

March 27, 2020

Dear Adult Education Administrator,

These are certainly unprecedented times that we are experiencing, especially now with the governor's shelter in place order. The staff from the Adult Education Office (AEO) are all teleworking. We are responding to email and calls. We have a conference call three times a week where we can share information and continue to make decisions. AEO Education Program Consultants are reading the WIOA, Title II applications. We continue to be on track for grant awards to be made available as soon as we receive the funds in early July.

There are concerns about April deliverables. At this time, we are holding to the timeline and are hopeful that many of these can be worked on while administrators are away from their office. We are working with our State Leadership Partners (SLPs), CALPRO, CASAS and OTAN to look at the deliverables and concerns related to these. We will be extending the deadline for expenditures to September 30, 2020.

We understand the concern about how this situation will affect funding in future years as it relates to performance. The Division of Adult Education and Literacy from the United States Department of Education is considering ways to allow for virtual test proctoring. As more information becomes available, we will work with CASAS and our high school equivalency vendors to develop a policy to implement virtual testing. The AEO will be evaluating the data that comes from this year and is used to determine grant awards for the 2021–2022 year. We will analyze data over time and work to ensure that agencies are funded fairly.

We continue to work with our SLPs to provide resources for distance and online learning. These resources are all being posted on the COVID-19 Field Support section of the OTAN website at: <https://otan.us/resources/covid-19-field-support/>. We also know that many of the vendors the adult education providers in California use are also providing amazing resources for teachers to transition to online teaching.

With respect to the Census 2020, please reach out to your students and encourage them to complete the survey.

Please complete the updated COVID-19 survey "COVID-19 Critical Event Survey", if you have not done so. The survey is located under the header "CDE Adult Education Office" on the COVID-19 Field Support webpage at: <https://otan.us/resources/covid-19-field-support/>. The information you provide is valuable to the AEO and our SLPs.

You can also sign up for State Superintendent Thurmond's weekly email to the field with pertinent COVID-19 updates. You can subscribe to the updates, by emailing join-covid19-update@mlist.cde.ca.gov to be added to the distribution list.

Stay safe and healthy,

The Adult Education Office