

Subject Adult Basic Education Aid

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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 non-school 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 3 percent per year. For the last several years, the statewide number of contact hours has not grown.

H.F. 1530 increases the base funding level to \$51 million for fiscal year 2022 and modifies the growth factor to be the greater of the annual growth in statewide contact hours or the growth in the general education basic formula allowance.

Summary

Section	Description
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1	State total ABE aid.
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Increases the annual statewide ABE aid amount to \$51 million for fiscal year 2022. Adds a second calculation to the annual growth factor, allowing ABE revenue to grow by the greater of the annual growth in statewide contact hours or the percentage growth in the general education basic formula allowance.

Section	Description
2	Appropriations. Appropriates an unspecified amount of aid for ABE programs for fiscal years 2022 and 2023.



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