

NATIONAL EXTERNAL DIPLOMA PROGRAM



> An Alternative Path
for Adult Learners

www.casas.org/nedp



a program of **CASAS**

MAY 2025 NEWSLETTER

FEDERAL BUDGET PUTS ADULT EDUCATION AT RISK

The current administration's FY26 "Skinny Budget" proposes eliminating all federal funding for adult education. While unlikely to pass as written, the message is clear our programs and our learners are at risk.

More than 75 percent of adult education programs, including NEDP, rely on this funding to serve learners and communities.

Message adapted from COABE. Visit **COABE's TAKE ACTION FOR ADULT EDUCATION** for tools and updates.

TAKE ACTION NOW

CALL OR EMAIL YOUR LEGISLATORS



- Call or email your legislators, senators, and representatives



- Share success stories on social media and tag your legislators

USE YOUR VOICE



- Use your voice — amplify COABE's advocacy alerts be heard!

NEDP CHANGING LIVES SCHOLARSHIP



Changing
Lives!

2025 Scholarship

2025 NEDP CHANGING LIVES SCHOLARSHIP

Do you have a recent graduate planning to continue their education through an accredited vocational program, college, or university?

If so, you should encourage them to **apply for the 2024–2025 NEDP Changing Lives Scholarship!**

Important dates:

Application and letter of recommendation forms are due by 11:59 p.m./PT on July 15, 2025.

Important links:

[NEDP Changing Lives 2024-2025 Application](#)

[NEDP Changing Lives 2024-2025 Letter of Recommendation](#)

NEDP will be emailing all eligible 2024–2025 graduates with application details. As part of the process, applicants will need to submit an essay of approximately 500 words and a letter of recommendation from an advisor, assessor, or reviewer.

Please note that past clients may also reach out to you to request a recommendation letter.

Visit the [CASAS / NEDP Changing Lives Scholarship](#) page for more information.

CASAS NATIONAL NEWS AND UPDATES WEBINAR

CASAS National News and Updates

Sign up for the next CASAS webinar on August 27, 2025, 2 p.m. ET/ 1 p.m. MT/ 11 a.m. PT.

Reserve a seat today

Topics include:

- New CASAS Assessments Update
- Promising Practice
- TOPSpro Enterprise Updates
- Training Updates
- Upcoming Events



CASAS SUMMER INSTITUTE



CASAS National Summer Institute 2025

June 9-12, 2025
Hyatt Regency
Orange County, California



There is still time to register for the 2025 CASAS National Summer Institute scheduled for June 9-12, 2025, at the Hyatt Regency in Orange County, California.

Register Today

Block | Spacer



Community of Practice

Join NEDP at the CASAS 2025 Summer Institute!

If you are registered to attend the 2025 CASAS Summer Institute and have not received an invitation to the NEDP session by June 1, 2025, please email aditto@casas.org.

We look forward to seeing you at our **End-of-Conference Luncheon Community of Practice** and connecting with fellow NEDP colleagues!



NEDP MODIFIED HOURS

The CASAS office has a **modified schedule for the week of June 9 – June 13, 2025**, as all staff will be attending the CASAS National Summer Institute. Please contact Tech Support at nedpsupport@casas.org for technical assistance during this time.

NEW THIS YEAR: YSR SUBMISSION AND DATA FREEZE

Each year, as agencies finalize their Yearly Statistical Reports (YSRs), we have seen program data continue to evolve with ongoing client updates. To support a consistent snapshot for state and federal reporting, **NEDP is introducing a data freeze process this year.**

This will ensure we are all working from a shared, verified dataset for official reporting, while still giving agencies time for review and corrections.

After August 15, 2025, 2024–2025 program year data will be locked. However, we understand unique situations may arise. If an agency's primary or secondary contact submits an elevated request, NEDP will review the case and consider a one-time data adjustment if appropriate.

Why a Data Freeze?

- A data freeze ensures that after a clear review period, the numbers reported for state, federal, and grant purposes are consistent and reliable.
- This is a new process designed to protect data integrity and reduce confusion.

YSR Review Process

Agency Primary and Secondary Contacts will receive a preliminary Yearly Statistical Report (YSR) by July 20, 2025, using data pulled from the system as of July 15, 2025. If needed, agencies may request to receive their report earlier.



Once received, agencies should:

- Review **demographics and client statuses** (graduates, exited, active).
- Confirm accuracy against **state, grant, or internal records**.
- Complete a simple YSR verification form by **August 15, 2025**.

This review period ensures every agency has time to check and verify their data before the year-end data freeze.

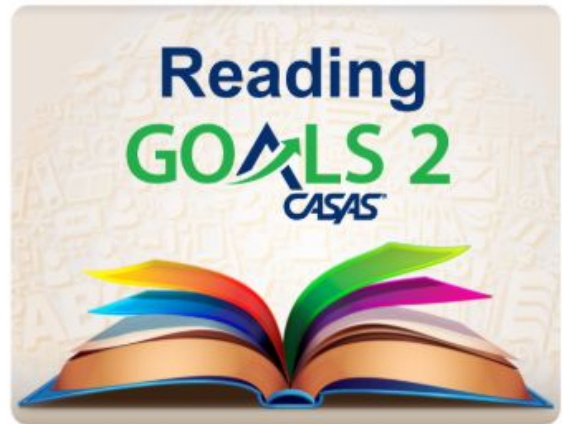
After August 15, 2025

- **On August 15, 2025, data will be locked** for the 2024–2025 program year.
- This means no further edits or changes can be made after this date.
- Agencies will still be able to run individual YSR reports, but final numbers will remain fixed for official reporting.

IMPORTANT DEADLINES	ACTION
July 15, 2025	Data run for preliminary YSR reports
July 16 – July 18, 2025	Preliminary YSR reports sent to agencies
August 15, 2025	YSR verification due and data freeze enforced

CASAS READING GOALS 2 APPROVED

CASAS is pleased to announce that the new **Reading GOALS 2** assessment for ABE/ASE learners has been approved by OCTAE for NRS reporting and is now officially listed in the Federal Register. We're also proud to share that, consistent with our other NRS-approved assessments, the Reading GOALS 2 series has received a full seven-year approval.



NEDP IN THE NEWS: WEST HARTFORD NEDP CELEBRATIONS

West Hartford Celebrates Persistence and Achievement

West Hartford Adult Education recently celebrated NEDP graduates alongside ESL students and new U.S. citizens in a powerful event honoring persistence, courage, and transformation. The celebration highlighted how NEDP helps adults balance work, family, and education as they achieve their high school diploma and move forward with their career and academic goals.

A special congratulations to NEDP graduates Dare Gama, Jersson Segura, Marcella Syms, and Karla Figueroa, whose inspiring journeys were featured.

"I told myself not to give up,"
shared Dare Gama, who overcame multiple challenges to achieve her diploma.

Kudos to the entire West Hartford Adult Education team for their dedication to learners' success.

Read the full story:

[West Hartford Adult Education Celebrates Persistence and Achievement](#)



WELCOME CHAWANAKEE ADULT SCHOOL



Please join us in welcoming Chawanakee Adult School as an official NEDP agency. Their commitment to expanding high school completion options for adults is commendable, and we are excited to see the positive outcomes they will bring to their learners and community.

Photo: Janita McNemar, NEDP National Trainer; Paul Shoaf, Principal; Cynthia Elm, Instructor; and Margaret Kirkpatrick, NEDP National Director

LEGACY SPOTLIGHT SERIES: ROZ ROWAN

This two-part Spotlight series celebrates **Roz Rowan** and **Carol Compton**, longtime NEDP Advisors/Assessors whose dedication has shaped the **Maryland NEDP** community and touched countless lives.

Both were nominated by their colleague, **Trudy Rice**, in recognition of their tireless advocacy, collaborative spirit, and 25+ years of guiding adult learners to success.

This month, we're proud to feature Roz Rowan, sharing her journey and passion for advocacy. Next month, we'll highlight Carol Compton's unique path and impact on students and colleagues alike.



"I'm so thankful for the people I've met and the lives I've seen transformed. NEDP isn't just a program—it's a lifeline for so many. I'm proud to have been part of that and excited to see it continue to grow."

~ Roz Rowan

A CAREER OF ADVOCACY AND IMPACT

For more than 25 years, Roz Rowan has been a champion for adult learners working toward their high school diplomas through the NEDP in southern Maryland. What started as a part-time opportunity quickly became a career filled with meaning and purpose.

Roz remembers how it all began: a job ad mentioning the chance to assist adults in earning their Maryland High School Diploma. "After the interview, I was instantly sold on this extraordinary program and couldn't wait to get started," she shares.

Throughout her career, Roz witnessed the program evolve from paper-and-pencil task booklets to a rigorous, technology-driven platform. But despite the changes, her focus remained constant. "From the very beginning, I was fortunate to work with incredible co-workers whose support and wisdom helped us build a successful program."

That sense of teamwork extended beyond her immediate colleagues. With her longtime partner Carol Compton, Roz became known for her fierce client advocacy. Their determination to challenge barriers earned them the light-hearted nickname "the evil twins." Roz laughs recalling it, explaining, "We may have rocked a boat or two, but when you believe in your clients, you stand up for them."

Over the years, Roz has supported countless students, many of whom faced extraordinary obstacles—traumatic brain injuries, human trafficking, homelessness, sudden job loss. Witnessing their perseverance left a lasting impression. "Being a part of their joy upon completion reaffirmed my belief in the human spirit and the potential of the NEDP," she reflects.

To those stepping into the role of advisor or assessor, Roz emphasizes the importance of flexibility and advocacy. "That's what our clients value most. Always strive to remove obstacles and advocate for your clients. And never hesitate to reach out to the NEDP community for support."

As Roz prepares for retirement, she speaks with heartfelt gratitude for the colleagues, state trainers, and the CASAS team who have shaped her journey. She describes the program as "quality-driven, relevant, and invaluable"—a sentiment that underscores her passion for the work.

Though Roz is closing this chapter, her legacy of advocacy, compassion, and unwavering belief in the power of second chances will continue to resonate throughout the NEDP community.

“

Roz, your passion for helping others and your commitment to breaking down barriers have been an inspiration to your clients and colleagues alike. Thank you for everything you've given to NEDP. We wish you joy, relaxation, and new adventures in your well-deserved retirement.
~The NEDP Team

”

Do you know an inspiring client or a dedicated staff member who deserves recognition?

Help us highlight NEDP's finest by completing the **NEDP Spotlight Form!**

You can also email your nomination to **aditto@casas.org**.

Let's celebrate those making a difference!



#NEDP #NEDPAdultEdu #CASAS MAY 2025



CASAS NEDP | [Contact Us](#)
Printable [PDF Version](#)