

### **Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE)**

The ODHE is the coordinating board for higher education in Ohio. Responsibilities of the ODHE include developing an independent annual report on the condition of higher education in Ohio and issuing an annual performance review of the chancellor. The ODHE also is responsible for advising the chancellor on issues of statewide importance affecting higher education.

### **Aspire, Ohio Adult Workforce Readiness Education**

*[ohiohighered.org/aspire](http://ohiohighered.org/aspire)*

#### **Vision**

To increase the number of highly trained and educated individuals in the workforce.

#### **Mission**

To provide high-quality, basic educational services to assist students in acquiring skills for success in postsecondary education/training and employment, to earn a living wage, and to be contributing members of society.

#### **Goals**

The Ohio Aspire program has five main goals.

1. Instructional Services - Ohio Aspire will sustain an effective delivery system that provides instructional support for adult students to maintain participation and meet their educational goals.
2. Partnerships – Ohio Aspire will work collaboratively with practitioners, students, and other key stakeholders to strengthen student services and to increase awareness of the value and impact of the Aspire program.
3. Professional Development – Ohio Aspire will maintain and enhance a comprehensive professional development system that provides adult educators with the tools to support student achievement in postsecondary education/training and employment.
4. Capacity – Ohio Aspire will continue to systematically expand capacity to serve more students.
5. Accountability – Ohio Aspire will maintain and enhance an accountability system that supports and recognizes program achievement.

#### **State Plan**

*[ohiohighered.org/aspire/reference](http://ohiohighered.org/aspire/reference) -> State Plan*

Under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), the publicly-funded workforce system agencies submit a unified state plan which coordinates programs and services.

#### **Strategic Plan**

*[ohiohighered.org/aspire/reference](http://ohiohighered.org/aspire/reference) -> Supporting Documents -> Strategic Plan*

The Strategic Plan is a guide to the development of the Aspire program. The plan has been revisited frequently to update the objectives and priority actions.

**Ohio Department of Higher Education Aspire Staff**

[ohiohighered.org/sites/ohiohighered.org/files/uploads/aspire/Aspire-Program-Directory.pdf](http://ohiohighered.org/sites/ohiohighered.org/files/uploads/aspire/Aspire-Program-Directory.pdf)

ODHE Aspire staff provide leadership, technical assistance, and oversight to local Aspire programs that support their integration in the University System of Ohio to better serve all students, including those transitioning to postsecondary education. Contact information for Aspire staff is at the front of the Directory.

**Programs**

[ohiohighered.org/aspire/locations](http://ohiohighered.org/aspire/locations)

[ohiohighered.org/sites/ohiohighered.org/files/uploads/aspire/Aspire-Program-Directory.pdf](http://ohiohighered.org/sites/ohiohighered.org/files/uploads/aspire/Aspire-Program-Directory.pdf)

**Professional Development (PD)**

[ohioaspire.org/files/OHAspireProfessionalPlanningToolkit.FINAL.pdf](http://ohioaspire.org/files/OHAspireProfessionalPlanningToolkit.FINAL.pdf)

Professional development for Aspire staff is conducted by the Aspire Professional Development Network. PD is conducted in a variety of ways including in-person, online, training packages, and webinars. The PD Planning Toolkit is intended to provide information, resources, and a process to guide you in the development of a professional development plan. Work with your administrator to help determine which activities will assist with your individual professional growth and which activities will assist with the overall program's improvement.