

Adult Education



Adult Education is a program of academic instruction for adults, including but not limited to, basic reading, writing and mathematics, as well as English as a second language (ESL), high school completion, high school equivalency, and workforce preparation. The program provides adults with low basic skills the opportunity to improve their lives as productive workers, parents, and citizens. While playing a critical role in the attainment of secondary school diplomas and equivalency credentials, the program also aims to assist in the transition to post-secondary education and training through the use of career pathways.

Who are Adult Education participants?

Adult Education participants may be young mothers; working-age adults without a high school diploma; high-school graduates without adequate reading, writing or math skills; or immigrants including professionals with degrees in their native country. Nearly 30,000 participants are enrolled in Adult Education programs across the state each year. While adult learners average 30 years of age, each student must be more than 18 years old with education competencies below the level of high school graduates. Eligibility requirements differ by program type.

What do Adult Education participants learn?

Adult Education instruction is tailored to meet the individual needs of adult learners. Standardized tests identify existing skill levels, appropriate instruction, and academic gains due to instruction.

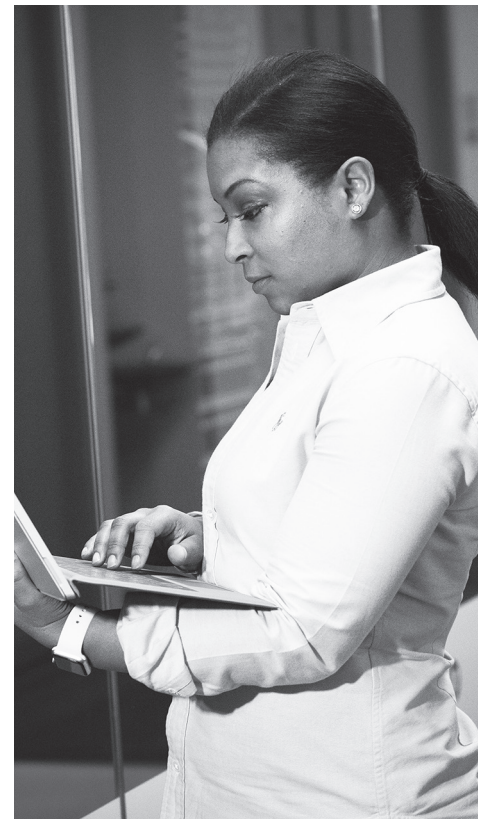
Adult Education provides the following critical services and activities to support adult learners with the goal of improving access to further education, training, and employment:

- Assist adults to become literate and obtain the knowledge and skills for employment and economic self-sufficiency;
- Support the educational and skill achievement of parents and family members to participate in the educational development of their children and improve economic opportunities for families;
- Assist immigrants and English language learners in improving their English proficiency and understanding of the rights and responsibilities of citizenship; and
- Assist incarcerated individuals in strengthening their knowledge and skills to promote successful re-entry into society.

What are the benefits of Adult Education?

Adult Education provides adult learners with opportunities to:

- Acquire a better job
- Achieve economic self-sufficiency
- Improve literacy skills
- Attend college
- Gain citizenship
- Participate in the educational development of their children
- Strengthen knowledge and skills to promote successful re-entry into society for formerly incarcerated individuals



Where can you find an Adult Education program?

There are approximately 120 Adult Education programs located throughout Michigan, with about 20 percent of Michigan's local public school districts operating an Adult Education program. Additionally, some intermediate school districts, community colleges, community and faith-based organizations, and literacy councils offer Adult Education services. These organizations may operate individually or in partnership to deliver services. Find a program near you at Michigan.gov/LearnMoreEarnMore.

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