition:* The percentage of program participants who are in unsubsidized employment during the second quarter after exit from the program.
  - *Applicable Population:* All exiting students are included as a part of this

**Illinois Community College Board  
Adult Education and Literacy  
NRS/Core Outcome Measures**

measure.

- **Employment 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter after Exit**

- *Definition:* The percentage of program participants who are in unsubsidized employment during the fourth quarter after exit from the program.
- *Applicable Population:* All exiting students are included as a part of this measure.

- **Median Earnings 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter after Exit**

- *Definition:* The median earnings of program participants who are in unsubsidized employment during the second quarter after exit from the program.
- *Applicable Population:* All exiting students are included as a part of this measure

- **Attained a Secondary School Diploma/Recognized Equivalent and Enrolled in Post-Secondary Education and Training within One Year of Exit**

- *Definition:* The percentage of program participants who, during a program year, are in an education or training program that leads to a recognized postsecondary credential or employment and who are achieving measurable skill gains toward such a credential or employment.
- *Applicable Population:* Exiters who were co-enrolled in postsecondary education including IET.

- **Attained a Secondary School Diploma/Recognized Equivalent and Employed within One Year of Exit**

- *Definition:* The percentage of program participants who, during a program year, are in an education or training program that leads to a recognized postsecondary credential or employment and who are achieving measurable skill gains toward such a credential or employment.
- *Applicable Population:* The total number of program participants who entered at or achieved the 9<sup>th</sup> grade educational functioning level or higher during the program year and exit from the program.

**Illinois Community College Board  
Adult Education and Literacy  
NRS/Core Outcome Measures**

- **Attained a Postsecondary Credential while Enrolled or within One Year of Exit.**
  - *Definition:* The percentage of program participants who obtain a recognized postsecondary credential or a Secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent (subject to clause (iii)) during participation in or within one year after exit from the program.
  - *Applicable Population:* The total number of program participants who entered at or achieved the 9<sup>th</sup> grade educational functioning level or higher during the program year and exit from the program.