

ADULT EDUCATION & LITERACY NETWORK

Fiscal Year 2023 Request for Additional Funding



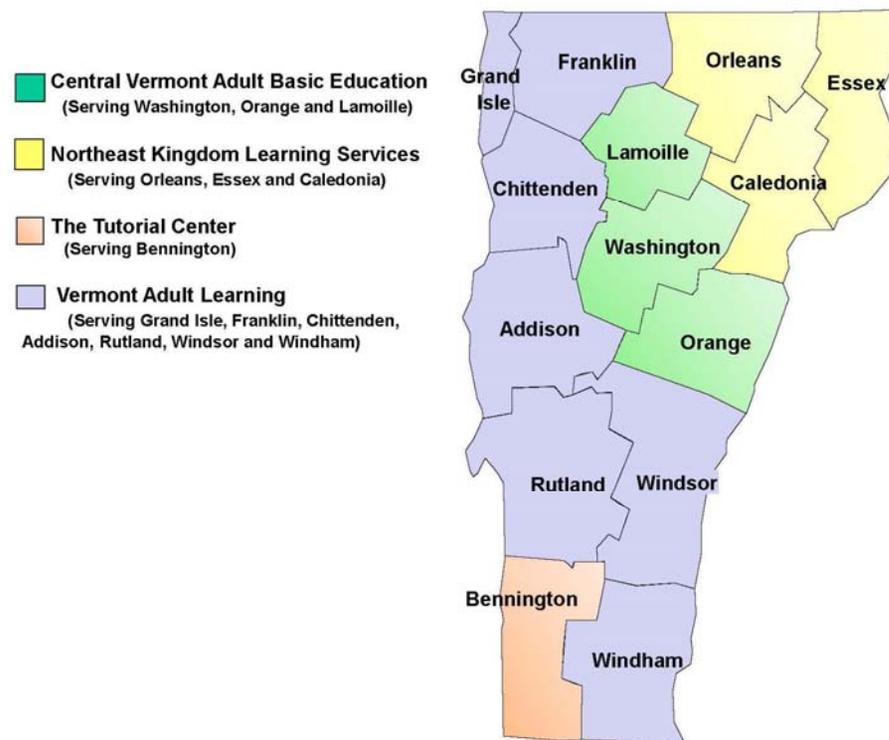
OUR REQUEST: AN ADDITIONAL \$1.4M FOR FY2023 TO COVER OPERATIONAL COSTS

Categories of Funding and Estimates of Costs for \$1.4million FY23 budget request:

- Staffing salary & benefits
- Technology needs & software upgrades
- Hardware (textbooks, supplies & other instructional materials)
- Outreach/Recruitment
- Property maintenance and services

NOTE: the House included \$700k in one-time funding in its budget.

Vermont's Four Adult Education and Literacy Providers Help Achieve State Goals



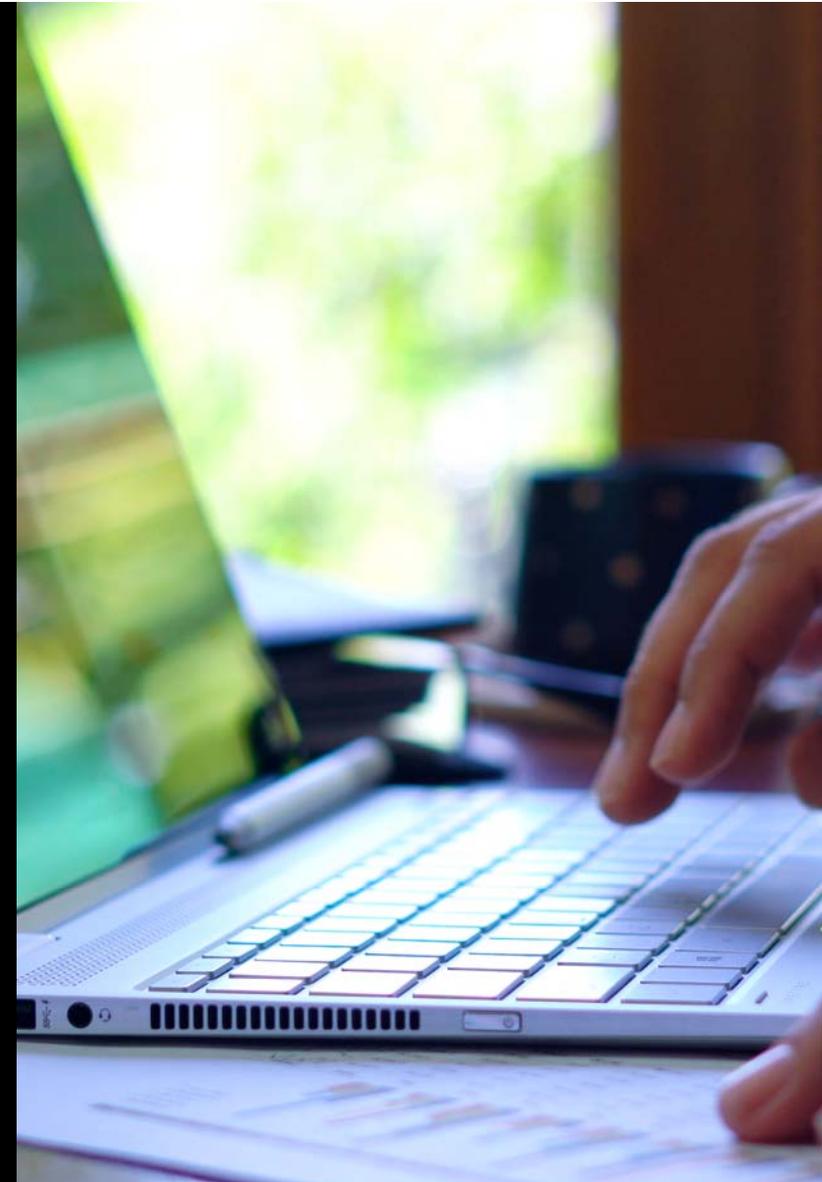
WE HAVE BEEN AFFECTED BY THE PANDEMIC

The traditional “hands-on”, one-on-one, personalized nature of AEL programming and activities makes remote and hybrid learning especially time-consuming, costly and challenging.

Each year as a Network of four AEL providers, we employ approximately 132 educators and support staff to provide educational services to about 2,500 students from every city and town in the State.

Our operating costs have risen sharply due to the pandemic, and like all organizations and employers, we face budget and staffing shortfalls.

Your support will ensure that our students can be successful both now and in the future.



According to the [U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics](#), full-time workers age 25 and older without high school diplomas earn about \$140 *less per week* than those with high school diplomas. Many students who earn their high school diploma through the AELN go on to attend college in Vermont. Workers with a bachelor's degree (and no additional degree) have median weekly earnings that are more than double the average weekly earnings of workers the same age without a high school diploma.



Adult Education and Literacy services help people build the assets they need to move out of poverty successfully, as well as the confidence to continue to move toward success throughout their lives. We help students to identify concrete goals and then break those goals down into steps. We celebrate every achievement so that students can see that they can succeed.

Our students set goals in the domains of:

- Family and life
- Academics
- Career and college readiness

Our services include:

- Literacy Education: Reading, Writing, Math including computer and financial literacy education
- English Language Learning and US Citizenship preparation
- High School Diploma and GED Credentialing
- Career and College Readiness





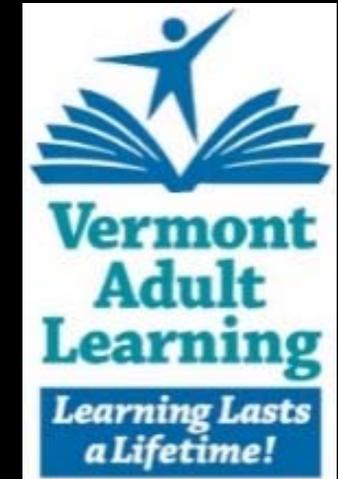
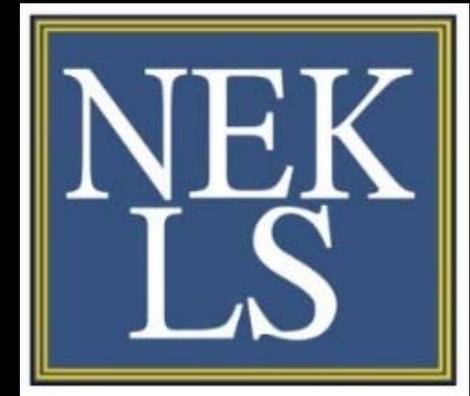
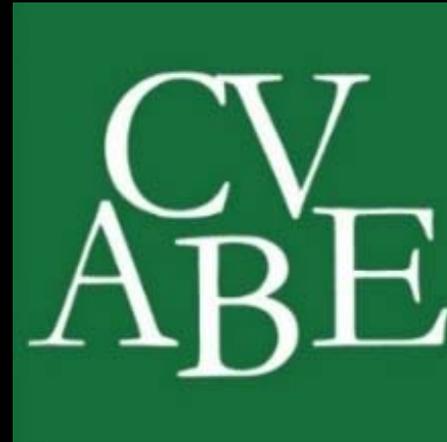
**ADULT EDUCATION AND LITERACY PROVIDERS OFFER
A BROAD RANGE OF SERVICES THAT ARE TARGETED,
TAILORED AND RELEVANT TO EACH STUDENT'S
GOALS AND NEEDS.**

With additional investments in the Adult Education & Literacy providers, Vermont could extend regional workforce expansion and paid work-based learning and training with a population that is already here, and that the State is already investing in through social support programs such as Reach-Up, CTE, free tuition.

VERMONT'S ADULT EDUCATION & LITERACY PROVIDERS HELP TO ACHIEVE VERMONT STATE GOALS.

By investing in the Adult Education & Literacy providers, the State would support the population level outcomes in statute. Vermont's population-level quality of life outcomes are intended to reflect the well-being of all Vermonters, and indicators reported to measure the extent to which outcomes are achieved are intended to represent the experience of all Vermonters, including and especially Vermonters who are members of marginalized groups. Investing in AEL will specifically support the following outcomes:

- Vermont has a prosperous economy.
- Vermont's families are safe, nurturing, stable, and supported.
- Vermont's children and young people achieve their potential.



BETWEEN 2017 AND 2021, AEL PROVIDERS SERVED OVER 10,000 STUDENTS

These students had many kinds of success:

- Attained specific skills to get a job or a better job
- Earned a high school diploma or GED
- Achieved a certification or other credential for a job
- Decided to attend college or other educational & career development opportunities
- Improved their English language abilities to apply their skills and education to careers here in Vermont

Over those 5 years, the average cost per student served by the AEL providers was \$3,124.



Thank you! We hope you will support our request for an additional \$1.4m for the 4 AEL providers for operational expenses.