

**MCLEAN COUNTY FISCAL COURT'S
ADMINISTRATION OF ADULT EDUCATION GRANTS
FROM THE COUNCIL ON POSTSECONDARY
EDUCATION AND KENTUCKY ADULT EDUCATION**

**For The Period
July 1, 2004 Through June 30, 2005**



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July 7, 2006

Reecie Stagnolia, Associate Vice President
Kentucky Adult Education
Council on Postsecondary Education
1024 Capital Center Drive, Suite 250
Frankfort, KY 40601

Larry Whitaker, County Judge Executive
McLean Fiscal Court
P.O. Box 127
Calhoun, KY 42327

Re: Adult Education Grants

Dear Mr. Stagnolia and Mr. Whitaker:

This report contains the results of the performance audit of McLean County Fiscal Court's administration of the Adult Education Grant for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2005. The Council on Postsecondary Education and Kentucky Adult Education contracted with us to conduct performance audits of selected local adult education providers. This report represents our findings, recommendations, and the provider's responses.

We conducted this performance audit in accordance with applicable standards contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States of America.

We greatly appreciate the courtesies and cooperation extended to our staff during the audit.

Respectfully submitted,

Crit Luallen
Auditor of Public Accounts



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Council on Postsecondary Education and Kentucky Adult Education (KYAE) selected the McLean County Fiscal Court (local provider) for a limited scope performance audit of its administration of the Adult Education Grant for McLean County. An on-site review was conducted March 31, 2006 through April 3, 2006 to address the following objectives:

- Reconcile student and faculty data electronically submitted to KYAE with the information retained by the local provider.
- Determine whether the local provider's professional development activities comply with applicable professional development policies and procedures.
- Determine whether the local provider's expenditures and costs comply with the terms of their grant agreement and reconcile to invoices submitted.
- Report internal control weaknesses identified during our audit that relate to the audit's objectives.

To accomplish these objectives, the performance audit team reviewed the Policy and Procedure Manual for Kentucky Adult Education, as well as the provider's grant proposal and final agreement with KYAE. During the on-site review, the audit team reviewed the provider's accounting records (trial balance/general ledger), interviewed program administrators regarding internal controls related to the above grants, and tested samples of participant files, personnel files, and expenditure documentation for compliance with applicable requirements. Below is the summary of findings:

FINDINGS SUMMARY

FINDING	Disallowed Costs
One (1) participant file did not contain an applicable withdrawn statement.	N/A
The goals-related information in one (1) participant's file was not reported accurately to KYAE.	N/A
No staff members were listed on the electronic staff listing per AERIN for FY 2005.	N/A

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RESULTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

FINANCIAL REPORTING AND COMPLIANCE

Scope and Methodology

The KAE-10 Expenditure Reports were compared to the line item budget approved in the final agreement modification. This comparison was used to determine whether the provider's reimbursements complied with the approved budget.

The KAE-10 Expenditure Reports were then compared to the internally generated financial records maintained by the local provider. This comparison was used to determine whether the local provider's accounting records support the amounts requested for reimbursement on the KAE-10 Expenditure Reports.

Findings

No exceptions noted.

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PARTICIPANT ELIGIBILITY AND RECORD KEEPING

Scope and Methodology

A total of 11 participants were selected randomly from the electronic student data sent from KYAE and compared to the documentation maintained in the participant files. We examined the files for the following:

- Proper eligibility documentation.
- Proper assessment testing.
- Evidence to support the achievement of goals/objectives.
- Agreed the establishment and achievement of goals/objectives to the information reported to KYAE.
- Proper separation from the program when applicable.
- Other requirements were tested based upon the applicable program requirements.

The participants tested received services during the period of July 1, 2004 and June 30, 2005.

Findings

Proper file maintenance and accurate data entry are important to support and document the success of a provider in meeting eligibility requirements and goal achievement. CPE and KYAE require that providers administer the initial assessment at orientation, or within a short period thereafter, and shall use the lowest test score in a subject area to determine a learner's entry level and eligibility. Any achievement or completion of goals should be documented. Programs are to maintain assessment forms on file for three years.

The following exceptions were noted:

- One (1) participant file did not contain an applicable withdrawn statement.
- The goals-related information in one (1) participant's file was not reported accurately to KYAE.

Recommendations

We recommend the provider create a checklist for participant files to facilitate a periodic review of the contents to ensure that the required documentation is being maintained for all participants. If the participant is between 16 and 18 years of age, official documentation of their withdrawal from school should be included in their file. The person entering participant data should require documentation for any data entry

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performed on a participant and any deficiencies should be reported to the Program Director.

Provider Response – [This is the response provided by management when their views and planned corrective actions were requested. The Provider was given a reasonable amount of time to adequately respond to this request.]

A checklist is now being implemented. Documentation indicating school withdrawal is obtained. If applicable, a note from parent will be obtained indicating the individual is no longer being schooled from home.

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PAYROLL AND STAFF REQUIREMENTS

Scope and Methodology

The payroll disbursements for two (2) staff members were selected for payroll testing. Personnel files were examined to verify that staff had received the required professional development training hours and had completed an Individual Professional Development Plan if applicable. Timesheets were examined for existence and approval. Personnel files were examined to verify evidence of the instructor's bachelor's degree. A determination was made as to whether the employee was included in the electronic staff listing per AERIN for fiscal year (FY) 2005.

Findings

CPE and KYAE rely on each provider to update its electronic staff listing to ensure complete and accurate information. There were no staff members listed on the electronic staff listing per AERIN for FY 2005.

Recommendations

We recommend that staff information be entered accurately and completely in KYAE's electronic information system (AERIN). The provider should ensure that the employee's status is listed as "active" in the information system. This should be done at the beginning of each year because during the close out period all staff are automatically coded as "inactive."

Provider Response – [This is the response provided by management when their views and planned corrective actions were requested. The Provider was given a reasonable amount of time to adequately respond to this request.]

All staff members are presently active.

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PURCHASING/EXPENDITURE COMPLIANCE

Scope and Methodology

A sample of 15 expenditures, representing over 20% of the total purchases, was selected judgmentally from the detailed general ledger. These expenditures were tested for authorization/approval, supporting documentation, proper recording, and that it was an actual expense during the grant period of July 1, 2004 and June 30, 2005.

Findings

No exceptions noted.

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PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT REIMBURSEMENT COMPLIANCE

Scope and Methodology

Professional Development expenditures were tested for proper authorization, supporting documentation, and adherence to approved rates and reimbursement policies. A sample of three (3) expenditures, representing over 20% of the total professional development expenditures, was selected judgmentally from the detailed general ledger.

Findings

No exceptions noted.

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INTERNAL CONTROLS RELATING TO GRANT

Scope and Methodology

McLean County Fiscal Court's fiscal administrator was given an Internal Control Questionnaire regarding the controls in place for cash disbursements, bank reconciliations, revenue, expenditures, and payroll. The questionnaire was completed by the fiscal administrator and reviewed for any significant control deficiencies.

Findings

No significant control deficiencies noted.

