

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Kawerak Inc. Community Education Services provide GED instruction and testing, ESL instruction and classroom training, and some job training activities to residents of the Bering Strait Region. The program encourages literacy, remedial education, continuing education, and development of job training skills to help prepare and qualify clients for meaningful employment opportunities and self-sufficiency.

Services are available in the Nome Learning Center and at 9 remote village communities throughout the region. Kawerak established Village Learning Centers based on need, the availability of space in the community, and the availability of funds. These Learning Centers are located in the village community and in some cases co-located in libraries, IRA or city offices, or the local schools. Established centers are at Brevig Mission, Elim, Koyuk, Savoonga, Shishmaref, Stebbins, Unalakleet, and White Mountain.

Community Education staff are available to travel as required to village sites, if necessary, to provide instruction and technical assistance and training to the Tutors in developing GED academic plans, monitor student progress, and to conduct testing. Travel is arranged in advance and coordinated between the Nome staff and the Village Tutor.

Eligibility:

Community Education services area available to all residents of the Bering Strait Region. Tribal affiliation is not a requirement.

Application Procedure:

Clients are required to complete the EET Intake and application process with the Intake Coordinator, ABE Instructor or Village Tutor.

Educational Assessment and Academic Plans:

All GED and ESL students/clients will be administered testing to establish academic levels. The TABE is used to assess GED students/clients and the ESOL for ESL students/clients. Additional testing may be given if deemed necessary by the Instructor/Tutor. Education staff will develop an individual academic plan (IAP) outlining the objectives one must complete to accomplish academic goals. The academic plan will be reviewed on a regular basis to monitor progress and assist the student with the attainment of their goals.

GED Testing:

GED Testing is administered to students/clients deemed qualified to test by the Instructor/Tutor. A qualifying score of **450** is required on the official GED Practice Test for each test subject prior to scheduling for the official GED Tests. GED Examiners are located in most village communities for tests administration. At sites without an Examiner, the Chief Examiner or an alternate Examiner will travel to the community to administer the tests.

Instructors in Nome, Shishmaref and Stebbins along with ABE Tutors located in the Village communities provide direct instruction for GED, and job readiness activities.

English as a Second Language:

ESL instruction is available only in the Nome Learning Center. Foreign students who wish to improve their English speaking skills may enroll in ESL classes. Students are scheduled for individual as well as group classes.

Job Readiness Activities:

Community Education offers a series of job readiness activities designed to assist clients with refining the skills for employment.

Computer Lab:

Students/clients who wish to utilize the Learning Center computers must review and sign Kawerak's computer usage policy agreement and are expected to abide by the terms and conditions of the agreement.

Nome Learning Center Hours of Operation:

The Nome Learning Center is open Monday through Friday from 8:00AM through 5:00PM. Evening classes are each Tuesday and Thursday to 9:00PM.

Village Learning Center Hours of Operation:

The Village Learning Centers are open Monday through Friday. Specific hours of operations are based on the needs of the community and as posted at each site.

Student Responsibilities:

Student attendance is monitored and documented. Therefore they are required to sign in and out of the learning centers. A student is considered "full time" with a minimum of 12 hours of attendance and study.

ABE Advisory Council:

The ABE Advisory Council consists of members representative of the population served and provides assistance through recommendations for incorporation to enhance service delivery. The council meets at the call of the program director.