

Agenda

Wednesday, October 30, 2013, 10:30 AM -12:30 PM

State-Wide Conference Call to Ascertain Status of Adult English Language Classes in New York State

Welcome and Introductions by Assemblyman Marcos A. Crespo

Chair of the Assembly Task Force on New Americans



Task Force on New Americans



Brief Remarks by Assemblyman Crespo on focus of Conference Call

Marissa Martin, MSW

Budget Policy Manager for the Coalition for Asian American Children and Families (CACF)

Ms. Martin will discuss CACF's observations and recommendations on improving Adult English Language programs serving Asian American Communities. These include the need to provide classes through organizations that are both linguistically and culturally competent; the need to establish funding criteria that enables participation of Asian American nonprofits in the grants making process; and provide ground view observations of the increasing need for adult English language classes.

Questions for Presenter from Call-In Participants

Rosalind Gold

Senior Director of Policy, Research, and Advocacy for NALEO Educational Fund

Ms. Gold, will make a presentation on English language requirements for naturalization by immigrants, relevant aspect of the US Senate Immigration Reform Bill, and research on new language acquisition by immigrants to achieve certain levels of proficiency in English.

Questions for Presenter from Call-In Participants

Lisa L. McKay

Senior Assistant Provost and Director of SUNY's University Center for Academic and Workforce Development (UCAWD)

Ms. McKay will discuss the Educational Opportunity Center's ESL classes, their access, availability and demand in EOCs service area.

The University Center for Academic and Workforce Development (UCAWD) leverages the academic resources of SUNY to promote the acquisition of education and skills for all New York State residents. UCAWD operates 10 Educational Opportunity Centers (EOC) and two Career Counseling and Outreach Centers. These centers essentially functions as the 65th campus of the State University of New York:

Annually, EOCs enroll about 16,000 students. Approximately 60% receive public assistance and the other 40% are disadvantaged workers. Sixty percent of these students are enrolled in academic programs such as Adult Basic Education, English as Second Language, GED and College Preparation. The remaining 40% are enrolled in demand driven vocational training programs that result in job placement in entry level, career track employment in information technology, customer service and allied health.

Questions for Presenter from Call-In Participants

**Call for Comments and Policy Recommendations to improve access for
Adult English Language Learners.**

Closing Remarks by Assemblyman Crespo

Closing Remarks by Julissa Gutierrez,

Acting Director of National Programs and Community Relations & Northeast Director, Civic Engagement for
NALEO Educational Fund

For follow up questions remarks and audio copies of the Conference Call, Contact

Guillermo A. Martinez, Legislative Director, Office of Assemblyman Marcos A. Crespo at martinezg@assembly.state.ny.us

Sheldon Silver, Speaker

Assemblyman Marcos A. Crespo, Chair