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AB104 Adult Education Block Grant: Regional Consortia Formula Allocations

According to the AB104 Adult Education Block Grant Program language, the California Community College Chancellor and the State Superintendent of Public Instruction are charged with determining the statewide need for adult education and the funding allocation of each consortium. More specifically, sections 84911 and 84908 (2) (A)(ii), respectively, address these obligations.

Section 84911 states, “To determine the need for adult education, the Chancellor and the Superintendent shall consider, at a minimum, measures related to adult population, employment, immigration, educational attainment, and adult literacy.” Additionally, Section 84908 (2) (A)(ii) states that, “The chancellor and the Superintendent shall determine the amount to be allocated to each consortium pursuant to this paragraph based on that adult education region’s share of the statewide need for adult education.”

Given the above language, key state agencies (California Department of Education, State Board of Education, the California Community College Chancellor’s Office, and the Department of Finance) met to develop a funding formula for adult education regional consortia. They used various combinations of variables and minimum funding levels. After thorough analysis of the permutations, it was determined that the variables correlated very closely. Consequently, all variables were equally weighted. In addition, it was determined that the minimum grant award amount was appropriate and reasonable, in that it allows the smaller consortia (which in most instances are rural) to make a larger impact in their respective regions.

Posted on the AEBG Website and pre-populated into the Regional Consortia Member Allocation forms are a variety of census data variables related to adult education students in your region. The list below contains the regional funding formula variables used for adult education consortia:

- Educational Attainment (No High School Diploma)
- Employment (Unemployed Adults)
- Adult Population - 18 years and older
- Poverty (Household)
- Adult Literacy (7th Grade Education Level)
- ESL (the ability to speak English)

As mentioned above, each factor was equally weighted. The regional consortia received a percentage of the statewide total that was then translated into a dollar amount. Regional consortia that did not meet the minimum funding level, based on the variable amounts, were provided additional funds to raise them to that level. See the allocation tables for grant amounts by regional consortia.