



FY 2016 ABE (7035-0002) Budget Request

FY 14 Final	FY 15 Final	FY 15 After 9C cuts (Nov 2014)	FY 16 Recommendation
\$30.2 M	\$30.3 M	\$29.6 M	\$35.3 M

\$5 Million More for Adult Basic Education

- Scale up strategies for linking basic skills to employability in the current labor market.
- Develop curriculum and technology to meet the demands of the new high school equivalency exam (HiSET) and the rigors of College and Career Readiness Standards for adult education.
- Reach more of the 18,000 adults currently on the wait list¹.
- Better compensation for adult education staff to reduce turnover and improve programs.

Adult Basic Education: Massachusetts Doesn't Work Without It!

- **Economic Inequality:** The average dropout can expect to earn an annual income of \$20,241. That's a full \$10,386 less than the typical high school graduate, and \$36,424 less than someone with a bachelor's degree.²
- **K-12 Education:** The best indicator of a child's success in school is the education level of the parents.³
- **Health:** Low literacy is linked to increased mortality, hospitalization, and poorer control of chronic illness.⁴
- **Civic Engagement:** Voting behavior is strongly correlated with educational attainment. In 2008, 34% of those without a high school diploma voted, compared to 51% with a high school credential and 65% of those with some college.⁵
- **Criminal Justice:** Among dropouts between the ages of 16 and 24, incarceration rates were 63 times higher than among college graduates, and 70% of offenders never finished high school.⁶

¹ <http://acls.doemass.org/>

² <http://www.census.gov/compendia/statab/2012/tables/12s0232.pdf>

³ Davis-Kean, 2005; Dearing, McCartney, & Taylor, 2002; Duncan, Brooks-Gunn & Klebanov, 1994; Haveman & Wolfe, 1995; Nagin & Tremblay, 2001; Smith, Brooks-Gunn & Klevanov, 1997.

⁴ DeWalt DA, Pignone MP. Reading is Fundamental: the relationship between literacy and health. Arch Intern Med.2005; 165:1943-4. [PubMed]

⁵ https://www.ets.org/s/research/19386/rsc/pdf/18719_fault_lines_report.pdf

⁶ http://www.northeastern.edu/clms/wp-content/uploads/The_Consequences_of_Dropping_Out_of_HighSchool.pdf

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