

(A) (1) THE ADULT EDUCATION AND LITERACY SERVICES OFFICE SHALL DISTRIBUTE COMPETITIVE GRANTS FOR ADULT EDUCATION AND LITERACY SERVICES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STATE PLAN FOR ADULT EDUCATION AND FAMILY LITERACY.

(2) THE GRANTS DISTRIBUTED UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE BASED ON NEED AND PERFORMANCE.

(3) GRANTS UNDER THIS SECTION MAY BE USED FOR ADULT EDUCATION AND LITERACY SERVICES, INCLUDING:

(I) GED INSTRUCTION;

(II) THE MARYLAND ADULT EXTERNAL HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM UNDER ~~§ 11-806 OF THIS ARTICLE~~ § 11-807 OF THIS SUBTITLE;

(III) WORKPLACE LITERACY SERVICES;

(IV) ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES;

(V) FAMILY LITERACY; AND

(VI) LITERACY INSTRUCTION.

(B) FUNDING FOR THE COMPETITIVE GRANTS UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET.

~~11-806, 11-807.~~

(A) IN THIS SECTION, "PROGRAM" MEANS THE MARYLAND ADULT EXTERNAL HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM ESTABLISHED FOR THE CITIZENS OF MARYLAND UNDER REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY THE ~~DEPARTMENT~~ SECRETARY IN CONSULTATION WITH THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

(B) (1) THE DEPARTMENT AND THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION RECOGNIZE DEMONSTRATED COMPETENCIES IN ADULTS, WHETHER OR NOT THOSE COMPETENCIES WERE ACQUIRED IN A FORMAL SCHOOL SETTING.

(2) IN RESPONSE TO ITS RECOGNITION OF COMPETENCIES, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE ALTERNATIVE REQUIREMENTS AND METHODS OF OBTAINING A MARYLAND HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA.