For The Period July 1, 2005 Through June 30, 2006



# CRIT LUALLEN AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS www.auditor.ky.gov

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## CRIT LUALLEN AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

June 27, 2007

Sarah Hawker, Vice President Kentucky Adult Education Council on Postsecondary Education 1024 Capital Center Drive, Suite 250 Frankfort, KY 40601

Patrick Waddell, Superintendent Edmonson County Board of Education 100 Wildcat Way Brownsville, KY 42210

Re: Adult Education Grants

Dear Ms. Hawker and Mr. Waddell:

This report contains the results of the performance audit of Edmonson County Board of Education's administration of its Adult Education Grants for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2006. The Council on Postsecondary Education and Kentucky Adult Education contracted with us to conduct performance audits of selected local adult education providers. This report represents our findings, recommendations, and the provider's responses.

We conducted this performance audit in accordance with applicable standards contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States of America.

We greatly appreciate the courtesies and cooperation extended to our staff during the audit.

Respectfully submitted,

Crit Luallen Auditor of Public Accounts

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

#### PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Council on Postsecondary Education and Kentucky Adult Education (KYAE) selected the Edmonson County Board of Education (local provider) for a limited scope performance audit of its administration of the Adult Education Grant for Edmonson County. An on-site review was conducted on April 19, 2007 through April 20, 2007 to address the following objectives:

- Reconcile student and faculty data electronically submitted to KYAE with the information retained by the local provider.
- Determine whether the local provider's professional development activities comply with applicable professional development policies and procedures.
- Determine whether local providers' expenditures and costs comply with the terms of their grant agreement and reconcile to invoices submitted.
- Report internal control weaknesses identified during our audit that relate to the audit's objectives.

To accomplish these objectives, the performance audit team reviewed the Policy and Procedure Manual for Kentucky Adult Education, as well as the provider's grant proposal and final agreement with KYAE. During the on-site review, the audit team reviewed the provider's accounting records (trial balance/general ledger), interviewed program administrators regarding internal controls related to the above grants, and tested samples of participant files, personnel files, and expenditure documentation for compliance with applicable requirements. Below is the summary of findings:

#### FINDINGS SUMMARY

	Disallowed
FINDING	Costs
One (1) participant had zero (0) hours of attendance recorded in AERIN.	
This was a Program Type 11 participant that is required to report	
attendance hours.	N/A
Three (3) participant files did not contain evidence to support the	
achievement of goals as recorded in AERIN.	N/A
Two (2) participant files for Program Type 27, Computer Literacy Skills,	
did not contain evidence of an approved formal assessment.	N/A

## **RESULTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

## FINANCIAL REPORTING AND COMPLIANCE

#### Scope and Methodology

The KAE-10 Expenditure Reports were compared to the line item budget approved in the final agreement modification. This comparison was used to determine whether the provider's reimbursements complied with the approved budget.

The KAE-10 Expenditure Reports were then compared to the internally generated financial records maintained by the local provider. This comparison was used to determine whether the local provider's accounting records support the total amount requested for reimbursement on the KAE-10 Expenditure Reports.

#### Findings

No exceptions noted.

## PARTICIPANT ELIGIBILITY AND RECORD KEEPING

#### **Scope and Methodology**

Providers are required to submit participant data electronically using KYAE's management information system, AERIN. A total of 39 participants were selected randomly from AERIN. The electronic data was then compared to the documentation maintained in the participant files. We examined the files for the following:

- Proper eligibility documentation.
- Proper assessment testing.
- Evidence to support the achievement of goals/objectives.
- Evidence to support attendance.
- Proper separation from the program when applicable.
- Other requirements were tested based upon the applicable program requirements.

The participants tested received services during the period of July 1, 2005 and June 30, 2006.

#### Findings

Providers are required to retain records to support participant data submitted electronically, as dictated by the program type. Information entered into AERIN should be supported by evidence maintained in the participant's file. The following exceptions were noted:

- One (1) participant had zero (0) hours of attendance recorded in AERIN. This was a Program Type 11 participant that is required to report attendance hours.
- Three (3) participant files did not contain evidence to support the achievement of goals as recorded in AERIN.
- Two (2) participant files for Program Type 27, Computer Literacy Skills, did not contain evidence of an approved formal assessment.

#### Recommendations

We recommend that the provider ensure all participant files contain the necessary documentation to support compliance with applicable policies and procedures. All assessments and any achievement of goals/objectives should be documented and maintained. Staff entering participant data should require documentation for any data entry performed on a participant and any file deficiencies should be reported to the Program Director. Attendance hours should be accurately recorded in AERIN for all participants enrolled in program types 01, 07, 10, and 11.

Provider Response – [Management provided this response when their views and planned corrective actions were requested. The Provider was given a reasonable amount of time to adequately respond to this request.]

Regarding the first exception, this is believed to be due to a glitch in the AERIN system, she was a family literacy participant.

Program Type 27 participants without a GED do not have to take an assessment to take a computer class. They automatically qualify for that service.

### PAYROLL AND STAFF REQUIREMENTS

#### Scope and Methodology

A sample of 12 payroll disbursements, representing over 20% of the total payroll expenditures, was judgmentally selected for payroll testing. Personnel files were examined to verify that staff had received the required professional development training hours. Timesheets were examined for existence and approval. Personnel files were examined to verify evidence of the instructor's bachelor's degree. A determination was made as to whether the employee was included in the staff listing information reported to KYAE.

### Findings

While there were some verbal comments and recommendations communicated to the provider during fieldwork, no reportable exceptions were noted.

### PURCHASING/EXPENDITURE COMPLIANCE

#### **Scope and Methodology**

A sample of 13 expenditures, representing 20% of the total purchases, was selected judgmentally from the detailed general ledger. These expenditures were tested for authorization/approval, supporting documentation, proper recording, and that it was an actual expense during the grant period of July 1, 2005 and June 30, 2006.

#### Findings

No exceptions noted.

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT REIMBURSEMENT COMPLIANCE

#### **Scope and Methodology**

Professional Development expenditures were tested for proper authorization, supporting documentation, and adherence to approved rates and reimbursement policies. A sample of 3 expenditures, representing 23% of the total professional development expenditures, was selected judgmentally from the detailed general ledger.

#### Findings

No exceptions noted.

## INTERNAL CONTROLS RELATING TO GRANT

#### **Scope and Methodology**

Edmonson County Adult & Family Education Center's fiscal administrator was given an Internal Control Questionnaire regarding the controls in place for cash disbursements, bank reconciliation's, revenue, expenditures, and payroll. The questionnaire was completed by the fiscal administrator and reviewed for any significant control deficiencies.

#### Findings

No significant control deficiencies noted.