ADULT EDUCATION

The District shall provide, to the extent possible within available public and private resources, adult education programs designed to meet the education and training needs of adults. Bilingual education may be the method of instruction for students who do not function satisfactorily in English whenever it is appropriate for their optimum development. *Education Code 29.253*

ESSENTIAL PROGRAM COMPONENTS

The following essential program components shall be provided:

1. Adult basic education;
2. Programs for adults of limited English proficiency;
3. Adult secondary education, including programs leading to the achievement of a high school equivalency certificate and/or high school diploma;
4. Instructional services to improve student proficiencies necessary to function effectively in adult life, including accessing further education, employment-related training, or employment;
5. Assessment and guidance services related to items 1–4, above; and
6. Collaboration with multiple partners in the community to expand the services available to adult learners and to prevent duplication of services.

*19 TAC 89.23*

DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS

The standards for awarding diplomas to adults shall be those established in 19 Administrative Code Chapter 74, except:

1. There shall be no limit to the number of secondary credits adults may earn by demonstrating competence.
2. Adults may earn the required physical education credits by one or more of the following:
   a. Satisfactory completion of approved secondary physical education courses; or
   b. Substitution of state-approved secondary elective courses.
3. Adults must meet the requirements for successful performance on a secondary level test designated by the Commissioner.

*19 TAC 89.24*

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

All adult education staff hired after September 1, 1996, shall receive at least 12 clock hours of professional development annually. All staff new to adult education shall receive six clock hours of preservice professional development before they begin work in an adult education program. Aides shall have at least a high school diploma or a high school equivalency certificate.

Directors, teachers, counselors, and supervisors must have a bachelor's degree. Directors, teachers, counselors, and supervisors who do not have valid Texas teacher certification must attend 12 clock hours of inservice professional development annually in addition to the 12 hours required above until they have completed either six clock hours of adult education college credit or attained two years of adult education experience.

The requirements for inservice professional development may be reduced by local programs in individual cases upon documented demonstration of exceptional circumstances that prevent employees from completing the required hours.

These staff development requirements apply to volunteers who generate contact time that is part of the adult education program and is reported to TEA for funding purposes. [See DMA]

*19 TAC 89.25*

STAFF ASSIGNMENTS

Teachers and aides shall be assigned to instruction, counseling, and/or assessment for a minimum of 75 percent of the hours for which they are employed. *19 TAC 89.26*

TUITION AND FEES

No student tuition or fees shall be charged for adult basic education as a condition for membership and participation in a class. Tuition for adult secondary education may be charged and established by local policy. Funds generated by such tuition and fees shall be used for the adult education instructional program. *19 TAC 89.33*

REIMBURSEMENT FOR COMMUNITY EDUCATION

If the Board elects to provide community education for all age groups, it may be eligible for reimbursement for the costs of the program. In order to receive reimbursement, it must submit an application in accordance with TEA rules and reimbursement shall be made to the extent authorized.

CONDITIONS

The District will receive such reimbursement only if it has achieved the level of community services prescribed by TEA in the current or preceding year.

*Education Code 29.256*