



THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY, NY  
12234

ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES  
ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND POLICY  
89 WASHINGTON AVE. ROOM 460 EBA  
ALBANY, NY 12234  
Tel. 518 474-8892 Fax 518 474-0319

November 27, 2018

TO: All NYSED EPE funded adult education programs

FROM: Robert Purga, Director, ACCES Adult Education Programs

SUBJECT: NEDP Changes in reporting under Employment Preparation  
Education (EPE) funding

As many of you already know, in May, 2016, the New York State Board of Regents approved the action recommended by Deputy Commissioner Kevin Smith to permanently establish the National External Diploma Program® (NEDP) as a third pathway leading to a NYS High School Equivalency (HSE) Diploma for students eighteen (18) years of age or older. NEDP is a flexible, self-directed web-based program where the reading, writing, math, and workforce readiness skills of participants are assessed through a series of tasks to earn a NYS HSE diploma. The administrative agency for NEDP is the Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment Systems (CASAS). These tasks are meant to demonstrate high school level skills that parallel job and life situations (examples include writing a resume, calculating the interest on a loan, and identifying state and local political issues). Participants work independently on a computer and meet with an advisor/assessor from the EPE funded program on a regular basis. NEDP is aligned to the College and Career Readiness Standards. The NEDP program does not require students to take any timed, high-stakes tests. However, demonstration of academic mastery at the 9th grade level equivalency on both the CASAS assessments and on the TABE in reading and math, is required for program admission. Programs interested in offering this pathway to the HSE must commit to completing NYSED training along with NEDP training from CASAS before the program may be offered to students. If you are not already an NEDP provider and would like to offer this program, please contact Dr. Patricia Mooney at NYSED via email. [Patricia.Mooney@nysed.gov](mailto:Patricia.Mooney@nysed.gov)

In an effort to offer more support for adult education programs funded under Employment Preparation Education (EPE) who are providing NEDP as a pathway to a NYS HSE diploma, the formula for recording contact hours has been revised. Beginning with students enrolled on or after January 1, 2019, when the NEDP program staff have completed a review of a student's work in each of eight competency categories and it is determined that the student has successfully mastered the competencies associated with each category, the program will now claim twenty (20) contact hours for that completed category. These twenty hours will be recorded in a traditionally coded class in ASISTS. When a student has mastered the competencies associated with all eight (8) categories, the program will have earned a total of one hundred sixty (160) contact hours. The total contact hours are then multiplied by the program's EPE rate and will be claimed accordingly on the program's SA160. This new formula does not impact the EPE award allocation that programs received for FY18/19 nor will it impact the program's EPE rate. The existing formulas associated with all other activities included in the delivery of NEDP will remain the same.

cc: Dr. Patricia Mooney  
ACCES-Adult Education Regional Staff  
Rosemary Matt, Accountability  
RAEN Directors