*****Massachusetts Department of***

***Elementary and Secondary Education***

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| Jeffrey C. Riley  *Commissioner* |  |

April 2021

Dear Grant Applicant:

Enclosed for your review and response is the FY2022 Request for Proposals (RFP) for Adult Basic Education (ABE) Continuation Grants. This RFP is intended for grantees currently funded by the Adult and Community Learning Services (ACLS) unit of the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (ESE). This continuation application package is for use by the following grant programs:

* **Community Adult Learning Centers**– Fund Codes: 340/671 (Federal) and 345/661 (State)
* **ABE Instructional Program for Incarcerated Adults** – Fund Codes: 285 (Federal) and 563 (State)
* **Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education** – Fund Code 359 (Federal)

To be considered for refunding, programs must meet the requirements and intent of authorizing state and federal legislation and regulations governing the program and must have conducted a successful program based on the WIOA Federal Measures.

Applications for grant recipients that are **state agencies** and use the state’s accounting system MMARS are encouraged to submit applications no later than **Friday, May 14th, 2021** to allow sufficient time to process ISA’s. Applications for both federally and state-funded projects are due no later than **Friday, June 4th, 2021 at 3:00PM.** These deadlines have been set to allow funding to flow at the start of the new fiscal year on July 1, 2022. However, given the current coronavirus state of emergency, please reach out to us if you anticipate any difficulty meeting these deadlines.

See Table 1 – Funding Allocations for fund codes 340/671/345/661/359/285/563. Grant amounts were determined based on FY21 base funding allocations. No program will receive a grant reduction due to under enrollment in FY21, due to the impact of the coronavirus. However, programs that are put on corrective action may receive grant decreases.

As outlined in the FY19-22 Open and Competitive RFP and in policy, programs that meet or exceed theirfunded seats may receive grant increases for meeting or exceeding their enrollment targets. Furthermore, FY22 grants will include additional funds to further build program capacity to meet the increased demand for adult education services, to develop curriculum and instruction, promote and/or incentivize ABE licensure, and to improve or expand online and remote learning. Programs in corrective action are not eligible for funding increases.

Funding is subject to state and federal appropriation and therefore all dollar amounts listed are estimated and subject to change. If additional funding becomes available, it will be distributed according to programs demonstrated capacity to provide additional seats and active waitlist. Please note that no expense may be charged to the grant until DESE has approved the budget. State and federal regulations require that separate and auditable records be maintained for each grant program that is funded.

We look forward to reviewing your grant application and continuing our work together in providing highly effective services to undereducated and limited-English proficient adults in the Commonwealth.

Sincerely,

**Wyvonne Stevens-Carter**

Adult Education State Director