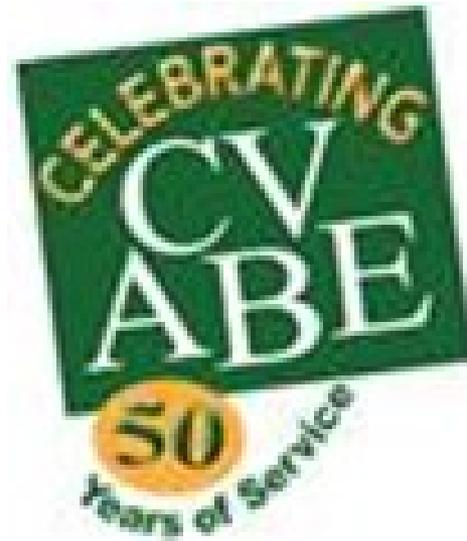


Adult Education and Literacy (AEL)

Dr. Heather Bouchey, Deputy Secretary
Jess DeCarolis, Division Director, Personalization &
Flexible Pathways

AEL in Vermont

There are four providers and 10 local centers that provide adult education and literacy services in Vermont.



Vermont Adult Learning
Education That Changes Lives!

What is AEL?

- AEL system offers essential educational, workforce training, post-secondary and employment transitional services to the adult population.
- Individuals 16 years of age and older
 - work with trained professionals to earn credentials,
 - meet college and career goals,
 - learn new job skills to transition to new employment, and
 - work to improve outcomes for themselves and their families.
- AEL has been developing Personalized Learning Plans for ten years, and has always emphasized the necessity of a personalized approach to best meet the needs of this diverse population.

Federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) of 2014

- Critical to economic growth through partnerships at the State, regional, and local levels.
- Promotes alignment of workforce development programs with regional economic development strategies
 - meet the needs of a wide range of employers and enhance community development.
- Places a greater emphasis on reemployment.
- Regulations highlight need to modernize the nation's workforce system
 - more integrated, job-driven approach to support communities and expand job growth.

WIOA (cont.)

- Four core programs reauthorized under WIOA:
 - Youth, Adult and Dislocated Worker Programs, Title I;
 - Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (AEFLA), Title II;
 - Wagner-Peyser Act Program, Title III;
 - Vocational Rehabilitation Program, Title IV
- Vermont's unified State Plan requires four core programs to work together to:
 - provide greater opportunities for underserved/under-represented populations,
 - align education and training with growth sectors,
 - create a stronger economic future for Vermonters.

Who does Vermont AEL serve?

- 2,793 adults; M=1,213, F=1,580
- 767 parents (27%)
- 552 on public assistance (20%)*
- 1,422 unemployed or not in labor force
- 60% have basic skills (8th grade level or below)
- 75% lack a high school diploma
- 38% have a designated disability*
- 15% are English Language Learners

(FY16 data)

Different Pathways in VT AEL

Adult Basic Education (ABE)

Adult Diploma Program (ADP)

High School Completion Program (HSCP)

General Educational Development (GED)

English Language Acquisition Services

Post-Secondary Preparation

Employment Readiness and Retraining

Family Literacy Services

ADP

The Adult Diploma Program is an **assessment process** administered by the Agency through which:

- An individual at least 20 years old can earn a high school diploma
- An individual at least 16 years old can receive a secondary equivalency through GED

Funding for AEL

- Approx 18% of funds awarded to AEL Providers is Federal and 82% is State.
- AEL Providers contribute 15% cash/in-kind match to State funds.
- Anticipated 10% reduction in funds from Federal government

Funding for AEL (cont.)

General fund history is below. In FY 2011 the state appropriation was split between the GF and EF. The state funding has been level funded since FY 11.

| Year | Amount | Source |
|----------------|-------------|--------|
| FY03 | \$2,752,299 | GF |
| FY04-FY08 | \$2,717,398 | GF |
| FY09 | \$2,690,224 | GF |
| FY10 | \$2,587,999 | GF |
| FY11 – present | \$787,995 | GF |
| | \$1,800,000 | EF |

Total for FY11-present=\$2,587,995

Funding for ADP

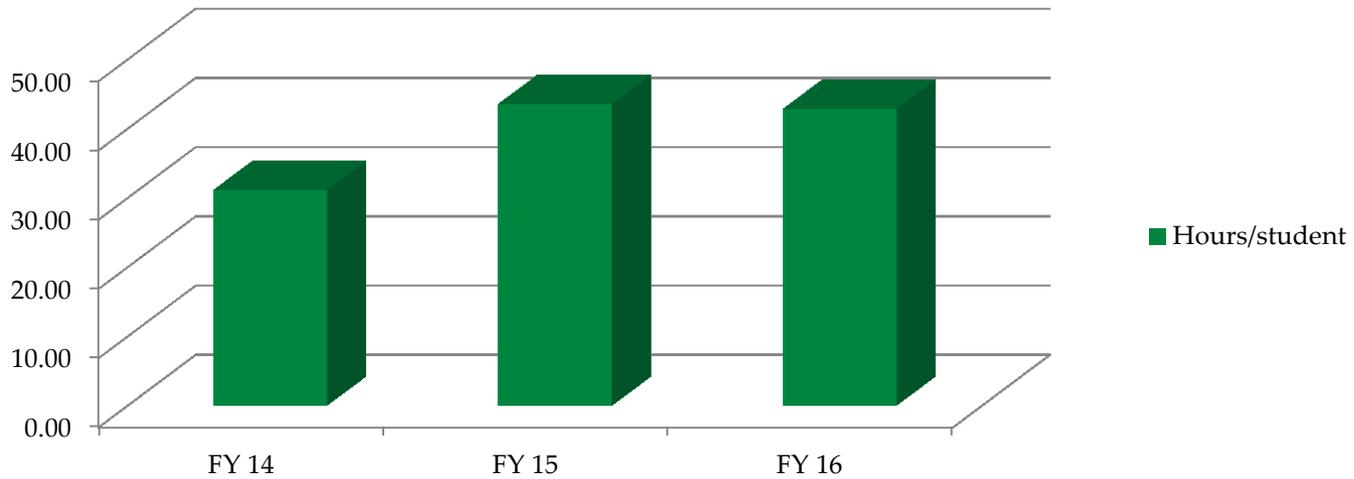
16 V.S.A. § 4011 (f)

“Annually, the Secretary shall pay to a department or agency that provides an adult diploma program, an amount equal to 26 percent of the base education amount for each student who completed the diagnostic portion of the program, based on an average of the previous two years.”

| Year | Base | Approps |
|------|---------|-------------|
| FY15 | \$9,285 | \$846,924 |
| FY16 | \$9,459 | \$850,000 |
| FY17 | \$9,467 | \$850,000 |
| FY18 | \$9,467 | \$1,284,862 |

Increased Service Hours to Adult Basic Education Students

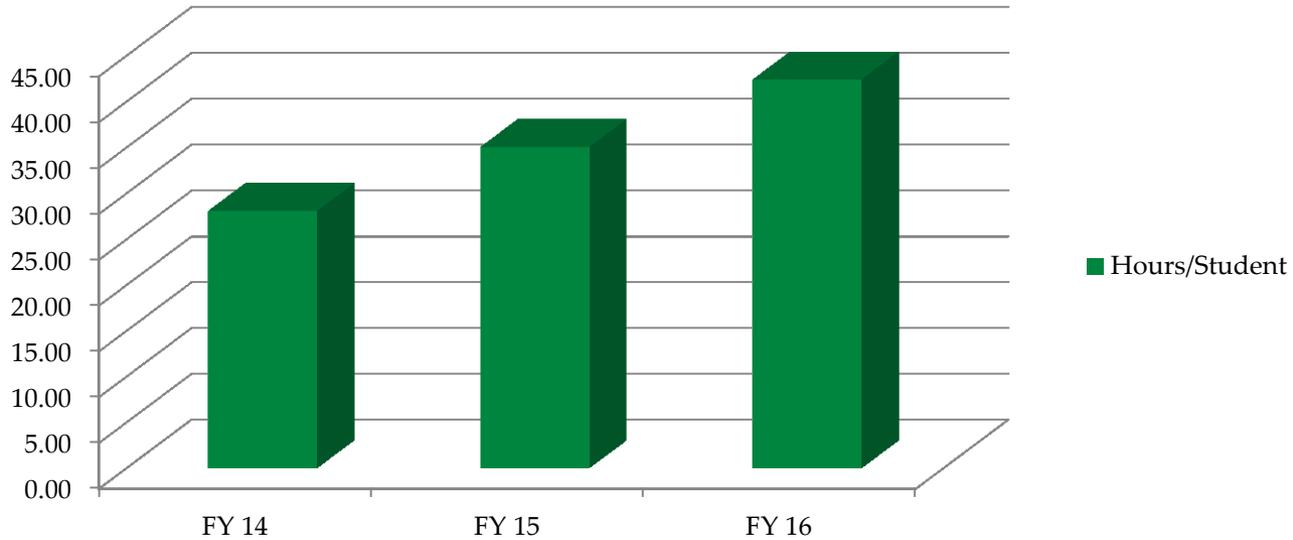
Hours/student



| | # At NRS 1 - 4 | # of Service Hours | Hours/student |
|-------|----------------|--------------------|---------------|
| FY 14 | 1056 | 32888 | 31.14 |
| FY 15 | 683 | 29754 | 43.56 |
| FY 16 | 689 | 29525 | 42.85 |

Increased Service Hours to Adult Secondary Education Students

Hours/Student

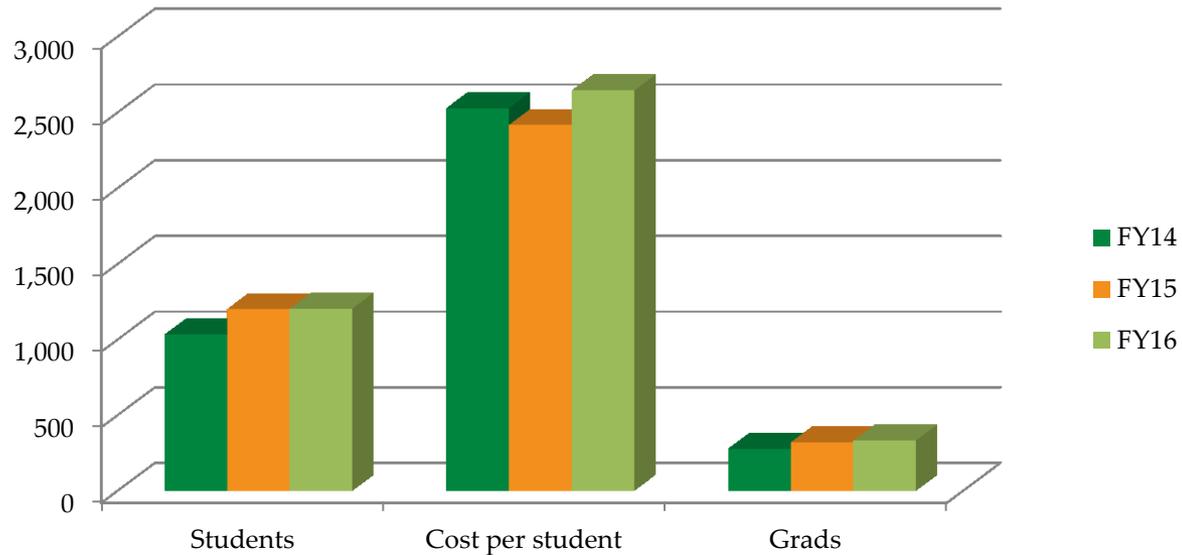


| | # at NRS 5-6 | # of Service Hours | Hours/Student |
|-------|--------------|--------------------|---------------|
| FY 14 | 386 | 10846 | 28.10 |
| FY 15 | 379 | 13287 | 35.06 |
| FY 16 | 371 | 15729 | 42.40 |

High School Completion Program

- Created in 2006 to provide learners with educational services of the scope and rigor needed for the attainment of a high school diploma.
- Providers co-construct personal learning plans with students and local high schools. PLPs meet the high school's requirements for diploma.
- About 21% of students in HSCP stay enrolled in high school, which is recommended (especially if they are on Individualized Education Plans).
- Students pursue individualized objectives outlined in their PLPs
 - contextualized learning, special projects for basic academics, projects related to student elective courses, transition services, counseling, or other services that support a student's successful completion of requirements.
- AEL providers are plan managers, monitoring and evaluating the student's progress. When all the requirements in the PLP are met to the schools' and AEL providers' satisfaction, the student is enrolled in school and awarded a diploma.

High School Completion Program: FY14 – FY16

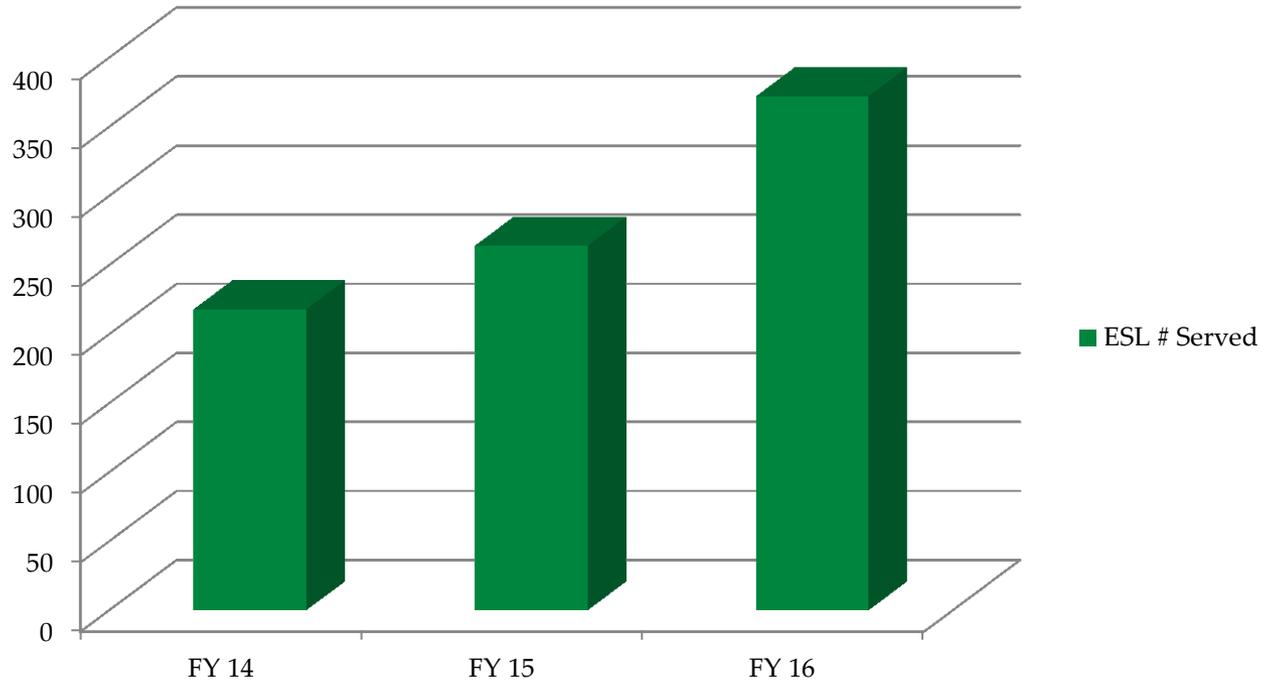


| Year | Enrolled | Cost/student | Grads | Yield |
|------|----------|--------------|-------|-------|
| FY14 | 1,033 | \$2,528.43 | 279 | 27% |
| FY15 | 1,202 | \$2,417.68 | 321 | 27% |
| FY16 | 1,205 | \$2,644.68 | 333 | 28% |

English Language Learners

Adults, including professionals with degrees and credentials in their native countries, that need to achieve competency in the English language and acquire the basic and more advanced skills needed to function effectively as parents, workers, and citizens in the United States.

ESL Students Served



| FY14 | FY15 | FY16 |
|------|------|------|
| 218 | 264 | 372 |

Getting Results

Educational Functioning Level (EFL) Gains

- ASE Level 5 students completing level was 40% in FY16 compared to 32% in FY15
- ESL Level 1 Beginning Literacy students completing level was 25% in FY16 compared to 12% in FY15
- ESL Level 2 Low Beginning students completing level was 44% in FY16 compared to 23% in FY15

Number of adult learners who earned a nationally recognized work-readiness certificate increased from 2015 (101) to 2016 (152).

Changing Lives

Heather, a 22-year-old adult learner, enrolled in Central Vermont Adult Basic Education's (CVABE) AEL program wanting to improve her reading, writing and math skills. She also sought to get a high school diploma and an eventual career in the culinary arts or field of psychology. She started her quest in 2014, transitioned into a High School Completion Program Graduation Education Plan, and in June 2016 earned her high school diploma. She also landed a job as a trained pastry chef.



“My experience at NEKLS was like no other.”

“When I first came here, my goal was to get my high school diploma. I was very shy and scared. It was a new experience for me, and I was afraid of failing. Within weeks of my first visit, I started to come out of my shell . . . I got the one on one help I needed . . . Although I came to NEKLS to get my diploma, I left with much more. I left with a support system . . .”

Cheyanna Cadorette

Changing Lives

- Student featured on [VPR's Young Writer's Project](#) – working with Vermont Adult Learning
- The Tutorial Center's [Youth Agriculture Project](#) providing at-risk or disengaged youth, ages 16-21, opportunities to experience success
- Northeast Kingdom Learning Services, Inc. is working with CCV to help students transition to college by teaching both remedial math and English on the CCV campuses in St. Johnsbury and Newport
- Central Vermont Adult Basic Education works with Lamoille Union High School on a drop-out prevention project