

Adult Basic Education

The Adult Education Program provides adults with the opportunity to improve their basic reading, writing, and math skills. Students may work on basic skills to improve their ACT scores, to take the Official GED Test, to improve their employability skills, to advance their workplace skills, or to gain personal satisfaction. The Adult Education Program follows established laws, rules, and regulations. The program is an open-entry, open-exit program. All incoming students are evaluated and placed in classes to upgrade deficiencies. Instruction is diagnostic, prescriptive, self-paced, and individualized. Students have access to computers and modern curriculum. Small group and individual instruction are available during the day and evening hours at no cost to participants. Classes are provided on campus in Union County and at satellite locations in Union and Bradley Counties.

Programs provided through Adult Education Academic Assessment

The test of Adult Basic Education (TABE) is administered to assess academic needs for placement, instruction, WIOA, and other programs. The Arkansas High School Diploma (GED) can be earned by passing a series of general knowledge exams. The tests cover the following subjects: writing skills, social studies, science, literature and the arts, and mathematics. The GED test may be taken at South Arkansas Community College. Students must take a pre-test and present those results with an application to test before taking the state GED test.

English as a Second Language

This class is designed for students who have little or no background in the English language as well as students who have limited use of the English language. Alphabet sounds, simple commonly used verbs, and basic understanding of grammar and basic functional language are emphasized for the beginning students. Intermediate and advanced students learn to speak in various situations and become more comfortable in speaking in different social gatherings. Intermediate and advanced classes focus on clarity of pronunciation, speed-reading, vocabulary building, written essays, and formal speech presentations.

Workplace Education

The Workplace Education Program offers basic academic skills to local businesses. Classes may be taught in local businesses and industries. These classes can be GED or refresher courses, or they can be tailored to the needs of the employer. The Arkansas Workforce Alliance for growth in the Economy (WAGE) Program is designed to address the need to improve the workplace basic skills of the unemployed and under-employed labor pool. The WAGE Program is an industry, education, and community collaborative for workforce development. The program incorporates an alliance among local employer advisory council, adult education services, employment and training agencies, industrial development foundations, and county/city governments to identify and provide training in those literacy skills essential to most entry-level jobs in the community.

Computer Literacy

The Computer literacy course is a 12-20 hour course in basic computer literacy that teaches computer skills and provides hands-on activities for basic users.

Employability

Employability and/or soft skills are taught in the basic skills classes. Focus is on the students' developing employability skills to help them obtain and keep jobs.

Workforce Alliance for Growth in the Economy (WAGE)

This is a State (Arkansas) Certified program intended for unemployed and the under-employed people in Arkansas. To earn a state WAGE Industrial Certificate, students have to meet several requirements.

Students must score 12.9 in each area (Reading, Mathematics, and language) on the test of Adult Basic Education (TABE). There is also a state WAGE test, the WAGE approved Spatial and Mechanical Aptitude test, Dexterity test (SAM), state WAGE Computer literacy test. Students must have an up-to-date resume in their WAGE file and a current application on file with the Employment Security Department.