

Overview of NASDAE



The mission of NASDAE is to support and advance the state leadership of adult education throughout the states and territories.

The NASDAE organization provides activities and services that directly support the State Director and State Staff in the administration of adult education programming as authorized under Title II of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. Membership is offered to all states and territories.

Since its inception in 1990, NASDAE (formerly NAEPDC) has established itself as a major force in the adult education community. NASDAE, as an organization, is solely comprised of individuals with experience, knowledge, and expertise in the field of adult education and is entirely organized by State Directors of Adult Education. Additionally, NASDAE works closely with numerous partner organizations to provide a vast amount of support and resources to its members.

NASDAE's Purpose

NASDAE has identified the following as its main purposes:

- To coordinate, develop, and conduct programs of professional development for state adult education leadership;
- To serve as a catalyst for public policy review and development related to adult education; and
- To disseminate information on the field of adult education.

NASDAE responds to the needs of its member states through a variety of activities, such as:

- Training activities geared to specific needs of state staff;
- Networking among members and with partners organizations;
- A wealth of online resources to provide state policy and procedure models and options; and
- Specialized services for new State Directors to support their leadership and management skills.

The NASDAE Board of Directors

NASDAE is a board-driven organization. The Board of Directors includes 11 current State Directors of Adult Education elected by the State Directors in member states.

Additionally, the Executive Director and Assistant Director are former State Directors of Adult Education.



NASDAE Board of Directors – 2025-2026

Benefits of NASDAE Membership

NASDAE membership provides states and territories with a wide range of support and services, such as the direct benefits described below:

Networking and a Voice in National Policy

State Directors of Adult Education from member states/territories are eligible for election to the Board of Directors. Additionally, State Directors and State Staff of member states/territories can participate on sub-committees and task forces related to relevant issues and activities. ***This level of interaction and engagement provides NASDAE member states/territories with a strong voice in national policy.***

National Training Institute (NTI)

NTI is an annual training event geared specifically to State Directors and State Staff for the purpose of supporting state-level administration of adult education. Each year, the content of this premier event is planned in consultation with a NASDAE sub-committee, comprised of member state directors and state staff, and through feedback from states and territories. ***NASDAE member states/territories receive a significant discount on NTI registration fees.***

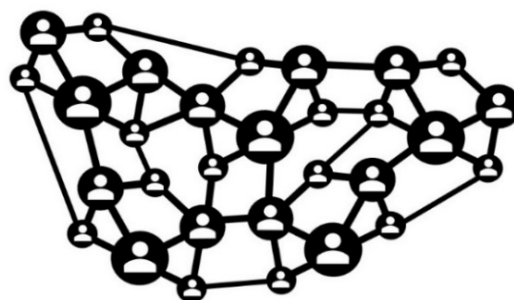
Leadership Excellence and Development (LEAD)

The **LEAD Institute** and the **LEAD Challenge**, both provided by the American Institutes for Research (AIR) in partnership with NASDAE, are robust, job-embedded professional learning experiences for leaders and emerging leaders in the field of adult education. ***NASDAE member states/territories receive a significant discount for state cohort participation in the LEAD Institute and state director/state staff participation in the LEAD Challenge.***

Why Membership Matters

NASDAE is the only organization that exists with the sole mission of supporting and connecting the state-administered adult education and literacy system as authorized under Title II of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. When states/territories participate as members of NASDAE, the entire adult education system benefits.

- NASDAE provides current updates on national statute, policy and issues of concern to adult education.
- NASDAE develops and disseminates relevant informational resources, including NASDAE Issue Briefs and annual Fact Sheets.
- NASDAE conducts training activities and facilitates networking and collaboration opportunities for State Directors and State Staff.



It is our goal to have EVERY state and territory engaged and contributing as a NASDAE member so that we are truly the collective and strong voice for the federally funded, state-administered adult education and literacy system. You are welcome to join standing and ad hoc committees or the informal office hours as a way to get to know your colleagues and share your concerns and questions.

Contact Information

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Board of Directors

<http://nasdae.org/board-of-directors/>