

# Indiana ADULT EDUCATION

Basic Skills. High School Equivalency. Short-term Training. Certifications and More.

More than 425,000 Hoosiers do not have a high school diploma and lack skills to advance. And a labor shortage exists as employers seek qualified workers.

Investing in Indiana Adult Education as a workforce solution pays off. Read more about adult education's **2023 Indiana Legislative Priorities** to move Hoosiers to the **Next Level**.



## 2023 | Indiana Legislative Priorities



### 1) Significant Funding Increase

The Department of Workforce Development and the Governor's Workforce Cabinet propose a substantial increase in funding for adult education to expand workforce initiatives with employer partners, offer additional job training for Hoosiers, add opportunities for new immigrants to learn English, and reduce waiting lists for services.



### 2) Add High School Assessment

The Department of Workforce Development and the Governor's Workforce Cabinet propose a second competency-based assessment, along with the high school equivalency diploma, as an option for busy Hoosier adults. Participants could obtain a credential based on skills they have gained from life and work experience to demonstrate mastery of academic skills in core subject areas.



### 3) Align Adult Education Statute

The Department of Workforce Development and the Governor's Workforce Cabinet propose an alignment of state statute with federal adult education legislation to allow for occupational skills training and digital literacy. Currently, Indiana legislation does not allow state adult education dollars for digital literacy and workforce training.



### 4) Incentivize HSE Completion

The Department of Workforce Development and the Governor's Workforce Cabinet propose a legislative appropriation to provide a cash incentive (along with unemployment benefits) to those who make weekly progress toward completion of their high school equivalency. There are thousands of unique UI claimants a month without a high school diploma or HSE.

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Expand HSE Pilot Project  
**Public Law 86**  
Passed in 2020

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Passed in 2020 (PL86), the "**HSE Pilot Project**" allowed credit-deficient seniors in three school districts to study for the high school equivalency and an industry-recognized certification while in high school. Currently, more school districts would like to offer this opportunity to seniors who are not on track to graduate.