ADULT EDUCATION in Colorado

300,000 adults in Colorado lack a high school credential

41% of those individuals have less than a 9th grade education

10% of Colorado kids have a head of household without a high school diploma

77% of jobs require use of technology, but nearly a third of the workforce has limited or no digital skills

Over a quarter (27%) of Colorado children ages 0-5 have at least one parent who speaks a language other than English at home.

A person with a high school diploma/HSE earns an average of $9,620 more per year than a non-graduate.

Of those, 44% have at least one parent with limited English proficiency.

Compared to similar states in 2020, CO ranked only above Louisiana and Nevada in terms of adult education funding.

CO is among the gross minority of states, along with Puerto Rico and D.C., providing $0 state cash to match federal AEFLA funds.

Local funding and grantee contributions are the only source of CO’s match, placing undue burden on already strapped providers and making it impossible to adequately serve the state’s adult learners.

Per student education spending in Colorado

K-12: $9,500
Adult Education: $1,000

955 number of adult learners served through CDE’s AELA grants (2017-2018)

<1% percentage of the population with need for adult education who received services

Contact: Emily Ochoa, Policy Advocate | eochoa@springinstitute.org

YES ON SB23-007