

# First Mondays

Monthly Notes for Virginia's Adult Education Providers

February 2, 2015

## Calendar

Virginia Literacy  
Leadership Council  
(VLLC) Conference

February 26-27  
Richmond

Regional Program  
Managers and EL/Civics  
Program Managers  
Meeting

March 24-25  
Stonewall Jackson Hotel  
and Conference Center  
Staunton

IEL/Civics Symposium

April 9-10  
Wyndham Virginia  
Crossings Hotel and  
Conference Center  
Glen Allen

### In Transition

By Dr. Susan M. Clair

All of us have been in some type of transition during our lifetimes. I can think of several that really affected me. Transitioning from high school to college was a scary transition. I had to leave the comfort of home and go away to college and deal with roommates, cafeteria food, and Freshman English! The transition to college was hard, uncertain, and challenging. What about transitioning from the 2002 GED® test to the 2014 GED® program? The transition from the 2013 to the 2014 GED® test was fraught with challenges, including limited staff, hours of overtime work, and the uncertainty about what the new test would bring. In 2015, here we are again with another transition, this time from WIA to WIOA. As with any transition, it may be challenging implementing the new requirements. There may be uncertainty in how to communicate these new requirements to teachers and how these requirements will look in the classroom. And, we may experience difficulties partnering with other agencies that may not have the same visions as we do.

To assist OAEL with the 2015 transitional state plan that is to be submitted to OCTAE, we have coordinated two listening sessions for regional program managers and EL/Civics program managers. These listening sessions are intended to “listen” to what programs have to tell us about how they will transition to integrated education and training, integrated EL/Civics, and workforce preparation activities. We will also listen to the concerns that programs have about implementing the new *College and Career Readiness Standards for Adult Education* and to help us understand who your regional partners are and what constitutes effective partnering. WIOA brings more emphasis on employer partnerships. Employer partnerships with education providers are eligible entities under Title II. This creates opportunities for employers and providers to team up and offer foundation skill development opportunities for low-skilled workers looking to get ahead.

## WIOA

Resources for WIOA  
Information

[OCTAE](#)

[Department of Labor](#)

[National Skills Coalition](#)

## Update on High School Equivalency Options

By Dr. Susan M. Clair

At the September 18, 2014 Virginia Board of Education (BOE) meeting, the director of the OAEL requested that the BOE approve the GED® examination because a high school equivalency examination had not been officially approved for Virginia since the change of wording in the *Code of Virginia*. The BOE temporarily approved the GED® test and directed OAEL to conduct a Request for Information (RFI) to obtain additional information about other high school equivalency options to make a more informed decision about which high school equivalency (HSE) examination(s) would best meet the needs of Virginia's adult learners. OAEL has contracted with James Madison University (JMU) to develop and issue an RFI to HSE vendors. Responses to the RFI will be reviewed by a High School Equivalency Review Committee comprised of key stakeholders and OAEL staff. The HSE Review Committee, along with OAEL, will also participate in a vendor presentation forum in mid-April to evaluate the HSE options. The evaluation of HSE options and survey of key stakeholders will take place during January-May 2015. JMU will write a report of the HSE findings and review process and present it to the Adult Education and Literacy Advisory Committee in June. In July, the Advisory Committee will make a recommendation to the Board of Education as to which option(s) best meet the needs of adult learners in Virginia.

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## Single Sign-on for Web Systems (SSWS) Update

By Tom Suh

The following is a summary of recent updates to the adult education application in SSWS. A complete update will be sent to current local and regional program managers.

### Goal Requirement for NRS Reporting

Earlier in the program year, Virginia Department of Education information technology staff (VDOE IT) removed the goal requirement

## First Mondays cont.

February 2015

# GED® Stats

2015

GED accounts – 1,851

Test takers – 699

Completers – 189

Passers – 137

State pass rate - 72%

National pass rate - 60%

for National Reporting System (NRS) reporting for the 2014-2015 fiscal year. Effective July 1, 2014, adult education students in SSWS will be captured on NRS tables as long as they have at least 12 hours of instruction and a valid assessment (i.e., a current pre-test or post-test result).

Please remember that if a student is taking classes in more than one locality, the data system will not recognize the student's instructional hours unless that student has accumulated at least 12 hours at one class location. For example, SSWS will not capture a student with six hours of instruction in Waynesboro and eight hours of instruction in Augusta for NRS reporting purposes, even though the student's total hours of instruction exceeds the 12-hour minimum. However, SSWS will capture a student with 12 hours of instruction in Waynesboro and 2 hours in Augusta on NRS tables and report the student as having 14 hours of instruction.

Although documenting a goal in SSWS is no longer required for the system to capture students on NRS tables, it is still required for two NRS reporting functions. Students with a 2014-2015 entering educational functioning level (EFL)\* of ASE High can demonstrate a gain only by earning a secondary credential or earning a GED® credential. To demonstrate the gain, programs must indicate that the student has set and met the goal of earning a secondary credential (i.e., an adult high school diploma or a National External Diploma Program [NEDP] credential) or the goal of obtaining a GED®.

Programs must also document goal information in SSWS if the justification for the use of a post-test waiver is that the student has set and met the goal of achieving a follow-up outcome. Currently, this justification is required for documenting the use of a TABE post-test waiver and is one of two options for justifying the use of a CASAS post-test waiver.

Since documenting goal information is required for demonstrating a gain for ASE High students and for justifying the use of select post-test waivers, local or regional program staff responsible for setting student goals are still required to have a current Office of Adult Education and Literacy (OAE) goal-setting policy certification.

\* SSWS assigns a student with an entering EFL of ASE High either as the result of scoring at the ASE High level on a pre-test administered in fiscal year 2014-2015 (in accordance with NRS pre-testing guidelines), or by post-testing at the ASE High level in the 2013-2014 fiscal year and continuing as a student in 2014-2015.



## Resources for GED 2014 Information

[Virginia's GED Web site](#)

[VALRC](#)

[Online Forum for Virginia's](#)

[2014 GED Instructors](#)

[GEDTS](#)

[OAEL](#)

OAEL staff is reviewing the need for goal reporting for 2015-2016, which will most likely inform the need for revising the current goal-setting policy. OAEL will notify programs of any changes. Until then, programs should not anticipate or assume any changes other than the ones mentioned in this update.

### **Adult Education Application Conversion**

The VDOE IT is currently converting the adult education application to be 508(b) compliant. The current target window for completion of the conversion is March-May 2015. Until then, all requests for enhancements to the adult education application will not be addressed. VDOE IT will “fold into” the conversion process longstanding requests such as the development of fields that accommodate the 2014 GED® testing information or correcting the calculation used to determine whether the student passed the 2002 version of the GED® test.

When fully converted, not only will the data system include features that were previously requested, but local and regional program staff will also no longer be limited to using only one version of Internet Explorer to navigate the adult education application. It is anticipated that popular Internet browsers such as Mozilla FireFox and Google Chrome, in addition to the most current version of Internet Explorer, will be fully functional within the converted adult education application.

### **2014 GED® Test-taker Information**

OAEL would like to request that local and regional adult education programs withhold sending the state office 2014-2015 GED® test-taker information for adult education program students. Once the adult education application has been converted, programs will be able to enter the information on their own. Until then, it would be helpful if programs could work with their staff to maintain GED® test taker information on site either by maintaining hard copy GED® test-taker information or entering GED® test-taker information into a spreadsheet.



Knowledge Center is now active as VALRC's learning management system. To log into the VALRC Knowledge Center domain (KC) navigate to:

[https://covkc.virginia.gov/valrc/Kview/CustomCodeBehind/Customization/Login/COV\\_Login.aspx](https://covkc.virginia.gov/valrc/Kview/CustomCodeBehind/Customization/Login/COV_Login.aspx)

## Money Matters

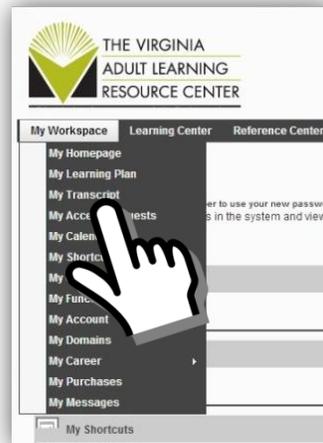
The last day for technology budget transfers is February 3, 2015.

Final reimbursement requests for approved technology purchases are due by April 17, 2015.

### How to Print a Certificate of Completion

You can print a certificate of completion after successfully completing an online or classroom training event. ***If there is a survey associated with the course, you must complete the survey before you can print a certificate.***

Navigate to My Learning Center



Click My Transcript. (You can print your entire transcript here.)

Click the name of a completed training event.

Welcome, MAURIC

THE VIRGINIA ADULT LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER

Enter Search Text...

Site Map | Domain Console | My Messages (53) | Shopping

My Workspace Learning Center Reference Center Collaboration Center Administration

Home >> My Workspace >> My Transcript

### My Transcript

Transcript/My Transcript contains all the content items that users/you have started or completed, as well as training assignments.

Learning History | Waived Items | Certifications | External Learning | Training Assignments | Expired Learning Attempts | Legacy Lea

Print Version | Export As PDF

View the user's record of courses, tests and other items. Users: Use the links to access items.

Name MAURICE OLIVER

Current Date 1/9/2015

Start Date [ ]

End Date 12:00 AM [ ]

Midnight

Content Filter All Courses [v]

Apply

Records found: 55

	Title	Type	Start Date	Complete Date	Progress Status	Credit Hours	Credit Type
1	VALRC - Fun with an iPad	Online	11/19/2014	11/20/2014	Complete	3	Contact Hours
1	VALRC - Assessment (Initial)	Online	10/7/2014	10/7/2014	Complete	2	Contact Hours



# OAEL

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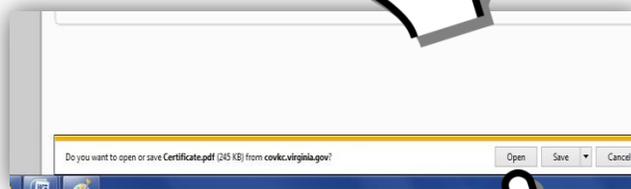
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Please visit the [OAEL Web site](#) for more information about adult education and literacy in Virginia and for news and updates throughout the month.

Click View Certificate.



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Print the document.

