Title: Standardized Assessments

A. National Reporting System (NRS) policies require local adult education programs to assess and place students at an educational functioning level (EFL) upon intake and at least one other time during the program year. Standardized assessments used to place students or demonstrate educational growth must be both valid and normed for adult students. The initial assessments are to be administrated at intake or the first 12 hours of attendance.

B. Each local director is responsible for training instructors, paraprofessionals, and volunteers in the proper procedures for administering NRS approved assessments. All staff members involved in gathering, analyzing, compiling, and reporting NRS data shall participate in professional development training as specified in the State Plan, Section 12.1. The state also provides opportunities throughout the year for instructors to become certified in the administration of the approved assessments. The training is administered by the local program supervisor or director and sessions are scheduled annually plus on an as needed basis for new personnel.

C. In order to provide professional development opportunities for all local providers, the state staff will conduct three regional meetings and one state conference annually. These conferences include seminars and workshops on assessment policies and procedures, accommodations for assessing students with disabilities, NRS policy, data collection procedures, definitions of measures, and specific training for conducting assessments used in the program.