



Welcome to WebChat with MNABE

Wednesday, February 18, 2026

Welcome to WebChat with Minnesota Adult Education!



- We'll begin at 1:00.
- Please stay muted to reduce background noise.
- If you are having any tech issues, please chat to Wendy Lindblom for assistance.

Check-In Discussion (introduce yourself and enter responses in the chat):

How are your student numbers and contact hours? Have you made any adaptations to your programming?

Agenda

- Sponsor Message from Literacy Action Network
- Announcements
- WIOA and Federal Updates
- Minnesota Adult Literacy Hotline
- High School Equivalency
- Grants, Funding, and Contact Hours
- Transitions
- Assessment
- Professional Development
- Questions



A large, grey stone monument shaped like the state of Minnesota. The word "Minnesota" is written across the middle in a red, cursive script. At the bottom, the words "Welcomes You" are carved into the stone in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The monument is set against a blue sky with white clouds.

Adult Education Team @ MDE

Brad Hasskamp, State Director

Astrid Liden, Professional Development

Hailey Swanson, Grants, Records, and
Admin Support

Jodi Versaw, Program Quality

Julie Dincau, Transitions

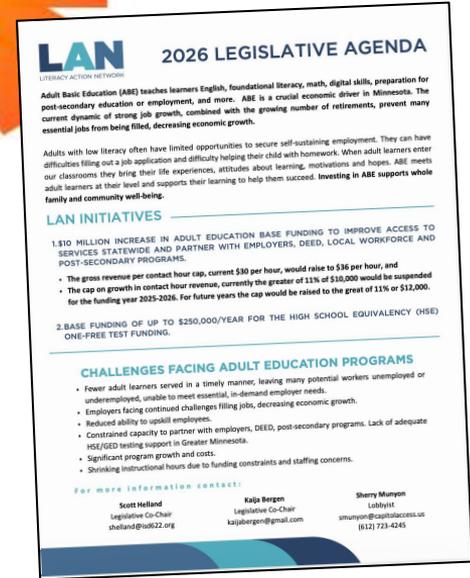
Neill Allard, Records, Communications,
and Admin Support

Sponsor Message



LAN
LITERACY ACTION NETWORK

- **Summer Institute 2026** (virtual conference)
 - **August 12th–13th**
 - Accepting proposals until March 31st, 2026
 - Keynote Speaker: Amanda Longie, MA, LADC
- **MN ABE Spotlight Submissions**
 - Posted monthly on the MN ABE website
- **Legislative Platform 2026**
 - 10 million increase for adult education base funding
 - \$250,000 per year for high school equivalence testing (HSE)



Announcements



Thank you for serving your learners and communities!

This has been a difficult and stressful time in Minnesota for communities and Adult Education learners, staff, and volunteers. Programs have adapted quickly to help students learn, to help keep people safe, and to even help ensure people's basic needs are met. Thank you for the important work you do.



Spotlight Your Adult Education People and Program!

LAN is collecting and sharing Spotlights showcasing Minnesota Adult Education people and programs. These Spotlights can be found in email and via mnabe.org. You can submit your Spotlight at mnabe.org/spotlight-submission/.

Spotlight Submission

We invite *Spotlight* nominations for outstanding practitioners or programs who demonstrate creativity, innovation, and dedication in Adult Education across Minnesota. These nominees set a high standard of excellence through meaningful, high-quality work that makes a lasting impact. Their commitment shows in the depth and quality of their service. Help us celebrate these remarkable leaders in Adult Education by submitting a nomination. A new *Spotlight* will be featured each month on MN ABE's homepage.

Person of Contact **(Required)**

First

Last

Email Address **(Required)**

Program/Organization **(Required)**

Location

Resilient in the Challenge: Jane Graupman

Our state is appearing in national newspapers. This is the second time in this decade that unrest in Minnesota has highlighted a real national challenge. It is also a time when Minnesotans rise to the challenge of leading our state, and our nation through these hard times.

When the media from around the world wants to understand how changes in U.S. federal immigration policies are affecting the people without voices, they turn to a longtime leader in adult basic education. Jane Graupman, Executive Director of the International Institute of Minnesota and chair of the Saint Paul Community Literacy Consortium, leads programs that have garnered national recognition, including a Medical Careers Pathway, a top-performing refugee resettlement department, and anti-human trafficking services. Beyond program development, Jane has been a steadfast advocate for immigrants' rights both in Minnesota and nationally. She has led the Institute's participation in over 90 community outreach events, engaging more than 4,000 individuals in the past two years.

Being engrossed in the community allows her to speak for ABE students. In a recent Washington Post article, Jane was quoted describing the families she has met, "They are working, they are supporting their families, they are sending their kids to American schools, they are learning English." She has also been a voice on MPR radio, and CBS news. Making sure that the world knows how ABE learners are affected by policy changes.

In the years to come, there will be more changes in our future. There always will be a need for ABE leadership to bring forth the voices of our learners. Jane Graupman offers an example of how we can all lead in hard times. The path to good times is through each of us leading through hard times.



Spotlight Submission

WIOA and Federal Updates

Federal Funding Update



Congress has passed a budget bill for Labor-Health and Human Services-Education-Other Agencies that includes level funding nationally for Adult Education. The President signed the bill.

Next Steps:

- U.S. Department of Education or Labor issues an estimated award memo to state adult education agencies.
- U.S. Department of Education or Labor issues a Notice of Award that officially makes the funding available to states. This is typically issued July 1 annually.

Minnesota's DRAFT WIOA Plan Revision Now Posted for Public Comment

The proposed modifications are now open for a 30-Day Public Comment Period, closing on **Monday, March 16, 2026.**

The WIOA 2024–2027 Combined State Plan Modification includes modifications from the 2024 plan.

The plan and a summary of changes can be found on the [GWDB website](#).

The screenshot shows the website for the Minnesota Governor's Workforce Development Board. The header includes the logo and name, a search bar, and navigation links for Priorities and Initiatives, Publications, Upcoming Meetings, About Us, and Contact Us. The main content area features a breadcrumb trail: Home > Priorities and Initiatives > Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. A sidebar menu lists various initiatives, with 'Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act' selected. The main content area is titled 'Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Overview' and contains text about the plan's purpose and a list of modifications. A prominent notice states: 'The proposed modifications are now open for a 30-Day Public Comment Period, closing on Monday, March 16, 2026.' Below this, a list of modifications is provided, including Title I, Title II, Title III, Title IV, Career and technical education programs, and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program.

MINNESOTA
GOVERNOR'S WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Search

Priorities and Initiatives Publications Upcoming Meetings About Us Contact Us

Home > Priorities and Initiatives > Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act

Priorities and Initiatives

- Governor Walz
- Executive Initiatives
- Drive for 5 Subcommittees
- Racial Equity in Education, Training and Employment
- Disabilities Equity in Education, Training and Employment
- Youth Programs Committee
- Future of Work Committee
- ▶ Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Overview

The [Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act](#) presents Minnesota with an opportunity to continue to improve our workforce development system through enhancing partnerships, strategic planning, and service delivery at the state level. The WIOA State Plan is designed to promote and increase opportunities for cross-sector partnerships to achieve better outcomes for both workers and employers across the state.

2026 State Plan Modification

- ▶ [Minnesota's Combined State Plan for WIOA - 2026 Modification](#)

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) requires the Governor to submit a State Plan to the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) and U.S. Department of Education (ED). This plan outlines the state's vision and goals for workforce development activities for federal program years 2024-2027 and how a series of federal programs will be used to support their work to the state's vision and goals. As required by federal law, the Governor must review and submit modifications "to reflect changes in labor market and economic conditions or in other factors that affect the state plan." All proposed modifications to Minnesota's State Plan reflect changes as required by federal law.

The proposed modifications are now open for a 30-Day Public Comment Period, closing on Monday, March 16, 2026.

The WIOA 2024 - 2027 Combined State Plan Modification includes [modifications from the following list](#):

- Title I of WIOA: the Adult program, the Dislocated Worker program, and the Youth program
- Title II of WIOA: the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act program;
- Title III of WIOA: the Wagner-Peyser Act Employment Service program (authorized under title III); and
- Title IV: the Vocational Rehabilitation program (authorized under Title I of the Rehabilitation Act)
- Career and technical education programs authorized under the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act as amended by the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.)

Curious about data/reports shared with the U.S. Department of Education?



Home Reporting Tables Document Search Reports

STATES AND OUTLYING AREAS LIST



Minnesota Adult Education statewide reports are submitted to the National Reporting System (NRS) as statewide totals.

- Find the exact reports submitted by Minnesota at:

<https://nrs.ed.gov/rt/mn>

Note that these reports do not include individual-level data.

Minnesota Adult Literacy Hotline

Adult Literacy Hotline

- Please ensure your **hotline page** is up-to-date: hotline.mnabe.org
- We are seeing influx of requests for **online ESL/ELL** and **online registration** due to safety concerns.
- If your program offers **pre-lit** and **beginner friendly online classes**, and/or **online registration** please let us know!
- For more help updating your hotline page check out this quick [video](#) and the [SiD support website](#).
- [Join the hotline and SiD support](#) on **March 26th**, 10-11am for an in-depth exploration on how the hotline can best **support your program!**
- **Changes** are coming to the hotline! Please stay tuned.
- Contact me at: CJensen@literacymn.org.

The screenshot shows the 'Adult Literacy Hotline' website interface. At the top, it says 'Minnesota has nearly 300 programs offering free classes in ESL, GED, college prep, computers and more. Let us help you find the right class.' Below this is a 'Need Help?' section with contact information: 'Call: 800-222-1990 Text: 612-424-1211'. The main content area is titled 'Find free classes for adults' and includes search filters for 'Find classes within' (50 miles), 'City' (alexandria), and a 'SEARCH' button. To the right are three columns of filterable categories: 'Class Subjects' (Acuplacer, Adult Diploma, Career Pathway - Food Service, Career Pathway - Health Care, Career Training, Citizenship, College Prep, Computer, English (ESL), GED Prep, HiSET Prep, Math, Reading), 'Class Times' (Morning, Afternoon, Evening, Weekend), and 'Class Types' (In Person, Online). Below these is a 'Services' section with checkboxes for Childcare, Brain injury or stroke, Deafness or hearing loss, Blindness or low vision, and Accessible building. At the bottom, there is a table of 'ABE Sites within 50 miles of alexandria (11 total)'. The table lists four sites: Alexandria (1 mile), Long Prairie (25.5 miles), Melrose (31.3 miles), and Morris (32.7 miles). A map on the right shows the locations of these sites.

City	Program/Site	Distance
1 Alexandria	Alexandria ABE/ESL — Alexandria ABE	1
2 Long Prairie	Central MN-North/Freshwater — Long Prairie GED/ESL	25.5
3 Melrose	Alexandria ABE/ESL — Melrose High School Media Center	31.3
4 Morris	Alexandria ABE/ESL — Morris ABE	32.7

High School Equivalency (HSE)

New Partial GED and HiSET Subsidy Codes

Funding for MNHSEFREE has run out.

New codes to get a test discount:

- GED: **MNGED10** (\$10 off per subject test, can be used 4 times max per tester)
- HiSET (coming soon): **MNHiSET8** (\$8 off per subject test, can be used 5 times max per tester)



\$40

Discount per tester

Share your GED and HiSET Stories!



Any inspiring GED or HiSET stories (about testers, graduates, teachers, test centers, prep programs, etc.), please send to neill.allard@state.mn.us

GED Test Scoring Scale



- GED Testing Service (GEDTS) is working on updating the scoring color scale from red, yellow and green.
- Right now, they are in the process of testing a blue and purple colored scale.
- To do this, they have selected a group of testers across the US (none of whom have selected a prep center in their account) to get a sense of whether or not they should update the scoring scale to these colors.
- So, if any of your students see this on their score reports they should not be alarmed

GED: Reminders about OP Guardianship

Question: Who can serve as a legal guardian for underage OP testers?

Answer:

Anyone above the age of 18 can do this.

They just need to show their valid driver's license to the proctor during check in.

So, for example, it can be an Educator, Program Coordinator/Program Manager, or friend.

It does not have to be an actual parent/guardian.



Grants, Funding, and Contact Hours

Additional 2025–26 Federal Adult Education funds (FIN 438)

Small additional awards will be made to all consortia that receive federal funding.

Additional amount is ~4% of original award (minus Regional Transitions funding)

- Redistribution of underspending from 2024–25
- Funds must be spent by June 30

Revised award letters will be sent via email

- To IOWA (Identified Official with Authority, e.g. superintendent or ED)
- CC to Adult Education consortium manager

Additional Federal Funds – Submit revised budget in MEGS



Once you receive the revised award letter, please work with your business office to **create and submit a revised budget** in MEGS.

2025-26 Federal Adult Education funds (FIN 438) - payments

MEGS quarterly reimbursement request schedule:

October 31, 2025: expenses from the start of grant to September 30, 2025

January 30, 2026: expenses from October 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025

April 30, 2026: expenses from January 1, 2026 to March 30, 2026

July 15, 2026: expenses from April 1, 2026 to June 30, 2026

28

29

30

ABE Narratives



Lakes Area Adult Education

Our Mission: Provide educational opportunities for career advancement, higher education, and personal growth.



2024-2025 ABE Narrative

Section 1 Overview

Narrative Response

Section 2: Accountability

Narrative Response

Section 3: Professional Development & Training

Narrative Response

Section 4: Educational Quality

Narrative Response



Duluth Adult Education

Duluth Adult Education 2025 Narrative



2026 ABE Consortium Narrative Cohort

Consortia Submitting Narratives in 2026:

- AALC-LeSueur
- Cass Lake
- Mankato
- Moorhead
- Robbinsdale
- SPCLC – St. Paul
- SW ABE - Marshall
- Tri-County Corrections

- **June 1, 2026: Narrative due date**
- Summer or Fall 2026: site visit



2027 Narrative Cohort: Save the Dates!

2027 Narrative cohort process

- Read and score 2026 narratives:
 - **Throughout month of June**
- Full day reviewer meeting:
 - **Tues June 23 (virtual)**
- Narrative Writers Workshop:
 - **Mon Oct 19 (virtual)**

Consortia Submitting Narratives in 2027:

- Brainerd
- Glacial Lakes – Willmar
- Metro North – Anoka
- Metro South – Bloomington
- Minneapolis
- Red Lake
- ThinkSelf Deaf ABE
- White Earth



Annual application for Adult Education funds

June 1, 2026: due date for Adult Education Annual Application for 2026-27

- Annual application is for State ABE funds (FIN 322) and Federal Adult Ed funds (FIN 438).
- Application must be submitted in MEGS.
- Annual Grant Application workshop (next WebChat with MNABE):
 - May 6, 2026 1:00 pm

Contact Hours and State ABE Funding

Current year (2025-26):

- Hours from May 1, 2024 - April 30, 2025: **~4,300,000**
- Total amount of state ABE funding: **~\$55,650,000**
- Contact hour rate: **\$8.82**

Update on statewide contact hours

Contact Hours	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total (May-Dec)
2024	388,505	231,424	239,168	173,829	413,860	494,458	399,799	327,657	2,668,700
2025	426,204	267,286	269,870	175,373	466,248	498,961	411,841	329,910	2,845,693

Statewide increase in hours (May–Dec) = +6.6%

January hours

Contact Hours	January
2025	390,236
2026	322,288*

* This may be an undercount

Tentative statewide **decrease** in hours Jan 2025 to Jan 2026 = -17.4%

Tentative statewide **increase** in hours May–January = +3.6%

What if our program has a big decrease in hours?

Keep in mind:

- The contact hour reporting period is May–April, which means $\frac{2}{3}$ of this time period occurred before disruptions in January.
- Hours disruptions seem to be distributed across the state. If hours go down statewide, this has the effect of raising the contact hour rate.
- State statute has a “Service Disruption” protection for consortia that experience a more than 10% decrease in contact hour revenue due to circumstances outside their control. It’s too soon to know whether any consortia will meet this criteria for 2026–27 funding.

Further discussion on budgets and funding

March 3, 1:00–2:30 PM:

“Planning and Budgeting for the Coming Year” webinar for Adult Education administrators



Transitions

Online Statewide Training Courses

- The current funding/model of the pilot will end June 30, 2026.
- We will be implementing a new model where specialized/training courses can be opened to the entire state.
- The consortia offering the training can collect all of the contact hours.



Online Career Focused and Specialized Classes

- Regional courses offered through transitions areas can remain the same.
- Criteria is being developed to identify the type of class that could be designated as online statewide.
- There will be some type of designation in SiD.
- This will help sustain these types of classes that are typically more expensive to offer.

Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Ability-to-Benefit (AtB) State Plan

- The Minnesota state plan has received approval for another year.
- We need participants. Students have been completing their diplomas before enrolling in college.
- If you are an Adult Ed program working with a college on AtB with diploma/HSE students, please check with the college to make sure they submitted one Eligible Pathway for approval.

Colleges that are part of the AtB pilot

- Pine Technical and Community College
- Minnesota State College Southeast
- Hennepin Technical College
- South Central College
- Minneapolis College
- Saint Paul College
- Riverland Community College
- Central Lakes
- Minnesota State Community and Technical College Moorhead
- Northwest Technical College

Submission of at least ONE Eligible Career Pathway Program (ECPP) Per College

One Eligible Career Pathway Program (ECPP) has to be submitted by the postsecondary institution to the U.S. Department of Education directly through the E-App.

Please confer with your colleagues in your partnering postsecondary financial aid department to verify that one ECPP was sent in. It was due January 1, 2026.

Recredentialing Pathways (RCP) for Internationally Trained Professionals

Sponsored by the Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) Office of New Americans.

Eligible participants are internationally trained professionals who are 18 years old or older who want to reconnect to one of the following career pathways: 1) health care, 2) engineering, 3) education or 4) information technology, and are income eligible.



Sonji Davis,
Program Manager

Recredentialing Pathways (RCP) for Internationally Trained Professionals

Simply email CareerForce@state.mn.us with the information below.

Please include this information in your email to the CareerForce Information and Assistance Line staff:

- What is your first name? (First name only please.)
- What is your phone number?
- Will you need language assistance?
 - If so, what is your preferred language?
- Are you an employment career support counselor or other service provider?

Recredentialing Pathways (RCP) for ITPs: Students educated outside the US and have a postsecondary degree

International Institute of MN	468
Ronald M Hubbs Center	430
Metro North ABE	413
Adult Options in Ed.	371
Metro South ABE	332

Rochester Adult Ed.	229
Burnsville	205
Rosemount-Apple Valley Eagan	194
North St. Paul Public Schools	161
Minneapolis ABE	159

Employer Engagement Toolkit

- Customizable flyers for having conversations with Employers around partnership opportunities and Workplace Literacy
- A [Canva tutorial](#) is available to see how easy it is to copy this design and make it your own
- Getting Started with Workplace Literacy webinar [recording](#)



Partnership Opportunities Include

In-Class Lectures or Guest Speakers

- Provide immediate visibility for your company and help learners understand real workplace expectations, resulting in a more informed and better-prepared future applicant pool.

Branded Swag or Equipment Donations

- Positive brand visibility, give learners quick familiarity with everyday industry tools.

Field Trips, Workplace Tours or Shadowing Experiences

- Spark immediate interest and help candidates understand job roles, leading to long-term recruitment benefits and stronger retention due to realistic expectations.

Mock Interviews, Career Panels or Job Fairs

- Boost awareness of your company or industry right away and strengthen your employer brand over time, building a steady flow of informed candidates.

Curriculum Review or Advisory Committee Participation

- Gives you influence over program direction and immediate insight into upcoming talent, while shaping a long-term pipeline tailored to your workforce needs.

Sponsor Lunch and Learn or Learning Lab Experiences

- Create an engaging, low-barrier way to introduce your company while giving learners hands-on insights into real workplace skills. These sessions foster long-term connections with potential candidates who already understand your culture and expectations.

Assessment

Reminder: Approved NRS Assessments

CASAS GOALS Reading and TABE 11/12 will sunset and cannot be used for official NRS pre- and post-testing starting July 1, 2026.



CASAS GOALS 2 (Reading and Math), CASAS STEPS (Reading and Listening), TABE 13/14 (Reading, Math, and Language), and BEST Plus 3.0 are the approved tests for official NRS pre- and post-testing currently approved for the 2026–27 year.

Computer-based Testing

Are there any free computer-based tests available?

CASAS — No tests left for this fiscal year. All tests have been disbursed.

TABE — There are still tests available. Contact Marty Olsen (martha.olsen@gmail.com) to request tests be deposited in your TABE account. **REMINDER:** TABE tests are only good for one year from disbursement into your account.



Remote Assessment Hub

Eligible Students

- CASAS tests only (for pilot year)
- Must have previously completed a computer-based test (CASAS eTest)
- All ABE/ASE students
- ESL students must be NRS level 4 or higher

Program Responsibilities

- Make referral to the Hub - provide requested info
- Provide student with information preparing them for testing remotely
- Ensure students have the appropriate technology needed

The Hub will provide:

- Scheduling and reminders through [Calendly.com](https://calendly.com)
- Free testing
- Trained Proctors
- Completed test information and reports sent to program contact



Support Staff Coffee Breaks

SPARC (Support Professionals Advisory Resource Committee) and the Assessment Training Grant plan and present a monthly, virtual, one-hour presentation and discussion opportunity for support professionals and all other interested staff. Each virtual meeting is scheduled 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Friday, February 20 – Remote Assessment Hub: [Register](#)

Friday, March 20 – How to Score Tests and Generate Reports in CASAS TOPSpro: [Register](#)

Friday, April 17 – Using AI to Analyze Data: [Register](#)



Professional Development

MN ABE Connect Newsletter

Email now being sent from
atlas@hamline.edu

**add to your contacts*

Typically sent on Tuesdays

Subscribe on the ATLAS
website and *make sure your
staff are subscribed*

MN ABE Connect: Reading - TABE - Mental Health - IET - DL



ATLAS <atlas@hamline.edu>

To Hasskamp, Brad (He/Him/His) (MDE)



MN ABE CONNECT

Brought to you by the Minnesota Adult Education Support Network:

ATLAS | Literacy Action Network | Literacy Minnesota | Minnesota
Association of Workforce Boards | PANDA - MN ABE Physical and
Nonapparent Disability Assistance | Southwest Adult Basic Education

PD Catalog

Get an overview of all MN Adult Education professional development (PD) activities in one convenient, searchable place! Find **online courses**, **cohorts**, **study circles** and more!

[MN Adult Ed PD Catalog >>](#)

MN Adult Education Canvas Course Index



Login



Dashboard



Calendar



Inbox



History



Help

components of reading

Understanding Post Traumatic Stress Disorder - FY26

Understand symptoms and causes of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and other traumas which can impact adult student learning

The 3 Ls: The Difference between Learning Disability, Low Ability and Low Literacy - FY26

Learn how to distinguish between a learning disability, low ability, and low literacy

CCRS Foundations - FY26

Adult Literacy in the Classroom

in MN ABE

Reducing the Stigma of Mental Illness - FY26

Understand mental health disorders common to the adult population. Learn how to reduce the stigma of mental illness by understanding what it is like and

Universal Design for Learning - FY26

Universal Design for Learning (UDL) minimizes barriers and maximizes success for all students. UDL guides the design of inclusive instruction and accessible

Distance & Blended Learning Basics for MN Adult Education - FY26

Suicide Prevention for Adult Educators - FY26

This course will help ABE teachers and volunteers learn about suicide and prevention.

Teaching Students about Mental Health

This course will help ABE teachers and volunteers learn how to teach students about mental health.

Northstar Digital Literacy Foundations - FY26

[Index of all MN Adult Education online courses in Canvas](#)

Language & Literacy Institute

Language & Literacy Institute 2026
Thursday, January 29 and Friday, January 30
ONLINE ZOOM CONFERENCE - FREE EVENT

PLEASE NOTE: Portions of this event will be recorded, and recording links will be added to this document after the event.

PROGRAM SCHEDULE with SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

PARTICIPANT MATERIALS FOLDER - presentation slides, handouts, etc.

TO JOIN WORKSHOPS VIA PHONE (audio only):

- Dial 888-788-0999 toll-free
- Enter workshop Meeting ID and Phone Passcode (see below under each workshop)



atlas
2026 Teaching & Learning Enhancement System
HAMLIN UNIVERSITY

Thursday, January 29

8:15 - 9:45 am
STATE UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS - [link located in your registration confirmation email](#)
Kristine Kelly & Patsy Egan, ATLAS; Astrid Liden & Brad Hasskamp, MN Dept. of Education
RECORDING

8:45-9:30 am
CONVERSATIONS BY THE COFFEE (CHOOSE ONE) NOTE: These sessions were intentionally not recorded

1. New to MN ABE? Get Connected and Access Key Resources (with Rob Podlasek & Lindsey Pust)
2. Hybrid Teaching Routines & Advice (with Heather Anderson & Rebecca Jarvis)
3. Gen Z in ABE: Challenges & Solutions (with Natalie Sager)
4. HSE: Test Prep vs. Deeper Learning (with Stacy Abraham & Kristy Cannon)
5. Using AI in Teaching (with Melody Stapleton & Nick Houston)
6. Avoiding Teacher Burnout: Finding Joy (with Andrea Echelberger & Patsy Egan)

9:30-9:45 am
BREAK

9:45-12:00 pm (CHOOSE ONE)
SPECIAL GUEST WORKSHOP A: Designing for Difference: Scaffolds that Support Adult Learners' Voice and Choice
Presenter: Jayme Adelson-Goldstein
RECORDING
Intended to address the relicensure area of Accommodations

SPECIAL GUEST WORKSHOP B: The Power of Talk: Building Literacy, College, and Career Readiness Through Oral Language
Presenter: Betsy Parrish, Hamline University
RECORDING
Intended to address the relicensure area of Reading

Missed the conference or a session you wanted to attend?

Session recordings are now available on the [flyer](#).

Check it out and share with your colleagues!

8:30am
Room 112

Welcome

9:00am
Room 112

Leading in Anxious Times

Networking Break

Manager Reflection
Activities

12:00pm

Connect Over Lunch!

Buffer
located in
room 111

You are invited to engage with
colleagues in a discussion
using the provided questions
on each table.

Seating in
rooms 111
and 112

1:00pm
Room 112

Energy Impact &
Leadership Approaches

2:00pm
Rooms 111
and 112

Water Cooler Wisdom
Small group discussions

Networking Break

3:30pm
Room 112

Closing Activities

Manager Retreat

*Join ATLAS staff and fellow adult education leaders for
a day of networking, guided discussion, and learning!*

Manager Retreat

Thursday, February 26

8:30-4:00

Hamline University



ABE Teaching & Learning Advancement System



[Registration](#) open through Feb. 20

(Deadline for requesting lodging has passed.)

Budgeting Webinar

Planning & Budgeting for the Coming Year

**Tuesday, March 3
1:00-2:30**

*Join MN adult education
program leaders for a
discussion around planning and
budgeting strategically for the
2026-2027 school year!*



Leadership Book Club

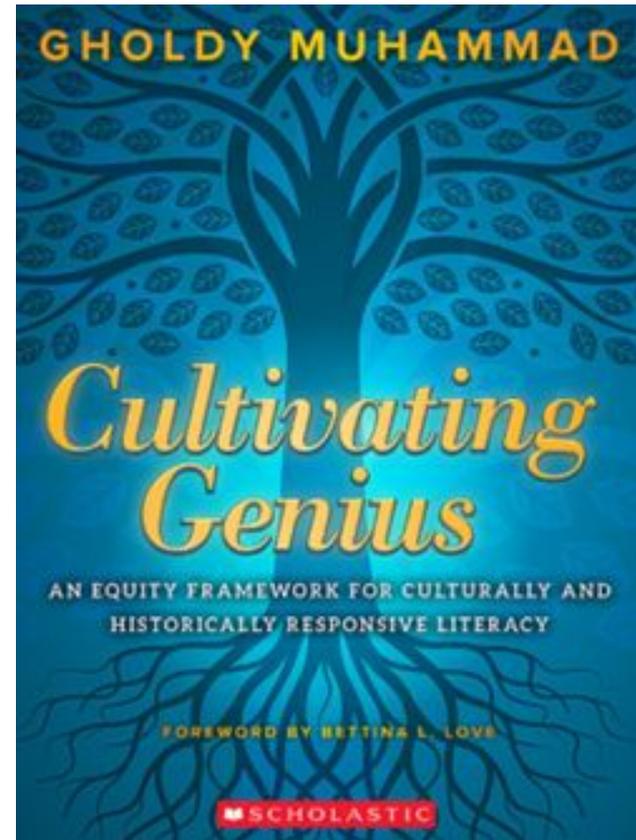
*Join fellow Minnesota Adult Education leaders for a three-part book club exploring Gholdy Muhammad's **Cultivating Genius: An Equity Framework for Culturally and Historically Responsive Literacy**. Together, we'll reflect on how Muhammad's four learning pursuits—identity, skills, intellect, and criticality—can inform leadership and instructional practices across ABE programs.*

Meeting 1: Wednesday, March 4 – 12-1:15 pm

Meeting 2: Wednesday, April 8 – 12-1:15 pm

Meeting 3: Wednesday, May 13 – 12-1:15 pm

[Registration and more info](#)



Online and HyFlex Teaching Support

[One-Stop Doc](#) for Distance and Remote Learning Support in 2026

Online & HyFlex Teaching Support Webinars

- [February 12 and March 12](#) - EdTech tools and instructional practices

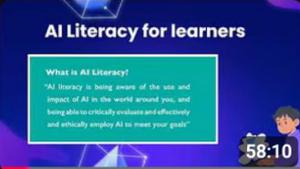
HyFlex Teaching Study Circle

- [Registration](#) and Canvas course open now
- Kick-off webinar **February 20, 1:00-2:30**
- “Rolling admission”

Training and Consultation [by request](#)



AI in Adult Education

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AI Literacy for learners
What is AI Literacy?
"AI literacy is being aware of the use and impact of AI in the world around you, and being able to critically evaluate and effectively and ethically employ AI to meet your goals"
58:10
- 

Searching vs. prompting
Searching: effective searches are short, concise and to the point.
Prompting: effective prompts describe context and specify what you want the AI to produce.
45:24
- 

AI Weirdness - #10
YOU LOOK LIKE A THING AND I LOVE YOU
59:45

AI Crash Course Session 3 - November 18, 2025
MN Adult Education Professional Development • 68 views • 2 months ago

AI Crash Course Session 2 - November 11, 2025
MN Adult Education Professional Development • 38 views • 2 months ago

AI Crash Course Session 1 - November 4, 2025
MN Adult Education Professional Development • 115 views • 2 months ago

[AI Crash Course recordings](#) and resources available on YouTube

AI Level 2 Course on April 22 and 29; registration forthcoming.

Teaching Numeracy to Adults

Starts March 24
[Apply](#) by March 3
[More info](#)



For a wide audience:

- administrators and instructors
- those who identify as math teachers and those who do not
- those who currently teach math/numeracy in their classrooms and those who would like to start

Objectives:

- Reflect on different mindsets about math and **articulate the impact of those mindsets on learning**
- **Apply knowledge of math shifts & practices** to instructional tasks and materials, including standardized testing materials
- **Experience and discuss resources** (instructional tasks, routines, formative assessments) to use in varied classroom settings
- **Establish the relevance of mathematical thinking** in “the real world”

Spring Statewide Virtual Conference

Friday, April 17

8:30-3:15

12 concurrent sessions on a wide range of topics, including relicensure areas

Registration open now, more details on sessions soon!



ABE Teaching & Learning Advancement System



Spring South Regional



Friday, May 1

**Country Inn & Suites -
Mankato**

**Registration opens in
April!**

PD Advisory Teams

The following MN adult education PD advisory teams will be accepting applications this spring:

- Administrator PD Advisory Team
- Numeracy PD Advisory Team
- Statewide PD Committee
- PANDA Advisory Team



Volunteer Training

MN Adult Education Volunteer Training Policy:

Volunteers who work with adult learners are required to receive either Foundations of Adult Education Tutoring (12 hours) or Foundations of Volunteering in the Adult Education Classroom (4 hours), depending on their role. They also must receive 2 hours of ongoing training each year. Learn more about volunteer training options:

www.literacymn.org/volunteer-foundations-training

***All training required by the policy must be entered into SiD.**

[Entering volunteer information into SiD](#)

2025 Volunteer Management Conference

Missed the conference?
Check out session recordings & materials in the [Participant Folder](#)



- Using Volunteers to Solve Classroom Challenges
- Volunteer Recruitment with Community Engagement
- Tracking Volunteers in SiD
- Building Cultural Literacy and Belonging Skills in Volunteer Management Systems
- Volunteers in HyFlex Classes
- Volunteer Training
- Onboarding and Risk Management
- Leveraging Volunteer Teachers for Accessibility and Inclusion

Review and Poll: Fall Manager Meeting

Reflecting on the Fall Manager Meeting



Agenda included:

Full group presentation & discussion:

- **System Outcomes**
- **Funding and Policy**

Breakout discussions with similar programs and consortia



Materials

The recording and slides will be posted on the [Literacy Action Network website](#) and mnabe.org.



Next WebChat

(Annual Grant Application
Webinar)

Wednesday, May 6

1–2:30pm

[Registration](#)



Thank You!

Questions?

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