

Subject Adult Basic Education

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Overview

Adult basic education (ABE) programs provide academic instruction to adults and older teenagers who have not finished high school. The purpose of ABE instruction is to enable an ABE student to obtain a high school diploma or equivalency certificate. A district or an organization offering an ABE program may charge a sliding fee to program participants. ABE funding is distributed to local fiscal hosts (generally school districts) who often work in concert with other school districts and nonschool literacy partners. The ABE formula is based on contact hours, population, the enrollment of English learners, and the number of adults age 25 or older with no diploma residing in a district. The statewide ABE appropriation (currently about \$50 million) annually grows by the rate of growth in the number of statewide contact hours (hours of instruction), but is limited to a growth rate of not more than three percent per year. For the last several years, the statewide number of contact hours has not grown.

H.F. 1970 increases the base funding level of ABE funding to \$52.781 million for fiscal year 2024, modifies the annual growth factor to be the greater of the annual growth in statewide contact hours or the growth in the general education basic formula allowance, but not more than three percent per year, and increases the maximum rate for contact hours from \$22 to \$30 per hour.

Summary

Section	Description
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| 1 | <p>State total adult basic education aid.</p> <p>Increases the state total adult basic education (ABE) aid amount to \$52.781 million for fiscal year 2024 (about a \$1.7 million increase over the base level of funding). Links future increases in ABE aid to increases to the greater of the growth in the number of contact hours or the growth in the general education basic formula</p> |
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Section	Description
	allowance but limits total growth in ABE revenue to no more than three percent per year.
2	Adult basic education program aid limit. Increases the current law cap on the hourly rate per contact hour from \$22 per \$30 per pupil unit.
3	Appropriations. Appropriates an unspecified amount of aid for the ABE program for fiscal years 2024 and 2025.



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