

**Adult Education and Family Literacy Act  
as reauthorized by the  
Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act  
Frequently Asked Questions  
April 2015**

**Q1: Can a State conduct a new AEFLA competition under WIA during the transition year?**

Yes. A State may elect to either conduct a new competition under AEFLA for the 2015 transition year or extend its current grants. If a State plans to conduct a new competition, it must indicate this intention in its 2015 Transition State Plan and must use the eligible providers defined in WIA Section 203(5). Additionally, the Request for Proposals for the new competition must address the new adult education and literacy activities required under WIOA.

For additional information on the transition year guidance for AEFLA, titled *Guide for Development of a State Plan under the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act* (OMB Control No. 1830-0026), please see the link to the guidance issued by the Department, available at: <http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ovae/pi/AdultEd/state-guidance.pdf>. The State plan guidance details how States are expected to revise existing plans in order to demonstrate how they will plan for and incorporate requirements of WIOA during the transition year.

**Q2: Will implementation of WIOA affect the time frame in which States will receive awards for the AEFLA State grant program?**

No. The Department will continue to notify States of their estimated AEFLA State award allocations for the respective fiscal year in the spring of that fiscal year. The funds will become available on July 1 of that year, as was the case under WIA.

**Q3: When does the increase in the administrative cost limit, up to 5 percent or \$85,000, take effect?**

States may spend up to 5 percent or \$85,000 (up from \$65,000 under WIA) to support administrative expenses of the agency when WIOA becomes effective on July 1, 2015.

**Q4: What impact does WIOA have on the role of libraries in the workforce development system?**

Under WIOA, libraries continue to play a significant role in enhancing the skills, employability, and access to resources for individuals with barriers to education and employment. Under WIOA, libraries continue to be an eligible provider of adult education and literacy services and are also now an optional partner in the one-stop delivery system. Public libraries are key in providing services and activities that enhance digital literacy skills, which is a term defined and emphasized throughout WIOA.

**Q5: What are the WIOA Notices of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRMs) and when were they published?**

The notices are:

- A NPRM between ED and the Department of Labor (DOL) to implement jointly-administered activities under Title I of WIOA regarding unified and combined state plans, performance accountability, and the one-stop system. This NPRM applies to all

core programs, including state vocational rehabilitation services and adult education programs.

- A DOL-only NPRM to implement changes made to the adult, dislocated worker, and youth programs authorized under Title I of WIOA.
- An ED-only NPRM that will implement changes to programs authorized under Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (AEFLA), which are contained in Title II of WIOA.
- Two ED-only NPRMs that will implement changes made to the programs authorized under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which are contained in Title IV of WIOA, as well as new provisions.

The Federal Register published the NPRMs on April 16, 2015. At that time, the 60-day public comment period commenced, and comments may now be submitted online at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). Hard copy comments may also be submitted via postal mail, commercial delivery, or hand delivery. DOL and ED will analyze these public comments, and anticipate issuing Final Rules implementing WIOA in early 2016.

Because many provisions of WIOA go into effect July 1, 2015, prior to publication of final rules, the Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education (OCTAE) plans to issue additional guidance in Spring 2015 to support transition implementation. This guidance will be accompanied by technical assistance activities. Once issued, the guidance can be accessed at [www.ed.gov/AEFLA](http://www.ed.gov/AEFLA).

To achieve successful implementation and the full vision of WIOA, OCTAE will continue to consult with the adult education and workforce system, and strongly advises States and local areas to begin planning and taking action to prepare to implement WIOA.