

# Adult Literacy & Basic Education (ABLE)

## Formerly Adult Basic Education (ABE)

### What is Montana ABLE?

The Montana ABLE program teaches basic math, reading, and communication skills to adults sixteen years and older who are not enrolled in a school. The adult secondary education program prepares students for the General Education Development Test (GED), transitions to postsecondary and successful entry into Montana's workforce.

### Who are the Montana ABLE students?

Total number reported: (2004-2005) 3,258

1,689	ages 16-24
1,155	ages 25-44
356	ages 45-59
58	ages 60 and older

(\*MTSIMS-federal reporting 12 or more hours)

Total number enrolled: (2004-2005) 4,090

2,206	ages 16-24
1,407	ages 25-44
412	ages 45-59
65	ages 60 and older

### What is the potential number of Montana students?

**121,617** adults aged 16 and over and out of school with no diploma number or GED

38% of the students are between the ages of 16-24  
17% of the students are between the ages of 25-44  
12 % of the students are between the ages of 45-59  
33% of the students are over 60

(\*Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Sample Data File)

### How would additional ABE funds be used?

- Increase qualified labor pool
- Develop statewide marketing
- Generate articulated pathways to community colleges
- Meet required federal matching funds

Office of Public Instruction  
Linda McCulloch, Superintendent  
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