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Mike DeWine, Governor Jim Tressel, Lt. Governor Mike Duffey, Chancellor

Ohio Aspire SFY26 Integrated Education and Training Policy

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Definitions and General Requirements

Integrated Education and Training (IET) is a service approach that provides adult education and literacy activities concurrently and contextually with workforce preparation activities and workforce training for a specific occupation or occupational cluster for the purpose of educational and career advancement (§463.35). An IET program must include adult education and literacy activities, workforce preparation activities, and workforce training (§463.36). In addition, as part of a career pathway (§463.37), the design of an IET program should support the local and state workforce development board plans as required under WIOA. The purpose of the Integrated Education and Training (IET) assurance is to ensure AEFLA/IELCE funded programs meet the definitions and requirements under 34 CFR Part 463 Subpart D.

Per §463.38, IET must be implemented “for purposes of educational and career advancement,” meaning:

- The adult education component of the program is aligned with the State’s content standards for adult education as described in the State’s Unified or Combined State Plan; and
- The integrated education and training program is part of a career pathway.

WIOA Sec. 3(7) defines Career Pathways to mean a combination of rigorous and high-quality education, training, and other services that:

- aligns with skill needs of industries in the state or regional economy;
- prepares an individual to succeed in secondary or postsecondary education options;
- includes counseling to support the individual’s education and career goals;
- includes education offered concurrently and contextually with workforce preparation and training in specific occupation or occupational cluster;
- organizes education, training and other services to support the particular needs of an individual to accelerate their educational and career advancement;
- enables an individual to attain a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent; and helps an individual enter or advance within a specific occupation or occupational cluster.

The IET includes the adult education and literacy activities as described in §463.30

The IET includes one or more of the workforce preparation activities as described in §463.34

The IET includes at least one of the workforce training activities as described in WIOA 134(c)(3)(D)

The adult education and literacy activities, workforce preparation activities and workforce training are “integrated” in the following ways, per the definition in §463.37:

- are each of sufficient intensity and quality, and based on the most rigorous research available, particularly with respect to improving reading, writing, mathematics, and English proficiency of eligible individuals;
- occur simultaneously; and

- use occupationally relevant instructional materials.

Ohio Policy

1. All IETs must be submitted **and** approved through the Aspire Online Grant **prior** to IET implementation.
2. IET teacher(s) and program administrator must complete the IET Fundamentals Course in the Aspire PDN Moodle **prior** to implementing an IET. Occupational-only instructors are exempt from this requirement, in accordance with the Ohio Aspire PD Policy.
3. Any program approved for an IET for the first time **must** attend monthly IET TA cohort meetings. Representation at this meeting can be from the local program's administrator and/or IET teacher(s). Failure to actively participate in cohort meetings may impact an IET provider's Risk Assessment, funding decisions, and/or future implementation of IET. The monthly IET TA cohort meetings are optional but encouraged for veteran IET providers.
4. Asynchronous online IETs are **not** permitted.
5. All IET-related expenses must be allowable and allocable.
 - Examples of allowable expenses: curriculum, credentialing exams, re-tests, Occupational Skills training.
 - Examples of unallowable expenses: uniforms, background checks, medical screenings, vaccinations, and tuition.
 - Email aspiregrants@highered.ohio.gov with questions regarding the allocability of IET-related expenses.
6. IET name in LACES must match the name in the Online Grant and will be structured in the following manner: **IET-Funding Stream(s)-Credential, Abbreviation, or Employer Name-Other relevant information** (e.g., cohort number, time of day, etc.) Note: The first three bolded components are required. The *Other Relevant Information* section may be used at the grantee's discretion.
 - Example for Credential IET: IET-243-Cust.Serv.-Fall PM
 - Example for Employer Interview IET: IET-231-Tyson Foods-Cohort 1
7. IET data must be entered into LACES in accordance with the [IET Work Aid](#).
8. IET syllabus must be submitted to PDN repository when the repository becomes available.
9. Based on IET performance, the State Aspire Office will provide technical assistance (TA) as needed to grantees. TA activities may include in-person workshops, sustained coaching, and/or Performance Improvement Plans (PIPs). Certain TA may be mandatory based on program outcomes. Failure to participate in mandatory TA may impact an IET provider's Risk Assessment, funding decisions, and/or future implementation of IET.