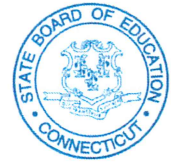




STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



TO: Superintendents of Schools
Adult Education Directors

FROM: Charlene Russell-Tucker, Chief Operating Officer
Office of Student Supports and Organizational Effectiveness

DATE: January 21, 2016

SUBJECT: Update on Evaluation and Support of Adult Educators

Over the last three years, local educational agencies (LEAs) in Connecticut have transitioned to educator evaluation and support plans that align with Connecticut's Guidelines for Educator Evaluation, based on the 2012 statutory changes pursuant to Section 10-151b of the Connecticut General Statutes, and subsequently amended in May 2014. Given the unique settings and structures of adult education programs in Connecticut, the Performance Evaluation Advisory Council (PEAC) granted these programs flexibility from full implementation of an educator evaluation and support system aligned with the Guidelines for the 2013-14 and 2014-15 academic years.

During this time, Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) consultants, Valerie Marino and Sharon Fuller, facilitated a workgroup of adult educators. This workgroup, inclusive of Adult Education Program Directors representing a variety of adult education programs across Connecticut, adapted the state educator evaluation and support model, known as the System for Educator Evaluation and Development (SEED), to include adaptations for adult educators. These proposed adaptations were available to adult educators during the 2014-15 academic year as a permissive pilot. While stakeholders viewed the proposed adaptations favorably, there continue to be questions about the feasibility of implementation for some adult education programs.

At the June 10, 2015, PEAC meeting, the CSDE Talent Office provided an update on the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) flexibility request requirements, and noted that these did not necessarily apply to adult educators. As such, PEAC reached consensus on a proposal that the requirements as mentioned in the Guidelines for Educator Evaluation be optional as applied to adult educators.

Thus, while adult educators will still be required to take part in annual evaluations, adult education programs will not be required to implement educator evaluation and support plans aligned to the Guidelines. However, adult education programs are strongly encouraged to consider incorporating components of the new educator evaluation and support system, where appropriate, in their local evaluation and support plan for teachers and administrators. If you have additional questions regarding the evaluation of adult educators, please contact Valerie Marino, at valerie.marino@ct.gov or 860-807-2130.

SM:sfn

cc: Sarah J. Barzee, Ph.D., Chief Talent Officer
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