

Adult Education--State Literacy Resource Centers (CFDA No. 84.254)

I. Legislation

Adult Education Act, P.L. 100-297, as amended by the National Literacy Act of 1991, P.L. 102-73 (20 U.S.C. 1208aa) (expires September 30, 1997).

II. Funding History

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>
1992	\$5,000,000
1993	7,857,000
1994	7,857,000
1995	0
1996	0

III. Analysis of Program Performance

A. Goals and Objectives

Program appropriations ended in FY 1994 and this is a close-out report on the program. The goal of this program was to establish a network of centers intended to stimulate the coordination of literacy services and enhance the capacity of state and local organizations to provide literacy services.

B. Strategies to Achieve the Goals

Services Supported

In response to the SLRC program, almost all states developed state literacy centers; 12 states merged resources with other states, forming three regional literacy centers. The legislation specified that governors would apply for the federal grant funds, but that they would designate the state education agency (SEA) or another nonprofit entity to operate the center. SEAs administered the majority of the centers; other administrative agencies were state library systems, community college systems, university systems, governors' offices, and other state departments.

- State and regional literacy centers conducted activities predominantly in four areas: disseminating literacy information and materials, providing training to literacy instructors, promoting coordination and collaboration among literacy providers, and providing technical assistance to literacy instructors.
- Many centers offered training in conjunction with other organizations, such as their state library system or community-based organizations. Training activities most often consisted of basic instruction to teachers, but also included the training of trainers.
- Literacy centers used technology in delivering their services and, to a lesser extent, promoted the use of technology by individuals and organizations providing direct services to adult learners.

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Eighty percent of the state and regional center directors indicated that their centers maintained an Internet connection, but that on average only 27 percent of literacy providers in their states were connected to the Internet.

- State administrators and state and regional center directors reported that they made use of needs assessments, customer feedback, and other evaluative information to improve their services. The most common needs were for English as a second language, workplace literacy, and support services.

IV. Planned Studies

None.

V. Sources of Information

1. Program files.
2. Kimberly S. Reynolds and Thomas A. Fiore, [A Descriptive Review of the SLRC Program](#), a report prepared for the U.S. Department of Education, Planning and Evaluation Service (Research Triangle Park, NC: Research Triangle Institute, 1996).

VI. Contacts for Further Information

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