

Linda Nelson



COABE Incentive Grant Award Winner

Arkansas' own Linda Nelson received national recognition at the 2014 COABE conference. She was named a winner of a COABE Incentive Grant, a highly competitive and prestigious award.

Nelson currently serves as executive director at Literacy Coalition-South Central Arkansas. Under her leadership, the coalition was presented with the 2010 Excellence in Education Award and the 2011 Innovative Project Award by Arkansas Literacy Councils, Inc. In addition to her enthusiasm for designing projects that meet the needs of adult learners, Nelson has a keen passion for training volunteers in the adult literacy field. She is a Pro Literacy Certified Tutor Trainer in adult basic literacy and English as a Second Language, a Certified English Forward Tutor Trainer, and a Certified Volunteer Manager.

COABE provides incentive grants which support activities or projects in the field of adult basic education through the secondary level.

2014 COABE Conference

The Commission on Adult Basic Education (COABE) national conference was held March 16-19 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The conference theme was "Forging the Future: Building Bridges in the Steel City". The conference included over ten tracks with 250+ workshop sessions, national level key note speakers, on-site and off-site events, and lots of networking opportunities—such as the annual regional meetings and state association meetings.

Conference attendees from Arkansas included staff members from the College of the Ouachitas Adult Education Center, Crawford County Adult Education Center, Fort Smith Adult Education Center, Southern Arkansas University Adult Education Center, Arkansas Adult Learning Resource Center, and the Arkansas Department of Career Education/Adult Education Division.

Comprised of adult education practitioners and administrators, COABE is 13,000 members strong and growing. The Commission on Adult Basic Education is organized to advance national and international adult education and literacy opportunities for all persons and to advance quality services for all adult learners.

Visit COABE.org for more information on the organization.



The Arkansas Department of Career Education funds the Adult Education Division. The Adult Education Division provides programs and services statewide.



Be In the Know

Visit AALRC.org to find the latest professional development, courses, and training opportunities offered by the Arkansas Adult Learning Resource Center.

Calendar Reminder

Top 25 GED® Scores
Awards Ceremony
April 23, 2014 / State Capitol

Spring Administrators' Conference
April 24-25, 2014

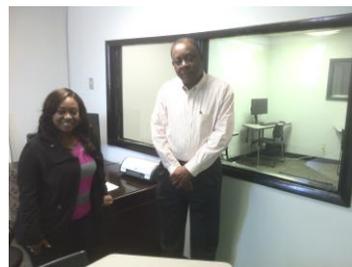
More Centers Ready to Deliver GED® Test

Approximately 45 adult education centers and their partners are now approved to deliver the computerized GED® test in Arkansas. Test sites are also approved in 19 locations within the Arkansas Department of Correction.

As of mid-March, 70 individuals have taken the test; 59 have passed; and an additional 47 have begun testing but not completed. Arkansas currently holds a pass rate of 84%.

Pictured (Top): H. Faye Branch, Monticello Adult Education Center.

Pictured (Bottom, l-r): Polly Harris, Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute; LaQuanda Thompson and Lloyd Huskey, Shorter College/Arkansas Baptist College; and Dana Rockwell, Valley View Adult Education Center.



College & Career Coach Initiative Expanded

The Adult Education Division/Arkansas Department of Career Education has two new staff members helping our adult learners navigate programs that teach skills advancement to better jobs and postsecondary education. Kim Freeman and Deborah Pate (pictured right) bring their abilities in program management and a focus on Adult Education.

Deborah comes to the Department from the University of Central Arkansas where she earned her both her undergraduate and graduate degrees. She also taught classes in university settings in UCA's career services program. Deborah worked with at-risk freshmen preparing them to be successful in college. In her position as a Career Coach, she will now assist Adult Education students as they explore careers, evaluate their academic abilities, and set goals.

Kim received a Bachelor of Science degree in Exercise Science from Arkansas State University, a Master's degree in Health and Behavioral Sciences from UCA, and a Master's Degree in Education from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. She was formerly a field trainer for Kuder, a college and career planning program used statewide. As a Program Specialist, Kim will help manage the career coaches and analyze field trends to make the overall initiative more effective.

