

First Mondays

Monthly Notes for Virginia's Adult Education Providers

May 2, 2016

Calendar

VAILL
James Madison University
July 27-29
Harrisonburg

Mandatory Deadlines for Reimbursement Submissions

By Melissa Dixon, Grants Manager, OAEL

Because the Commonwealth of Virginia replaced its financial system in February 2016, there is an accelerated closing schedule for state grants. As a result, state agencies, including OAEL, have moved up their submission deadlines in order to process payments prior to the state's fiscal year end and the expiration of the availability of state funds. These deadlines apply to state grant reimbursements only and affect the GAE, SLCA, PluggedInVA, and Race to GED awards. Although in past fiscal years reimbursements were accepted after specified deadlines on a limited basis, this year's deadlines are mandatory.

If you submit reimbursement requests for state funds through OMEGA, your request must be approved through the Level 3 approver by June 10, 2016. OAEL must submit the requests to Fiscal Services no later than June 14 to ensure payment by June 24, 2016. If reimbursement claims must be sent back to you for correction or greater clarification, please be mindful of the June 14 OAEL submission deadline to Fiscal Services for processing. Sub-grantees are responsible for monitoring their OMEGA To-Do lists for denied reimbursement requests.

If your fiscal agent is a community college and you submit paper reimbursement requests for GAE and SLCA grant awards, the deadline for final reimbursements is June 1, 2016. The deadline for paper requests to be received in Fiscal Services is June 3, 2016. OAEL is not responsible for delays in mail delivery services.

If your grant funds are expended prior to the end of the grant year, you are encouraged to submit your reimbursement requests prior to

Money Matters

Reminder:

Final budget amendment requests for federal grant awards must be submitted by May 23, 2016.

the end of the grant.

Knowledge Center Update

By Maurice Oliver, Technology Implementation Specialist, VALRC

Changes are coming to Virginia's learning management system, currently referred to as "Knowledge Center." This summer, the Commonwealth will unveil an updated learning management solution from Meridian Knowledge Solutions. Meridian 16.1 promises improved functionality, including an improved user experience, enhanced custom field functionality, and better reporting options, to name a few of the many improvements.

In the coming weeks, you can expect to hear more about the roll out, including a new name and branding. Though we expect the migration of data from the current version to be a seamless process, we realize that change can bring about discomfort. VALRC will continue to offer training and technical assistance to support the upgrade. As we get closer to the go-live date, I will provide updates and instructions. After the system goes live, I will supply job aids and online tutorials to help make the transition easier.

You can help by making sure that we have correct information for yourself and users in your region. If users are no longer active or if their contact information (email, phone number, etc.) has changed, please let us know so that we can make the appropriate corrections before the migration. We can provide reports of what's in Knowledge Center now.

Thanks for your patience as we move toward a improved learning management solution. If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at 804-827-1234 or moliver@vcu.edu.

GED® Stats

January 1 – May 2, 2016

Test takers – 3,932

First time completers –
1,941

Passers – 1,412

State Pass Rate – 75 %

National Pass Rate – 74%

July 1, 2015 – May 2, 2016

Test takers – 6,079

First time completers –
3,725

Passers – 6,081*

State Pass Rate – 83%

National Pass Rate – 81%

*Includes 647 passers who were grandfathered in when passing score calculations were changed.

VAILL UPDATE

OAEL will begin to accept submissions for VAILL presentations and workshops this week. Interest strands and topics are listed below for your consideration for presentations you may wish to propose.

Presentation and Workshop Strands

Instruction	Career Pathways in WIOA	Programmatic Topics	Supporting Specific Populations
Topics			
Best Practices for ABE/HSE	Partnerships	Data Management	Refugee and Immigrant
Best Practices for ESOL	Integrated Education and Training	Data Analytics	Corrections and Re-entry
Workforce Preparation	Policy and Implementation	Professional Development	Learning Disabled
Project-based Learning	Other	Classroom Management	Physically Disabled
Distance Education		Other	Displaced Workers
Transition from ESOL to ABE			Out-of-School Youth
Reading Components for Literacy			Older Individuals
Technology Infusion			Other
Standards-based Instruction			
Rigorous and Interactive Instructional Strategies			
Other			

OAEL

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

The theme of VAILL 2016 is "Learn . . . Connect . . . Achieve," which captures the new direction of adult education as a partner of a coordinated workforce system. We invite you to consider doing a presentation or conducting a workshop on one or more of the strands and topics listed in the table above. Please encourage your staff and others to submit proposals for presentations at VAILL.

The driving force behind VAILL's success and popularity over the years has been, in large part, the willingness of adult educators to share their knowledge and experiences with their peers through quality presentations and workshops. This year's institute will continue that tradition.

