

Funding Crisis in 22+ Adult Education

Dear Concerned Ohio Legislators:

What is 22+?

- Ohio approved an effective and efficient program for adults to earn a high school diploma. The first year of operation was the 2015-16 school year.
- Over 1,000 adults statewide have earned diplomas through 22+.

How Does It Work and How Is It Different?

- Students are required to fulfill minimum state standards in effect the year they entered 9th grade.
- All previously earned credits are recognized and honored.
- Credits can be awarded for prior work and life experience.
- Each student has an individually designed educational plan.
- 22+ is a competency based program, not a “seat time” program, allowing students to prove mastery of subjects in a timely manner and allowing them to devote their efforts to subjects requiring more study time.

How Does It Impact Ohio?

- Over 1,000 people have earned a diploma, eliminating the barrier to employment, further training or college.
- In addition to the economic benefit of the program, there is a cultural benefit that must not be ignored. The value of education is being restored in Ohio families, resulting in a broad spectrum of societal benefits.

What is the Crisis?

- This program is totally performance based, making accountability a built in component. 22+ should be considered as an investment, not an expenditure.
- The program has become a victim of its own success. The growth of the program has not been factored into the funding allocation.
- The program’s funding was depleted in May of its first year, March in its second year and this year funds were depleted in January. No operation can sustain itself and serve Ohio citizens without proper and realistic

funding. **Ohio Citizens Are Depending On You To Remedy The Funding Issue**