

Career Tech Matters

by Dennis Franks • Jan. 11, 2019

Adult Education has revised its Aspire orientations in 2019 to better meet the needs of the community.

Karla Hanson, coordinator for the program, said she thought that offering the sessions on alternating weeks might be more convenient for potential students.



"I think this just gives students more opportunities to come in," Karla said.

Aspire replaced the ABLE (Adult Basic Literacy Education) program in 2017. It is part of a state-wide program that provides free instruction for adults who wish to improve their basic academic skills and/or prepare to take the GED (General Equivalence Diploma) or High School Equivalence (HSE) test or to participate in Ohio's Adult Diploma Program or the 22+ program.

So far this year, Aspire has served 133 adult learners.

Karla, who has been coordinating the program for almost two years, said working with adult learners is rewarding.

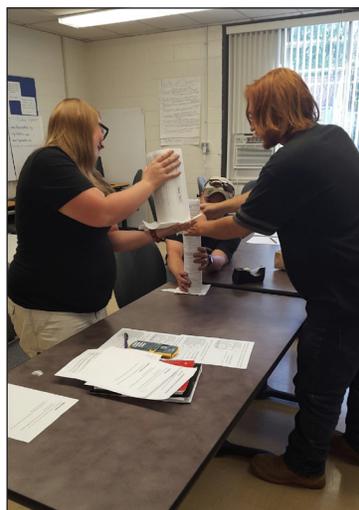
"It's good to see people wake up their academic brain and do things they didn't think they could do," she said.

Aspire orientation is a two-day session, offered from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4-8 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays at Adult Education sites in Chillicothe and Circleville.

Upon completing orientation, students can begin classes within a week. Registration is not required.

"This is the first step for adults who want to pursue their GED or HSE," Karla said, or for students who want to pursue either the Adult Diploma Program or 22+ program, both of which enable an adult to earn his or her high school diploma from the state while also pursuing a career development program through Adult Education.

"For the ADP students, I see them go from class to, in many cases, a job upon completing the pro-



Students who were preparing for their GED take part in a math activity during a class.

gram. This is very gratifying to see them do that," Karla said.

Carrie Fife, director of Adult Education, also appreciates what Aspire students do in the program.

"They work really hard to progress through their classes and earn their high school equivalency or diploma. We love to see their success as they enter the workforce or enroll in further education."

Aspire orientation sessions started this week. Additional sessions are:

- 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Jan. 16 and 17, 40 West Fifth St., Chillicothe
- 4-8 p.m. Jan. 23 and 24, 424 East Mound St., Circleville
- 4-8 p.m. Jan. 30 and 31, 40 West Fifth St., Chillicothe

In addition, the learning lab at 40 West Fifth St. in Chillicothe is open from 1-5 p.m. for ADP and 22+ students who would like help.

For more information about orientation and class times, call (740) 642-1294 (Pickaway County) or (740) 779-2035 (Ross County).

Attendees need to bring a photo ID with them to orientation.

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