ADULT EDUCATION AND LITERACY
An Essential Investment in Colorado in 2014

**Colorado is the only state that does not set aside state dollars for Adult Education!**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What is the Need for Adult Education? (most recent Colorado data-2012)</th>
<th>What is the Impact on Colorado’s Economy?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adults with No H.S. Credential</td>
<td>340,360</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adults Who Don’t Speak English</td>
<td>157,455</td>
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<tr>
<td>CO H.S. Seniors Not Graduating “on-time”</td>
<td>15,006</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Yet only 3% (10,812⁴) of those that would benefit from services were able to enroll in 2012!

**ADDITIONAL ECONOMIC IMPACT of Underfunding Adult Education Programs Includes:**
- Significantly higher unemployment (14% for those w/no H.S. credential, only 8% for those w/Associate’s degree)⁵
- Lower taxable income and increased social services (each non-graduate costs CO $524,000 - lifetime average)⁶
- Increased recidivism and lower employment rate upon release for inmates w/out academic or vocational training.⁷
- 34% of Colorado’s children in non-English immigrant families live in poverty and 11% suffer extreme poverty, reducing K-12 academic success and increasing dropout rates.⁸

**ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAMS Fill Critical Education Gaps Between High School And Higher Education With Services That:**
- Provide literacy and numeracy training (Increasing service to include those no longer served by community colleges due to recent cutbacks.)
- Prepare Coloradans to be job-ready for middle-skill careers (those requiring more than high school yet less than university degrees; currently a critical need in Colorado’s workforce.)
- Collaborate with Workforce centers and function as pathways to post-secondary opportunities
- Connect families with vital resources to stop the cycle of poverty and incarceration
- Educate citizens so they can make informed civic, financial, and health care decisions
- Incorporate the National Common Core Standards to meet the needs of a 21st century workforce.

*Without appropriate funding, instructional offerings are limited, program wait lists are long, and critical industry sectors continue to hire from out-of-state due to lack of skilled workers!*

Sponsored by the Colorado Adult Education Professional Association (CAEPA)

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