



South Dakota Association for Lifelong Learning  
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# Everlearning

The SDALL Board voted to publish a bi-monthly newsletter for membership. Each issue will have four content areas: ASE/ABE, GED, ESL and Program Highlights. This newsletter is a service to membership and an opportunity to disseminate information.

SDALL is holding their Fall Conference in conjunction with the Closer Connections Conference in Sioux Falls October 1-2. There will be an election of officers with the nominating committee proposing the following: President-elect – Becki Lemke, East River Representative – Carla Steffensen, West River Representative – Sylvia Hollow Horn.



**ASE/ABE**  
*STI*

The Adult Education and Literacy (AEL) program at Southeast Technical Institute incorporated a Transition to GED program into the existing course schedule. This semester we are focusing on writing, math and reading. The writing class is offered Monday through Thursday from 9:00 am – 10:00 am and the math class is offered Monday and Wednesday from 10:00 am – 11:00 am. Students also have the opportunity to enroll in one of 2 levels of reading instruction. Reading I (GE 2.0 – 5.0) is held from 10:00 am – 11:00 am Monday through Thursday and Reading II (GE 5.0 – 8.9) is held from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm on Monday and Wednesday. The fall semester classes are in session from Tuesday, September 8 to Thursday, December 17, and the spring semester classes will be in session from Monday, February 1 to Thursday, May 13. Math and reading will be offered the second semester with science/social studies offered in lieu of the writing class. With the addition of these new classes, the AEL program offers 15 managed enrollment classes in addition to the independent learning lab, which is open Monday through Thursday and Saturday.



**GED**

*BHSSC - East*

With the passage of Senate Bill 199, students are required to attend school until they reach the age of 18. Students under the age of 18 no longer qualify for AEL instruction services. However, school districts may implement a school-based GED program. By referring to the South Dakota Department of Education website ([www.doe.sd.gov](http://www.doe.sd.gov)), “Frequently asked Questions” about School-Based GED Programs are addressed. Answers include criteria to determine if a student is eligible for a school-based GED prep program, as well as GED testing for high school students.

## GED TESTING POLICY

July 1, 2009 brought new requirements for issuing of GED certificates.

- The total cumulative standard test scores for all five test items must total **2250**, with no standard test score below **450**.
- All applicants to the testing center must take the official Practice Test and receive **500** or more on each subtest.
- Individuals under 18 years of age must be enrolled in a high school GED preparation program and must have officially dropped out of school prior to testing. Applicant must provide the testing center with a written verification of drop date.



**ESL**

*BHSSC - West*

The **Career Learning Center of the Black Hills** offers ESL classes two days each week. Classes are scheduled from 9 to 12, from 1 to 4, and from 5 to 8 p.m. so that students can choose a convenient time that does not interfere with their work schedules.

Registration was held in September, and 27 students expressed interest in or registered for classes. Those who did register and are attending class are from Asia (China 4, Korea 2, Thailand 1, Philippines 2, and Mongolia 2), Europe (Lithuania 1, Ukraine 2, USSR 1, Turkey 1) and the Americas (Mexico 1, Dominican Republic 1, and Ecuador 1). The average age of the enrolled students is 42; and, with the exception of one student, all have attended college. Two have advanced degrees.



### **Program Highlights**

Cornerstones

**HURON, SOUTH DAKOTA— Cornerstones Career Learning Center, Inc.** (CCLC) has expanded their service area to include Aberdeen, Mobridge, and Eagle Butte.

Cornerstones will provide similar services in these new communities as they do in the Huron and Mitchell offices. Some of the services include education and employment training, Adult Education and Literacy (AEL) programs, GED testing, and National Career Readiness Certification. In addition, Cornerstones staff will continue to develop and deliver customized training programs to meet the specific needs of industries within their service area. “We are excited to be working with the high quality, energetic, trained staff members already in place in these communities” said Kim Olson, Executive Director of CCLC. “These individuals bring years of experience to their positions, and we will all benefit from the shared expertise of the expanded staff.”

The CCLC mission is “to assess, promote and provide education and employment training services to area workforce and employers.” CCLC has been a part of the Huron community for twenty-three years and is a non-profit agency managed by a volunteer board of directors. This expansion marks the second in CCLC’s history. Services expanded to include the Mitchell office in 1997.