



Adult Basic Education in Minnesota

Adult Basic Education (ABE) serves a significant population of adult learners in Minnesota by providing a variety of programs: English as a Second Language for refugees and immigrants, GED and Adult Diploma for individuals who did not complete high school, Workforce Education to improve employability for workers and college prep.

Helping Individuals, Families and the Economy

For many years, MN ABE has strongly focused on helping adults prepare for employment and higher education. One example includes DEED and MnSCU who collaboratively developed FastTRAC: a program that offers a variety of instruction to help learners grow into jobs and careers in medical services, child care, and commercial truck driving. These pathways lead to certification and credentials directly related to employment in the field.

ABE has also developed a focus on using technology to improve service delivery to ensure digital equity and accessibility. ABE recognizes the importance of acquiring basic tech skills required for communication, the workplace and everyday interactions.

ABE services are provided in all of Minnesota through a network of 39 consortiums that include local school districts, non-profits, and other organizations. Programs have the adaptability and capability to respond to local conditions:

- When a local business lays off workers, ABE can focus resources on helping laid off workers develop skills needed for re-employment.
- When local employers need to upgrade their workforce, ABE can partner with companies and provide specialized on-site instruction.
- When large numbers of refugees are resettled in Minnesota by aid agencies, ABE can quickly add ESL classes to serve them.



HOW DO ABE SERVICES HELP OVER 36,000 MINNESOTANS EACH YEAR?

English as a Second Language

ESL works with immigrants and refugees whose native language is not English. Students develop speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills to effectively communicate in their workplaces and communities.



Basic Skills

Basic Skills help students develop fundamentals that are learned in high school such as math, reading, and writing.



GED/Adult Diploma

For adult learners seeking to complete a high school equivalency, ABE programs offer General Educational Development (GED) instruction. Other alternatives include the MN Standard Adult Diploma and the Adult Diploma Credit Recovery program.



College Prep

College Prep helps to set students up to be successful in post-secondary education. ABE provides resources that teaches fundamental skills needed such as passing entrance exams, the financial aid process, and more.



Workforce Education

Workforce Education in ABE equips adult learners with literacy skills to obtain, retain, and improve employability.



Additionally

Citizenship Preparation, English Language Civics, and Family Literacy build civic engagement and stronger families.

