



Iowa's Community Colleges: Working Together for the Future of Iowa

Adult Education and Literacy (AEL) is a program dedicated to putting individuals on a career pathway leading to living-wage employment. Funded annually through Iowa Skilled Worker and Job Creation Fund and Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Title II allocations, AEL serves individuals who are at least 16 years of age, no longer in school, and have academic and workforce skill needs. AEL providers assist individuals to become proficient in reading, writing, English language, civics education; and to gain the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to acquire a high school credential, employment, or post-secondary education and training.



AEL Participants and State Support

Total Participants

11,247 participants

Adult Basic Education

6,486 participants

English as a Second Language

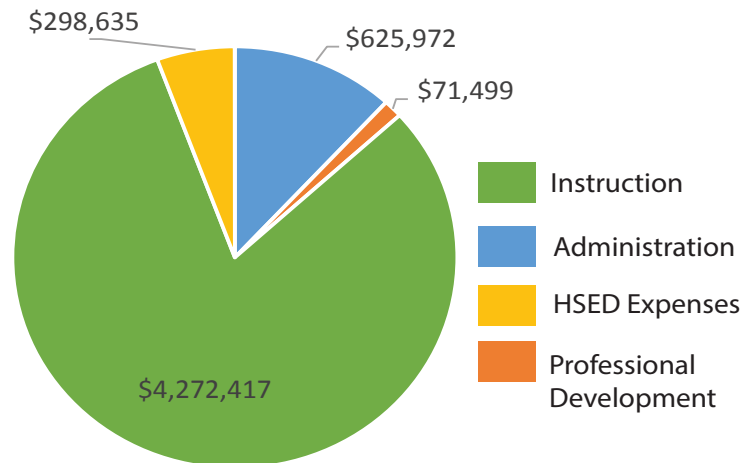
4,761 participants

High School Equivalency Diplomas

1,602 completed

State AEL Expenditures

\$468.44 per Participant



Total State Funding Fiscal Year 2018 \$5,777,481*

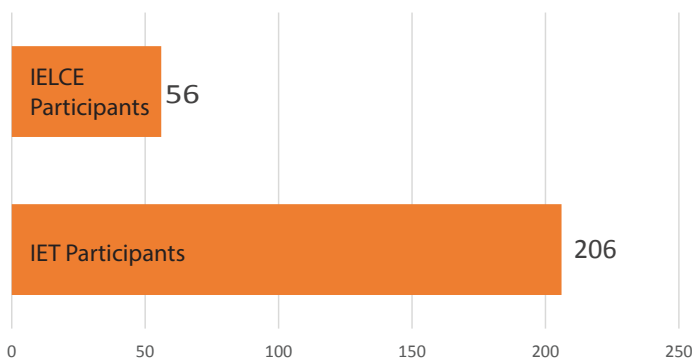
* State Funds unexpended \$508,958



AEL Supported Activities and Outcomes

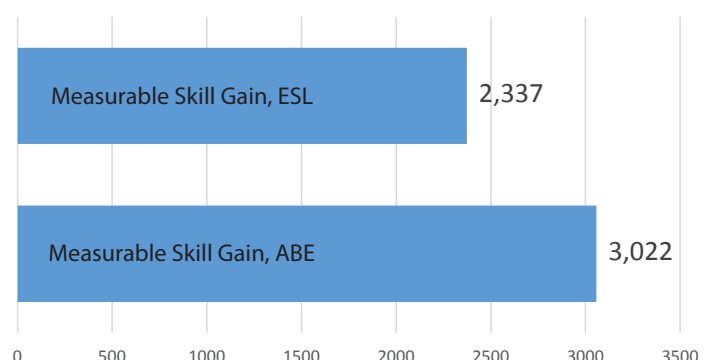
Integrated Education and Training (IET) and Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education (IELCE) are new AEL activities that combine basic skills, workplace skills, and specific industry training.

AEL Participants Within Supported Activities



A Measurable Skill Gain (MSG) demonstrates participants' progress toward achieving a credential or employment and is a federally measured outcome. Of the 11,247 participants in 2018, 47.6 percent achieved a MSG.

AEL Outcomes, Measurable Skill Gains





Adult Education and Literacy Participants by Region

AEL Provider	Adult Basic Education	English as Second Language	Total Participants (total initial participation) *
Northeast Iowa	227	84	311
North Iowa Area	201	58	259
Iowa Lakes	87	55	142
Northwest Iowa	62	125	187
Iowa Central	659	360	1,019
Iowa Valley	179	299	478
Hawkeye	236	547	783
Eastern Iowa	718	267	985
Kirkwood	999	685	1,684
Des Moines Area	1,390	1,386	2,776
Western Iowa Tech	349	529	878
Iowa Western	458	99	557
Southwestern	133	41	174
Indian Hills	223	191	414
Southeastern	565	35	600
Total	6,486	4,761	11,247
% of Total	57.7%	42.3%	100.0%

*Each participant is a unique count, however participants may have multiple periods of participation.



Testimonials

Sara, a 26-year-old, had only completed through the 8th grade in a homeschool setting. She struggled with math, in general, and didn't have experience with some of the higher-level math such as algebra, in particular. Sara needed a high school diploma to progress with her career goals, so she enrolled in North Iowa Area Community College's program in Charles City, Iowa in January 2017. Through her participation in NIACC's program, Sara raised her math level from 1st grade to 5th grade in three months. After two more months of study, Sara successfully passed the HiSET® exam and earned her high school equivalency diploma in May 2017. After completing her diploma, Sara enrolled in a CNA course and is planning to find employment at a long-term care facility in her area.

Winifred, a refugee from Cameroon, came to America seeking a better life. Although she was an early childhood teacher in her country, her education and experience were not recognized in America, so she entered AEL to earn her high school equivalency diploma. Winnie took classes in math, social studies, science, reading, and writing. "Because she left all of her family behind in Cameroon, we tried to become a surrogate family for her and encouraged her to keep working toward her goal," shared Ashleigh Richmond, Program Coordinator at the Community Education Center. Winnie earned her high school equivalency diploma and is currently preparing to enroll in a social work program at Indian Hills Community College.