



ADDENDUM

Review of Adult Education Programs

Region 2

UPDATE

**Massachusetts Department of Elementary and
Secondary Education
Adult and Community Learning Services**

April 2022

The **ADDENDUM UPDATE Review of Adult Education Programs** in Region 2 is a part of the on-going implementation of the Regional Planning strategies and goals codified in the **Pioneer Valley Labor Market Blueprint- 2018-2022**, and the **Updated Blueprint (September 2020)** produced by the MassHire Workforce Boards of Hampden and Franklin Hampshire Counties.

The ADDENDUM Review was produced by the Adult Education programs in Region 2, with the guidance and support of staff at MHHCWB and Judith Roberts, Executive Director, The Literacy Project.

The MassHire Workforce Boards currently receive funding to support their Regional Planning work from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development (EOLWD).

OVERVIEW

The **ADDENDUM UPDATE *Review of the Adult Education Programs*** in Region 2 (Hampden and Franklin Hampshire Counties) that are funded through the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's Adult and Community Learning Services (DESE/ACLS) is part of the implementation of the Goals and Strategies contained in the [*Pioneer Valley Labor Market Blueprint-2018-2022*](#), and the [*Updated Blueprint*](#) (September 2020).

The Review provides UPDATED FY 2022 **Capacity Data** on the Adult Education programs in Region 2, and the summary Employment Status of the **Enrolled** Learners for FY 2021. This data is a critical part of our continued regional collaborative work to strengthen the infrastructure and capacity of the Adult Education programs to continue to provide high quality educational programs, career pathway guidance, and an array of services and supports to ensure program completion and a successful transition to college and career opportunities.

The **Observations** in the ADDENDUM UPDATE summarize the updated data points, share programmatic and operational similarities of the regional AE programs, identify specialized programs that target selected learner populations, and provide guidance to the AE programs to support their programs and activities to ensure personal and career success for their learners

The UPDATED Review provides program operators and practitioners with opportunities for collaborative dialogue and decision-making that result in the development and implementation of innovative programming moving forward.

The **Addendum UPDATE Review** can be viewed on the websites of the MassHire Franklin Hampshire Workforce Board at <https://www.masshirefhwb.org/.org/> and the MassHire Hampden County Workforce Board Inc. at <http://masshirehcb.com/>.



Review of Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Adult and Community Learning Services Adult Education Programs Region 2

UPDATED- April 1, 2022

I. INTRODUCTION

The MassHire Hampden and Franklin Hampshire Workforce Boards, in collaboration with the Massachusetts Workforce Skills Cabinet which consists of the MA Secretaries of Housing and Economic Development, Labor and Workforce Development, and Education, are leading a five-year Pioneer Valley Regional Planning process which began in April 2017 and resulted in the June 2018 publication of the ***Pioneer Valley Labor Market Blueprint- 2018-2022*** (“Blueprint”).

As part of implementing the Goals and Strategies in the Blueprint, the workforce boards constituted an **Educator Work Group** that worked with Springfield Technical Community College (STCC), Holyoke Community College (HCC), Greenfield Community College (GCC), Westfield State University, and the region’s vocational technical high schools to identify the current technical programs and courses of study, both credit and non-credit, offered at the community colleges and technical high school, to ascertain their association with the priority and other critical industries and occupational groupings identified in the Pioneer Valley Labor Market Blueprint.

II. BACKGROUND

In October 2019, the Educator Work Group produced the ***Summary of the Technical Programs Conducted at the Community Colleges, Vocational Technical High Schools and Westfield State University***. This Report analyzed the programs and courses offered at the respective educational institutions and their alignment with the priority occupational groupings in the priority and other critical industries codified in the Blueprint.

In March 2020, the Educator Work Group produced the ***Addendum to Summary of Technical Programs at the Regional Community Colleges and Westfield State University: Program Enrollment and Enrollment vs. Program Capacity*** as a follow-

up to the work tasks and deliverables in the **Summary Report**. The Addendum focused on Enrollment and Enrollment vs. Program Capacity exclusively in the programs at the regional community colleges and Westfield State University associated with the occupational groupings in the three **priority industries**.

In October 2020, the Educator Work Group produced the **Addendum- Review of Non-Credit Career Courses at the Community Colleges Related to the Healthcare and Social Assistance Industry**. The Work Group believes the ADDENDUM Report provides guidance in future decision making, and is an on-going part of our regional collaborative work to ensure the alignment of educational and career pathway programs and courses with the current and future workforce needs and requirements of business and industry.

In February 2021, the Educator Work Group produced the **Addendum- Review of Adult Education Programs**. The ADDENDUM Report focused on the program capacity of Adult Education (AE) and English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) programs in Region 2 (Hampden, Hampshire, and Franklin Counties) that are funded through the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's Adult and Community Learning Services (DESE/ACLS). The ADDENDUM provides guidance in future decision making, and is an on-going part of the regional collaborative work to ensure the alignment of educational and career pathway programs and courses with the current and future workforce needs and requirements of business and industry.

III. NEW ADDENDUM- UPDATE Addendum- Review of Adult Education Programs

The new Addendum focuses on UPDATING the FY 2022 Program (Seat) Capacity of Adult Education (AE) and English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) programs in Region 2 (Hampden, Hampshire, and Franklin Counties) that are funded through the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's Adult and Community Learning Services (DESE/ACLS). The UPDATED ADDENDUM also includes summary data on the employment states of the learners enrolled in the Adult Education programs in Region 2 in FY 2021.

The MA Workforce Skills Cabinet and the Pioneer Valley Region seek to simultaneously advance the education and career goals of AE students, and see value in doing so for both students and employers. This UPDATED review of the Adult Education data provides the following information:

1. Name and Location of Region 2 ACLS Funded Adult Education Training Providers
2. UPDATED Region 2 Seat Capacity for FY 2022
3. Training Schedules as Points of Access for Learners
4. Employment Status of the **Enrolled** Learners for FY 2021

The following two charts summarize the FY 2022 ACLS funded Adult Education and English for Speakers of Other Languages programs in Region 2.

Adult Education Programs Hampden County	Adult Education Program Capacity FY 2022				Employment Status Reported FY2021 Enrolled Students		
Training Provider	ABE Seats	Hrs./Wk.	ESOL Seats	Hrs./Wk.	Employed	Unemployed	Not in Labor Force
Hampden County							
Springfield Technical Comm. College	155		109				
Holyoke Comm. College (Juntos)	110		71				
Ludlow Area Adult Learning Center			120				
Valley Opportunity Council	62		102				
Springfield							
STCC (Day)	73	10			30%	62%	8%
STCC (Eve)	70	5			30%	62%	8%
STCC/SHA (Day)	12	16			44%	44%	12%
STCC/HCC (Day)			55	9-11	54%	41%	5%
STCC/HCC (Eve)			54	9-11	54%	41%	5%
SUB-TOTAL: STCC/HCC/SHA	155		109				
Chicopee							
Valley Opportunity Council (Day)	48		24				
Valley Opportunity Council (Eve)	14		68				
Valley Opportunity Council (Holyoke)			10				
SUB-TOTAL:	62		102		46%	47%	7%
Holyoke							
HCC /Juntos Collaborative:	110		71		35%	35%	30%
HPS Opportunity Academy (Day)	39				15%	70%	15%
Community Education Project			71		46%	39%	15%
HCC/ALC (Eve)	41				64%	32%	4%
Care Center	30				7%	11%	82%
Sub-Total	110		71				
Ludlow							
HCC/LAALC (Day)			53	8-11.5			
HCC/LAALC (Eve)			54	8-11.5			
HCC/West Springfield Library (Day)			13	7.5			
Sub-Total			120		49%	38%	13%
TOTAL	327		402				

Adult Education Programs Franklin Hampshire Counties	Adult Education Program Capacity FY 2022				Employment Status Reported FY2021 Enrolled Students			
	Training Provider	ABE Seats	Hrs./Wk.	ESOL Seats	Hrs./Wk.	Employed	Unemployed	Not in Labor Force
Hampshire/Franklin County								
The Literacy Project	149	121.5				39.9%	41.5%	18.6%
Center for New Americans			165	8		40.1%	27.8%	32.1%
International Language Institute			72	6		57.6%	23.5%	18.8%
Northampton								
Literacy Project (Day)	30	24						
Center for New Americans (Day)			45	8				
Center for New Americans (Eve)								
Intl Language Institute (Eve)			72	6				
Sub-Total	30		117					
Greenfield								
Literacy Project (Day)	31	24.5						
Center for New Americans (Day)			30	8				
Center for New Americans (Eve)								
Sub-Total	31		30					
Amherst								
Literacy Project (Day)	32	25						
Center for New Americans (Day)			55	8				
Center for New Americans (Eve)								
Sub-Total								
Other- Synchronous/Asynchronous			35	5				
Orange								
Literacy Project (Day)	25	18						
Ware								
Literacy Project (Day)	26	26						
Literacy Project (Eve)	5	4						
Sub-Total	88		90					
TOTAL	149		237					
GRAND TOTAL Region 2	476		639					

IV. OBSERVATIONS

1. The Total FY **2022 Program Seat Capacity** in Region 2 is **1,115**.

County	FY 2022 Program (SEAT) Capacity
Hampden	729
Franklin Hampshire	386
TOTAL	1,115

2. There is a **729** Program Seat Capacity in the FY 2022 Adult and Community Learning Services (ACLS) funded Adult Education (AE) programs in Hampden County. 327 seats are allocated for Adult Basic Education, and 402 seats are allocated to providing English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL).
3. There is a **386** Program Seat Capacity in the Adult and Community Learning Services funded Adult Education programs in Franklin and Hampshire Counties. 149 seats are allocated for Adult Basic Education, and 237 seats are allocated to providing English to Speakers of Other Languages.
4. In FY 2021 (July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021), **1,616** learners were verified by ACLS as enrolled in an Adult Education program in Region 2 - **1,017** learners in Hampden County and **599** learners in Franklin and Hampshire Counties. Based on FY 2021 Program Seat Capacity in Region 2, and the number of learners reported enrolled in FY 2021, the learner transition rate was approximately **1.4**.
5. There are four (4) educational institutions/organizations (Service Providers) funded by ACLS that conduct adult education programs in Hampden County:
 - Springfield Technical Community College (STCC)
 - Juntos Collaborative (Holyoke Community College)
 - Ludlow Area Adult Learning Center (Holyoke Community College)
 - Valley Opportunity Center (VOC)
6. There are three (3) organizations (Service Providers) funded by ACLS that conduct adult education programs in Franklin Hampshire County:
 - The Literacy Project
 - Center for New Americans
 - International Language Institute

7. Holyoke Community College, Springfield Technical Community College, and Greenfield Community Colleges offer ACLS funded **Transition to College** programs for students who have completed high school or adult education programs, but are in need of further academic, career, and other supports and services in order to be successful in college.
8. The **Care Center**, a program funded as a part of the Juntos Collaborative, offers programs and services targeted to young mothers and low-income women.
9. The **Opportunity Academy**, a program of the Holyoke Public Schools, and funded in part through ACLS funding contracted to Holyoke Community College, is a set of alternative high school pathways that allow students to continue or restart on a pathway to obtaining a high school diploma.
10. Adult Education programs are intentionally conducted on varying schedules that are conducive to the life cycle patterns of the enrolled learners.
11. Significant percentages of the learners' **formally enrolled** in the AE programs in Region 2 are employed on a full time or part time basis. The percentages change as learners' transition in and out of the AE programs.
12. All AE programs employ a Career Advisor who is responsible for providing educational and career pathway services, and supports to the enrolled learners.
13. All AE programs have an integrated and coordinated connection to the MassHire One Stop Career Centers in their respective regions for the provision of job training, job matching, and career information services.
14. Adult Education service providers implement programs and services that integrate and connect program learners with work-based learning experiences, including occupational training, internships, and job shadowing.
15. Each AE program has the capacity and infrastructure to deliver instruction in virtual modalities using appropriate educational software and technology platforms, and implemented many successful delivery models in 2021.
16. Each AE program utilizes a myriad of instructional methodologies to deliver instruction to a wide range of learners with different learning styles and capabilities.

April 2022

