



CAERC COMMUNITY

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A Publication for the Capital Adult Education Regional Consortium Community

Director's Message

It is sad, yet true, that we now have a year's worth of experience operating under a global pandemic. Following the guidelines by local school district and health officials, some CAERC members and partners were able to go through short phases of one-on-one, in-person interactions, interspersed between stay-at-home orders, including activities ranging from support services to assessment to instruction. Yet, our learners and teachers prevail. They show up for online meetings and learn together—not only the content of their subject area, but also the new tools and techniques to strengthen their digital skills. Across the board, we have seen an increase in attainment of High School Diplomas and Equivalencies. With grave concern, we have seen the attendance numbers diminish significantly by our English language learners. One reason may be that parents are busy taking care of kids at home. Another reason may be that there is a lack of access to devices and internet connectivity. Another reason may be that online classes do not work for everyone. For many of our beginning level language learners the most effective instruction has been in person, and for the more advanced ones—this online format works well, especially when they can save time on the commute to school in the evening.

We learned from the work of the Public Policy Institute of California that the “Inequity has proven to be the primary challenge of this recession. Low-wage workers bear a bigger burden—from greater health risks to higher unemployment. And labor market declines have been

concentrated among communities of color and women. Without deliberate policy action, this crisis portends a future of even higher income inequality and lower upward mobility. PPIC Statewide Survey shows that many Californians in households making less than \$40,000—about one in five—are struggling. Forty-two percent of low-income Californians cut back on food to save money and 36% were unable to pay a monthly bill, compared to 12% and 9%, respectively, of Californians in households making \$80,000 or more. An equitable recovery requires two key strategies: First, target critical support to those most affected in the near term. Second, help people climb the economic ladder in the long term.” (Source: PPIC Commentary, January 25, 2021)

In December 2020, Valley Vision hosted a Webinar during which representatives from CAERC, Los Rios Community College District, and Sacramento Employment and Training Agency presented how the three systems in the region are key to fostering economic recovery with a diversified workforce. Adult Education has traditionally been serving minority and high barrier populations. Our 165-year-old system is known to quickly adapt to the ever-changing economic and social developments. As we continue to provide instruction, training, and support services, we are excited about doing our part to ensure our region recovers and grows.

Branka Marceta, CAERC Director



Capital
Adult Education
Regional Consortium

FROM THE ANNUAL PLAN

Increase in the Number of Adult Learners Obtaining a High School Diploma or Equivalent

Many adult education programs across the state, including our region's adult education providers, have reported an increase in the numbers of adult learners obtaining a High School Diploma or Equivalency over the past year. Here are two recent stories we covered in CAERC Social Media.



Jose Garcia completed the remaining 15 credits for his high school diploma, at no cost, at Washington Adult School.

Jose Garcia at Washington USD Adult School

During the shutdown, Jose Garcia realized that it was the perfect time to finish the 15 credits he needed to get his high school diploma. After doing his research, Jose realized that he could do it for free through Washington Adult School. It only took him two months, and he graduated. He is now enrolled in a local community college pursuing a degree in dental hygiene.



Robert Peterson (lower right) shares his journey to earning his high school diploma from Natomas Adult School.

Robert Peterson at Natomas USD Adult School

Robert Peterson has overcome so much in his personal life. He has worked hard at Wal-Mart striving for promotions. Yet he knew without his high school diploma he would not be able to become a manager. In 2020 he enrolled in the Adult Education Credit Recovery program (AECR) at Natomas Adult School and graduated with his high school diploma in the spring. His hourly compensation increased from \$15.35 an hour to \$24.00 an hour. Robert received his well-deserved promotion, and Wal-Mart organized a celebration on the occasion of his achievement.

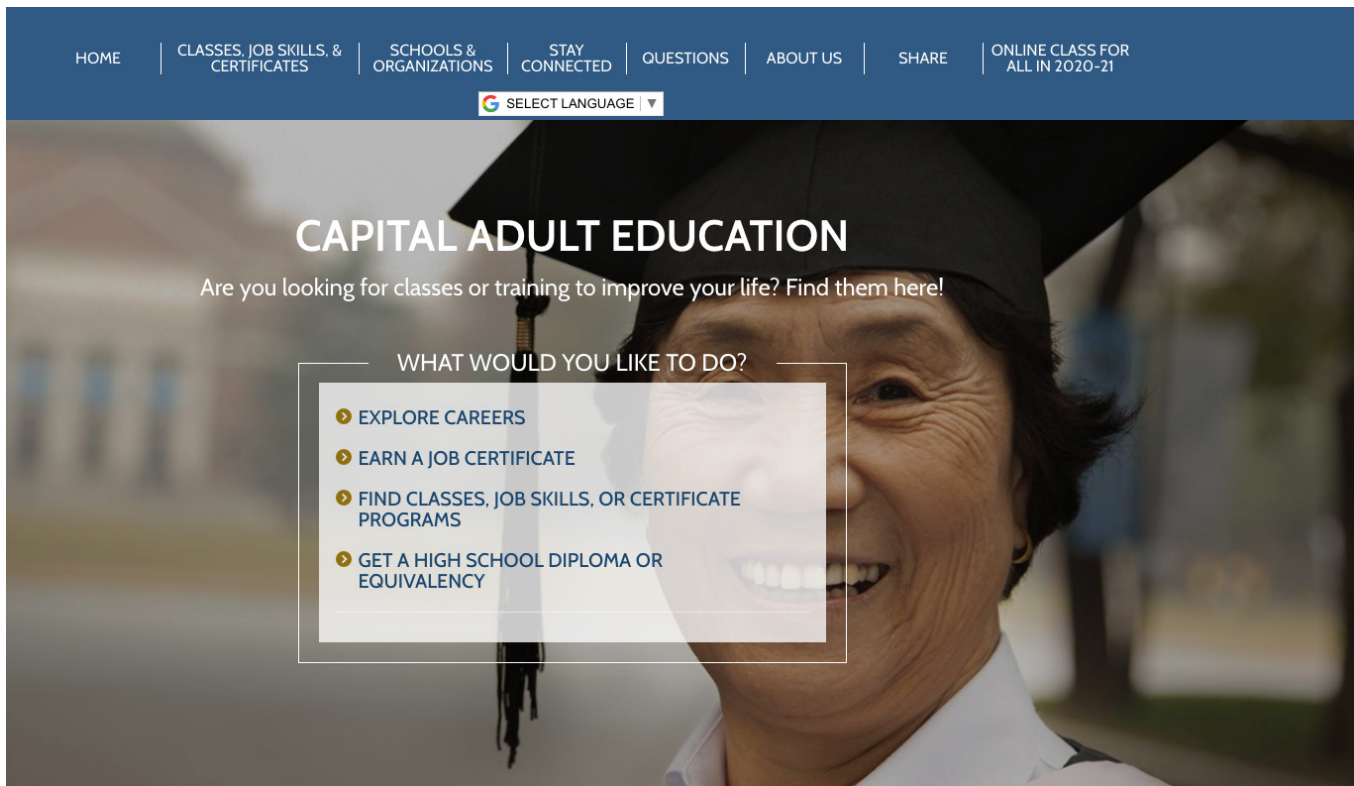
On the CAERC resource Web site for learners, <https://www.capitaladulthood.org/>, we provide the explanation of the difference between a **high school diploma** and the **High School Equivalency Test**.

The high school diploma (HSD) is the evidence of successfully completing the basic education required by law in order to graduate from a California public high school.

- Students must complete specified state and local graduation requirements to earn an HSD.
- Graduation requirements vary among school districts.
- No fee
- Eligible for all branches of military service

The High School Equivalency Test (HSE) test is a national test that may be taken in California by persons who are 18 years of age or older, or who meet specific criteria for testing at age 17.

- The HSE is administered statewide throughout the year.
- Currently there are three approved HSE tests: (GED® and HiSET®)
- Topics tested on the HSE include language arts/reading, language arts/writing, mathematics, science, and social studies.
- The average fee to take the HSE is \$140.
- Not eligible for all branches of military service



FROM THE THREE-YEAR PLAN

CAERC's New "At-a-Glance" Flyers Showcase Region's Adult Education Offerings

Visit <https://www.capitaladulthood.org/share> to access future flyers.

Academic Flyer Spring 2021

Academic Classes & High School Equivalency Testing - Sacramento Region

STEPS

Identify a Course to Take

Contact YOUR LOCAL Adult School

Register & Enroll

Begin!

Spring 2021

click on school name for information

Adult Schools	English as a Second Language	U.S. Citizenship Preparation	Mathematics - Math Skills	Mathematics - Algebra	Reading & Writing	College & Career Readiness	High School Diploma	GED Test Preparation	GED Testing	HiSET Test Preparation	HiSET Testing
Amador Adult Education	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Center Adult School	🖥️					🖥️	🖥️	🖥️			
Davis Adult & Community Education	🖥️		🖥️	🖥️	🖥️	🖥️	🖥️				
El Dorado Adult Education	🖥️					✓	✓	✓	✓		
Elk Grove Adult & Comm. Education	🖥️	🖥️	🖥️	🖥️	🖥️	🖥️	🖥️	🖥️	🖥️	🖥️	🖥️
Folsom Cordova Adult School	🖥️	🖥️	🖥️	🖥️	🖥️	🖥️	🖥️	🖥️		🖥️	🖥️
Galt Adult School	🖥️					🖥️	🖥️	🖥️			
Natomas Unified Adult Education	🖥️	🖥️				🖥️	🖥️	🖥️			
Sacramento City Adult Education	🖥️	🖥️	🖥️		🖥️					🖥️	🖥️
San Juan Unified Adult Education	🖥️	🖥️				🖥️	🖥️	🖥️		🖥️	🖥️
Twin Rivers Adult School	🖥️	🖥️				🖥️	🖥️	🖥️			
Washington Adult School	🖥️	🖥️				🖥️	🖥️	🖥️		🖥️	

Available in person

🖥️

Available online

✓

Available both in person and online

Career Flyer Spring 2021

Adult Education Career & Workforce Preparation Courses - Sacramento Region



Spring 2021

click on school name for information

Adult Schools

	Custodial Technician	Computers/Digital Skills	Construction	HVAC Technician	Manufacturing/Welding	Medical Office Careers	Nursing Assistant	Para-Educator	Pharmacy Technician	Phlebotomy	Vocational Nursing
Amador Adult Education											
Center Adult School											
Davis Adult & Community Education											
El Dorado Adult Education											
Elk Grove Adult & Comm. Education											
Folsom Cordova Adult School											
Natomas Unified Adult Education											
Sacramento City Adult Education											
San Juan Unified Adult Education											
Twin Rivers Adult School											
Washington Adult School											

In-person training - NO FEE	Online training - NO FEE	Hybrid Training - NO FEE
In-person training - FEE	Online Training - FEE	Hybrid Training - FEE

ADULT EDUCATION WORKS

Adult Secondary Education Program Redefined at Elk Grove USD Adult and Community Education

Contributed by Becca Trumbly, EGACE Academic Resources & Transitions (ART) Team


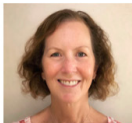




The 2019–2020 academic year for EGACE continued our trajectory of simplifying and making our Adult Secondary Education (ASE) program more efficient and effective for students and staff. By fall 2019, we had refined both our class schedule and course offerings to meet student needs, all while maintaining the rigor of our program. Our class schedule included several day and evening in-person sections, two independent study sections, and three in-person bridge classes focused on math and reading/writing. Little did we know that adapting to COVID-19 would give us an opportunity to fast track more refinements that ultimately have benefited our students.

In April 2020, we quickly modified our program to 100% distance learning. This was a relatively easy transition because we already had the online curriculum with weekly student study requirements in place. We use online curriculum for the High School Equivalency Test (HSE) and high school diploma (HSD), and our minimum weekly study and progress requirements have always required that students do most of their study outside the classroom. We then tackled two new challenges: proctoring assessments and maintaining student engagement in a program that is 100% remote. Technology gave us the tools we needed.

Our technology “toolkit” includes our online curriculum, Google for Education, Calendly, Zoom, Microsoft Teams and, of course, email. Students continue to study online and share their written work in Google Drive. They take all assessments in Zoom. We have scheduled 10 hours of proctored Zoom test meetings during the week, both in the morning and evening. No appointment is required; students simply join the next meeting they can when they get to a test in their study. Teachers hold weekly office hours in

Zoom. Students also have access to their teacher’s calendar via Calendly and can schedule 1x1 Zoom appointments according to their own availability. Teachers coordinate their student support throughout the workday using Teams chat and video calls. They email with their students individually a minimum of three times each week.

Students report that this new format, on the whole, is remarkably better for them.

					
Instructor: Sara Anderson Email Sara Schedule a meeting with Sara	Instructor: Becca Trumbly Email Becca Schedule a meeting with Becca	Instructor: Anh Ly Email Anh Schedule a meeting with Anh	Instructor: Jennifer Anaya Email Jennifer Schedule a meeting with Jennifer	Instructor: Shelby Greenlow Email Shelby Schedule a meeting with Shelby	Vice Principal: Patricia Oliva Email Patricia
Instructors' Drop in Zoom Office Hours					
Sara Anderson Mon. 11 am–12 pm Wed. 11 am–12 pm Click here to join	Becca Trumbly Mon. 11 am–12 pm Wed. 11 am–12 pm Click here to join	Anh Ly Tue. 11 am–12 pm Click here to join	Jennifer Anaya Tue. 10 am–11 am Thu. 6 pm–7 pm Click here to join	Shelby Greenlow Thu. 5 pm–6 pm Click here to join	

Students can email their teachers, schedule 1x1 meetings, and attend drop-in Zoom office hours from the High School Diploma website.

ADULT EDUCATION WORKS, *continued*

We all miss seeing one another and the ability to teach and support in person. However, losing seat time as an option ultimately has resulted in giving students more control and opportunity to build time management and technology skills. Students report that they are making faster progress than previously, and gone are the barriers associated with attending a class (gas, time, childcare, job schedule conflicts). We interact with students in Zoom multiple times each week, and this has helped to fill the social gap of distance learning. Our persistence and completion rates for this academic year compare favorably to previous years.

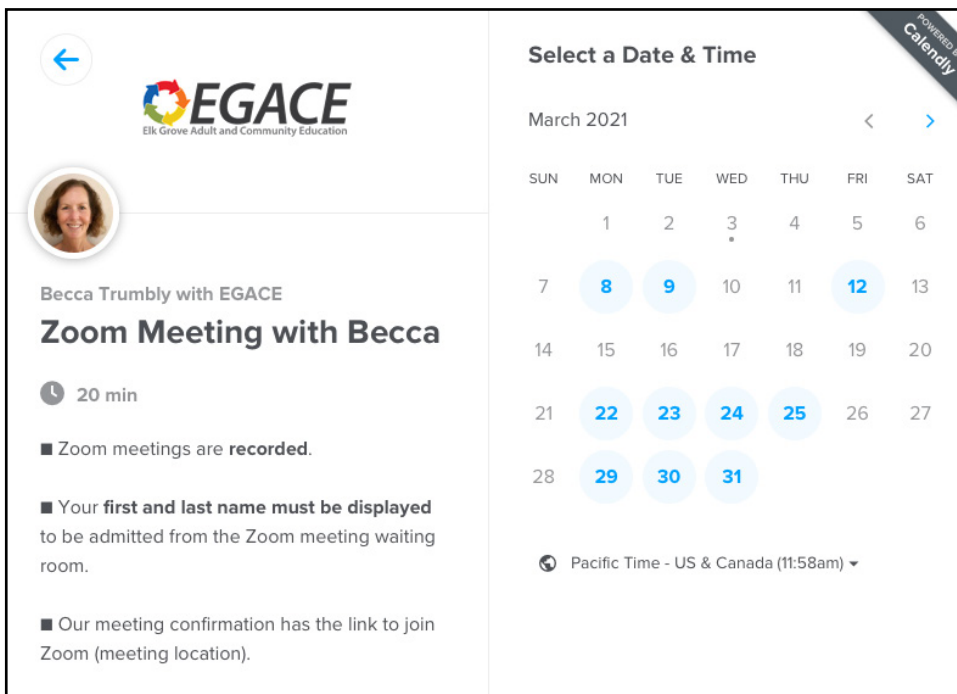
Moving forward, we will continue this format for ASE. As schools are able to increase on-campus learning opportunities, we plan to open our computer lab and consider offering our bridge classes again. While COVID-19 had the potential to derail the improvements we had been making in our ASE program, we instead grew a stronger program that helps our students become college and career ready.

High School Diploma website: <https://sites.google.com/egusd.net/egacehdsd>

High School Equivalency Test Preparation website: <https://sites.google.com/egusd.net/testprep>

Math Class website: <https://sites.google.com/egusd.net/egacemath>

Academic Resources & Transitions website: <https://sites.google.com/egusd.net/egaceart>



←

EGACE
Elk Grove Adult and Community Education

Becca Trumbly with EGACE

Zoom Meeting with Becca

🕒 20 min

- Zoom meetings are **recorded**.
- Your **first and last name must be displayed** to be admitted from the Zoom meeting waiting room.
- Our meeting confirmation has the link to join Zoom (meeting location).

Select a Date & Time

March 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

🌐 Pacific Time - US & Canada (11:58am) ▼

POWERED BY
Calendly

Students schedule 1x1 Zoom meetings with their teachers using Calendly.

ABOUT CAERC

Our Consortium

The Capital Adult Education Regional Consortium (CAERC) is a regional delivery system for adult education programs across the greater Sacramento region.

CAERC is funded through the California Adult Education Program (CAEP), a joint partnership between the California Community College Chancellor's Office (CCCCO) and the California Department of Education (CDE). CAEP funds support courses for adults in seven program areas:

1. English Language Learners (ESL/ELL)
2. Adult Basic and Secondary Education (ABE/ASE)
3. Career and Technical Education (CTE)
4. Workforce Preparation
5. Pre-Apprenticeship
6. Adults Training for Child School Success
7. Adults with Disabilities



Find more
information at:
www.caerc.org

Help your students and
community members find
classes at www.capitaladulthood.org

