
**WE'RE NOT
DONE YET**
2024 GED CONFERENCE

**GED Boot Camps
Success Stories from the Field**

Diane Vaccari, Facilitator

Panelists from Kentucky, Georgia, and Virginia

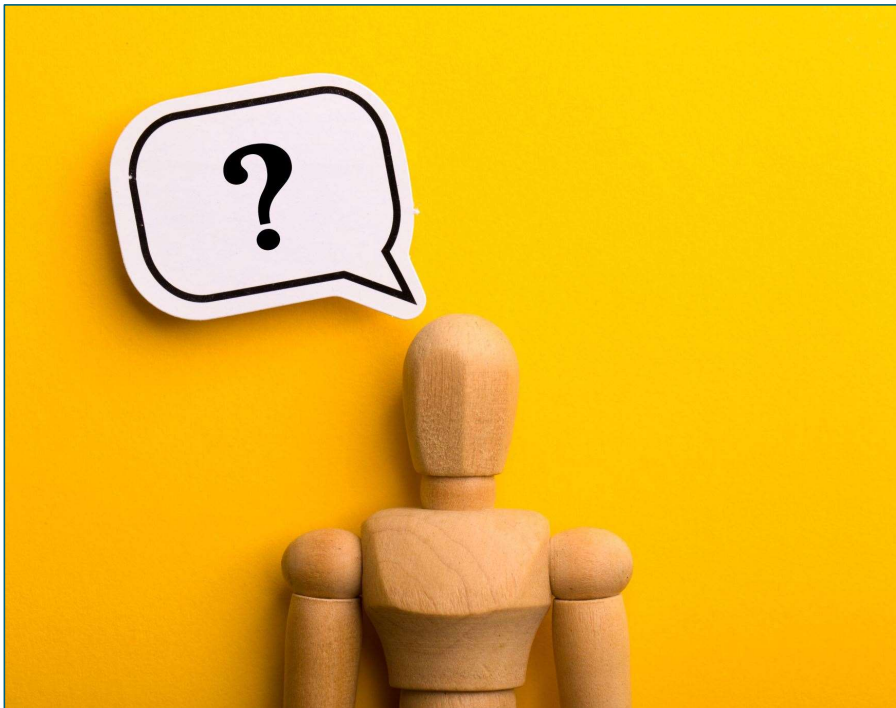





Welcome

*Diane Vaccari, GED State Relationship Manager
Facilitator*

How did it all begin?



- 150,000+ GED test-takers did not pass the test on their first try.
- 80% of those students did not pass Math.

We knew

- there were continuous challenges in Math,
- students had serious knowledge and skill gaps in Math, and
- “normal” schedules didn’t always meet the needs of students.

The Commonalities

Structure

- Unique schedule
- Intensive, short term
- Student selection process
- Coordination with test administrators

Content

- Focused
- Varied based on group
- Varied instructional delivery approaches
- Mix of materials

The Differences



Local programs, regions, and states developed GED Math Boot Camps to meet their unique needs.

Panelists

Kentucky

Tina Cook

- Program Director
- Laurel County Literacy Council, Inc.
- London, KY

Virginia

Beverly Godwin

- HSE Specialist
- Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education
- Virginia Department of Education

Georgia

Kevin Sharpton

- Professional Development Coordinator
- Office of Adult Education, Technical College System of Georgia
- Atlanta, GA

Andy Semones

- Program Leader
- Southern Regional Technical College
- Thomasville, GA

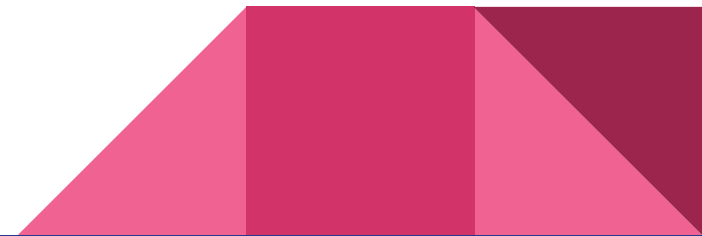
Kentucky- Laurel County

Our path to GED Weekends

Tina Cook- tina@laureladulted.org
Erin Moses- erin@laureladulted.org

2013– The Idea Spark

- We had hundreds of people who needed only one test to finish the GED credential before the test change in 2014.
- We ran a campaign of “**GET** YOUR GED IN A WEEKEND” – huge mistake! Make sure you run an ad that indicates “**FINISH** YOUR GED IN A WEEKEND”!
- July 2013 through December 31, 2013 11:50 PM, we had 149 people complete their GED credential!!! From January 2014 until June 30, 2014, we had 8.



- We averaged round an 80% completion rate. We often had around 10-12 participants per event.
- Then COVID struck, and Saturdays at 9 am became WAAAAY to early for most, but also the “can’t I do it online” mindset took over.



TIPS

Scheduling: We had Friday nights from 5pm-9 pm, Saturdays from 9am-5pm, and Sunday testing. This assured 12 hours for those who hadn't finished from prior years. This schedule has evolved.

Testing: We DO have a Pearson VUE testing site affiliated with our non-profit, and the examiner is willing to do Sunday testing.

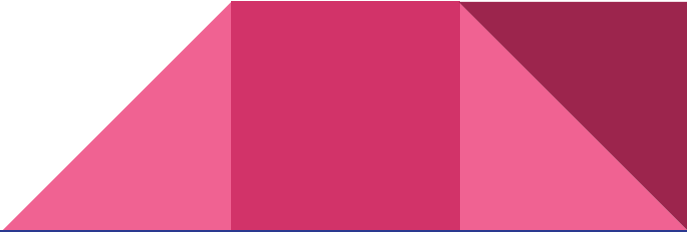
Curriculum: We have evolved from preparing from multiple sources and condensed our favorite pieces into one booklet and had it professionally printed and bound. Specific curriculum questions should be directed to Erin Moses—erin@laureladulted.org since she has become the lead for this curriculum set.

Curriculum

Planning:

- Set a block of time for students to take a Ready test
- Aim for one learning target per hour (or 90 minutes)
- Include at least 20 minutes of independent practice time

What to teach:

- Skills common to latest score reports (or participants' score reports)
 - Stand-alone skills (i.e. identifying functions, distance on a number line, and substitution-style equations)
 - Real-world connected math (unit rate, percents, graphs)
 - No-calculator questions (first five)
- 

Supporting Students through GED® Boot Camps



*Beverly Godwin, Ed.D.
High School Equivalency Specialist*

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Supporting Students through GED® Boot Camps

Starting list of 3,396 test takers from 2014 to 2021 who had passed 3 out of 4 subtests

- **78% needed to pass the Math test**
- 16% needed RLA
- 4% needed Social Studies
- 2% needed Science

Boot Camps are one of the targeted interventions implemented at the local level to re-engage learners.



Let us know how we can help you finish your last GED® test!

Show yourself what you can do.

JUST GED® 2GO

The advertisement features a black and white photograph of a young Black man wearing a graduation cap and gown, holding a rolled-up diploma. The text is set against a blue and white background. The slogan 'JUST GED 2GO' is prominently displayed in a stylized font with a green outline.

Supporting Local Outreach & Implementation

- Training Webinars
 - Planning and Implementing a GED[®] Math Boot Camp
 - GED[®] Boot Camps 2.0
 - Professional Development resources on ged.com
- Just 1 to Go Outreach Toolkit
 - Customizable templates for use by local adult education programs
- GED[®] Test Vouchers
 - “Free Testing” for individuals enrolled in an adult education program, attend 12+ hours, and earn a passing score on the GED Ready[®].



YOUR GED® IS WITHIN YOUR REACH

Let us help you finish what you started!

GED® ADULT LEARNERS, WE'VE GOT YOUR BACK!

You're almost to the finish line and adult education can help you get there. Contact us to complete your final test.

BENEFIT

- ✓ Special boot camps to help you with subjects like math
- ✓ Vouchers to take the test for FREE
- ✓ Online learning options
- ✓ Tutors who can work with you one-on-one
- ✓ Connection to resources that can help with childcare, transportation, assistance, etc.



Contact:

GED® Virginia
gedva.vcu.edu

JUST ONE TO GO!



SHOW YOURSELF WHAT YOU CAN DO.



WHEN YOU ARE DETERMINED TO LEARN, NO ONE CAN STOP YOU.



YOU ARE BRAVER THAN YOU BELIEVE, STRONGER THAN YOU SEEM, AND SMARTER THAN YOU THINK.



RISE UP AND BECOME THE PERSON YOU WERE DESIGNED TO BE.

CALL US : 1-877-376-9433

JUST **1** **GED** **2GO**



ADULT LEARNERS We've got your back!

You're almost to the finish line and adult ed can help you get there.

- ?** Is it the math? We've got bootcamps to knock this out.
- ?** Is it the cost? We can help you earn vouchers to take the test for **free**.
- ?** Is it the pandemic? We can connect you with resources who can help with childcare, transportation, assistance, etc.
- ?** Is it the location? Let's look at online options.
- ?** Do you need a coach? We can get you with a tutor who can work with you.

Let us know how we can help you finish what you started.



Region 20 Adult & Continuing Education
S.H. Clarke
2801 Turnpike Rd., Portsmouth, VA 23707
757-393-8822
www.region20ace.com



Supporting Local Outreach & Implementation (cont'd)

- Boot Camp Designs
 - Customized (i.e., 1 or 2 days, Weekend, Hybrid)
 - Focused and Intensive
- Targeted Support
 - Divided into content areas based on GED Ready[®] score reports and scores on the official test
 - Focused on High Impact Indicators
- Student Selection
 - Based on GED Ready[®] scores, passed 3 out of 4 official tests, teacher recommendation, etc.

Outcomes/Data

- Programs are reporting steady increases in enrollment in adult education classes.
- As of July 1, 2024, 508 (15%) out of the 3,396 on the starting Just 1 to Go list, have earned their GED® credential.



A Few Keys to Success

- Help students understand the benefits of participating in the boot camp and why it is a worthwhile investment of their time.
- Provide incentives (i.e., vouchers for GED Ready® and Official GED® Test).
- Involve community partners in sharing the message in their outreach and communications.
- Coordinate with the local GED® Testing Center.
 - Don't delay! Schedule students for testing as soon as possible.
- Adapt your boot camp model as needed. Stay in pilot mode!
- Explore other subject areas for boot camps (i.e., writing skills).
- Always ask for participant feedback.



Technical College
System of Georgia

Georgia Math Boot Camps – Planning for Success

Kevin Sharpton, Professional Development
Coordinator, Office of Adult Education

Andy Semones, Director of Adult Education,
Southern Regional Technical College

2024 GED TESTING SERVICE ANNUAL CONFERENCE, LONG BEACH, CA, JULY 24-26, 2024

MATH IS INTERESTING...

$$3 + 1 \neq 4$$

*It equals a whole lot
more for our students!*

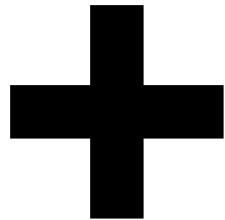


REALITY OF THE SITUATION – SOME STUDENTS NEED EXTRA SUPPORT WITH MATH

Reasoning Through
Language Arts

Science

Social Studies



Mathematical
Reasoning



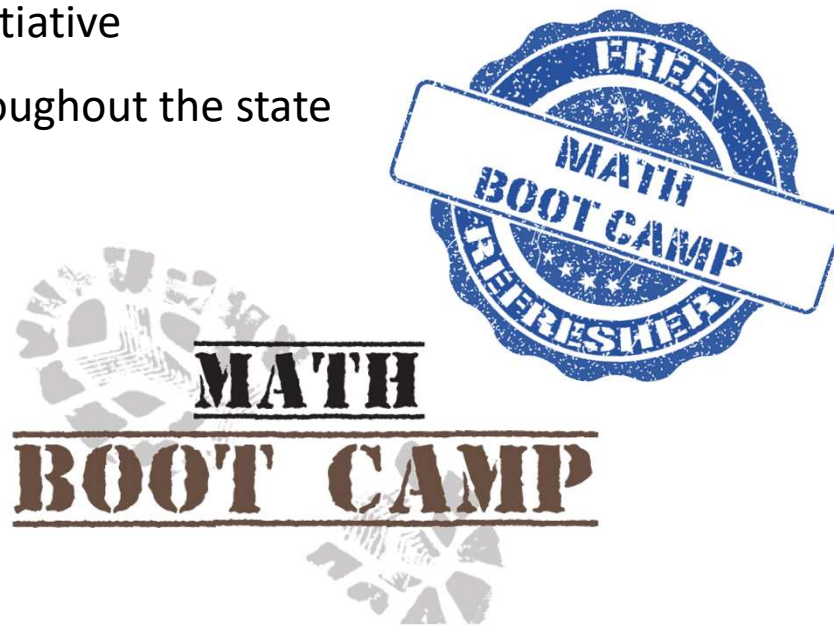
GED[®] HSE
Credential
Attainment



OUR APPROACH – GET THE WORD OUT AND PROVIDE TRAINING

Provide local programs with the support they need to be knowledgeable, confident, and ready to help their students by providing Math Boot Camps.

- **Champion the Cause**— Adopted as a statewide initiative
- **Accessibility**— Multiple workshops scheduled throughout the state
- **Audience**— Program Leaders and their “Math Boot Camp Implementation Team” members invited to the training
- **Content**— Workshops focused on defining team member roles and responsibilities, the importance of partnering with testing centers, and key components of the implementation
- **Follow-up Instruction**— Content refresher webinars were provided, and an online class was created for new team members



OUR APPROACH – CONSISTENT MESSAGING WITH PROGRAMS

Custom PD Event Invites to Local Programs



TCSG | **IT'S GO TIME**
Technical College System of Georgia | GEORGIA OPPORTUNITIES START HERE

Designing and Offering Successful HSE Math Boot Camps

February 1, 2023 (9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.)
Forsyth Conference Center at Lanier Technical College
3410 Ronald Reagan Blvd, Cumming, GA

February 2, 2023 (9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.)
Central Georgia Technical College Building H - Health Sciences, 54 Highway 22 West, Milledgeville, GA

Registration Is Open
Workshop Offered In Multiple Locations

❖ ❖ Event Registration Form Link: <https://forms.gle/YuPJ8YovLFXxUnxa9> ❖ ❖



TCSG | **IT'S GO TIME**
Technical College System of Georgia | GEORGIA OPPORTUNITIES START HERE

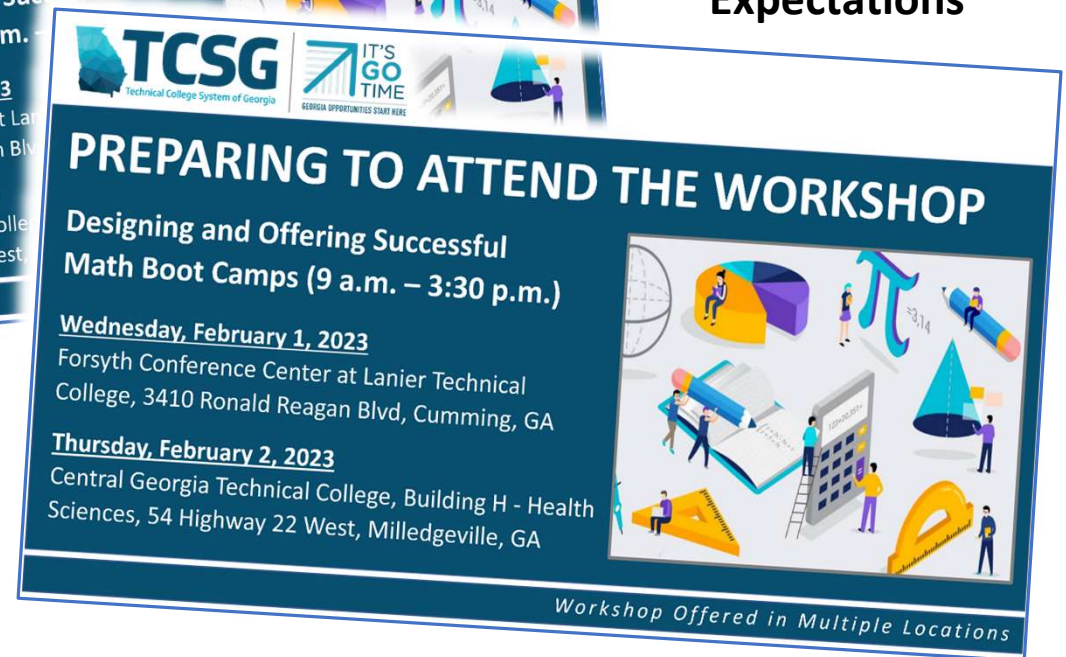
REGISTRATION CONFIRMATION

Designing and Offering Successful Math Boot Camps (9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.)

Wednesday, February 1, 2023
Forsyth Conference Center at Lanier Technical College, 3410 Ronald Reagan Blvd, Cumming, GA

Thursday, February 2, 2023
Central Georgia Technical College Building H - Health Sciences, 54 Highway 22 West, Milledgeville, GA

Consistent Communication and Provide Clear Expectations



TCSG | **IT'S GO TIME**
Technical College System of Georgia | GEORGIA OPPORTUNITIES START HERE

PREPARING TO ATTEND THE WORKSHOP

Designing and Offering Successful Math Boot Camps (9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.)

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Workshop Offered in Multiple Locations

OUR APPROACH – RALLY BEHIND THE EFFORT, SHOW SUPPORT!

– MATH BOOT CAMP TRAINING –



Pictures of the Georgia Office of Adult Education Staff Showing Support for Their Local Programs

Pictures used in webinars and posted on social media

LESSON LEARNED – PROVIDE MUCH SUPPORT

- **Review Workshop Registration**— Who's attending? Will the right people be present? Is a leader or other decision maker attending?
- **Clearly Communicate Expectations**— This workshop is to help your program gain the knowledge and skills needed to provide math boot camps on an ongoing basis.
- **Planning Starts In The Training**— Programs turned in preliminary plans for the roll-out of their camps at the end of each workshop.
- **Continue the Conversation**— What's the status of scheduling and securing meeting space for the math boot camps? Who's coordinating with the local testing center so immediate testing can occur? How are eligible students identified? Who will contact the students about this opportunity?



ROYALTY FREE ICONS FROM PIXABAY.COM



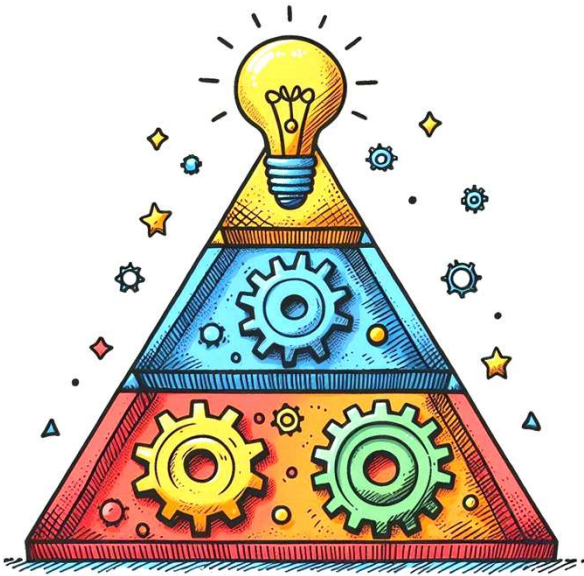
LESSON LEARNED – CREATE AN ONLINE REPOSITORY

Math Boot Camp Resources



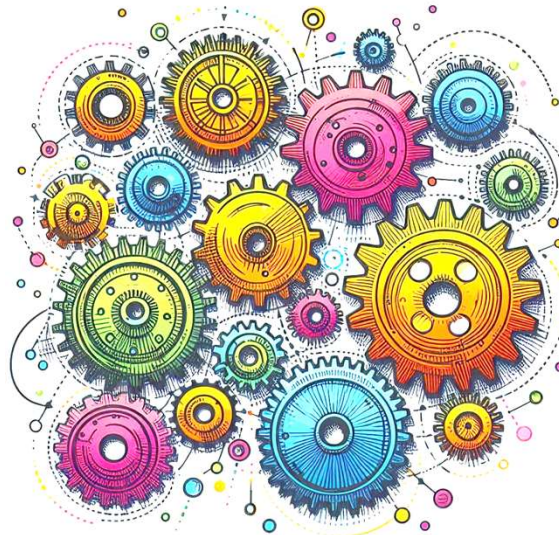
We contacted programs to collect examples of their marketing materials and instructional resources. We placed the files in a shared online folder for programs to access and use.

KEY TAKEAWAYS – WHAT NEEDS TO BE KNOWN



Top Down Approach

State leaders must champion the cause and communicate their support.



There Is A Process With Parts

Recognize there are moving parts that can make or break the effort.



Local Program Ownership

Programs must “own” their camps and customize them to fit the needs of their students AND faculty.

LASTLY, MATH BOOT CAMPS ARE PROVEN TO WORK...

When strategically planned with the appropriate educators leading the camps who provide instruction on select topics to those students who are ready and eligible to attend and who will benefit from the extra help.



SALES PITCH TO YOUR LOCAL TEAM

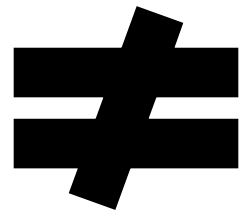
- **Positivity Is a Plus**— Walk the Walk and Talk the Talk! The Data proves the Success of Math Boot Camps.
- **Teamwork Is Key**— Know the Stakeholders. We have to bring local leadership, Instructors, Students, and possibly community partners together for SUCCESS!
- **We Are Not Alone!**— We have the backing and support of our state leadership – Georgia Office of Adult Education. We even have access to webinars and an online training course to provide extra guidance.



ROYALTY FREE IMAGES FROM WWW.PICS4LEARNING.COM



LESSONS LEARNED - BE STRATEGIC AND SELECTIVE!



Too many advertised boot camp opportunities create chaos and confusion.

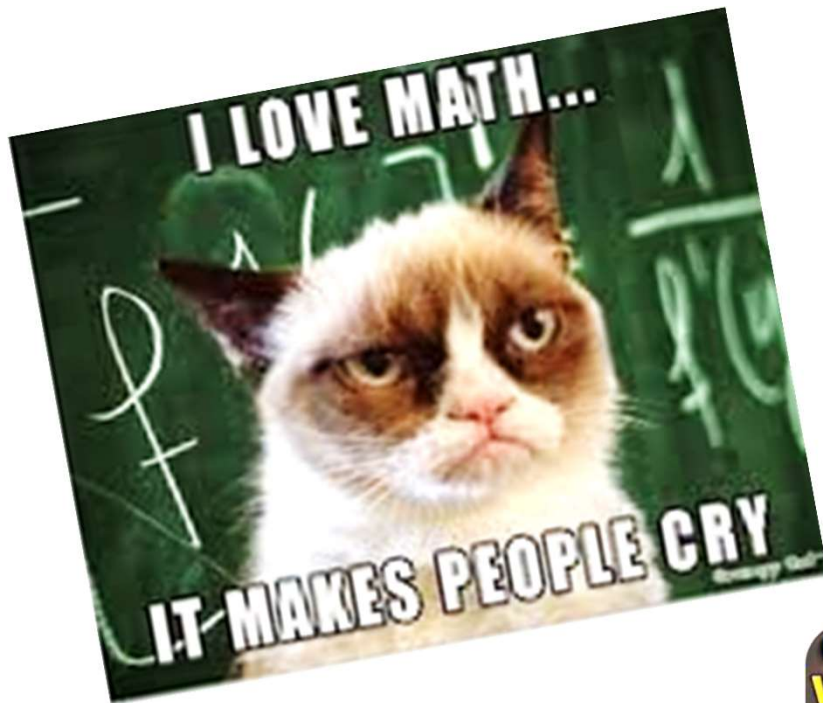


Select which students to invite for a more manageable class and this yields more GED® Credentials.


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LESSONS LEARNED – THE MEASURES OF SUCCESS



VS

The  INFLUENCE
of a good
TEACHER
I can never
be ERASED ♥



ROYALTY FREE IMAGES FROM MEME GENERATOR AND EDUCATIONAL CLIPART GALLERY



KEY TAKEAWAYS TO REMEMBER



Don't strive for hundreds of students! Our success has resulted in students steadily becoming more confident and we may see 7–10 pass. Sometimes it's less.



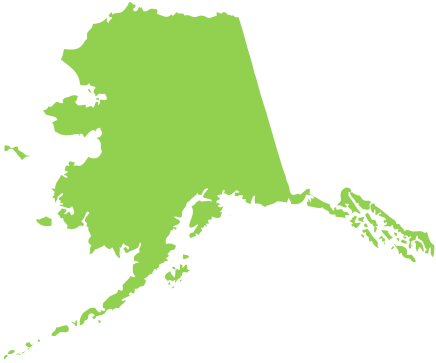
It takes a dedicated team who PLAN, PLAN, and PLAN some more!



Assume complete ownership and don't be afraid to *experiment!*

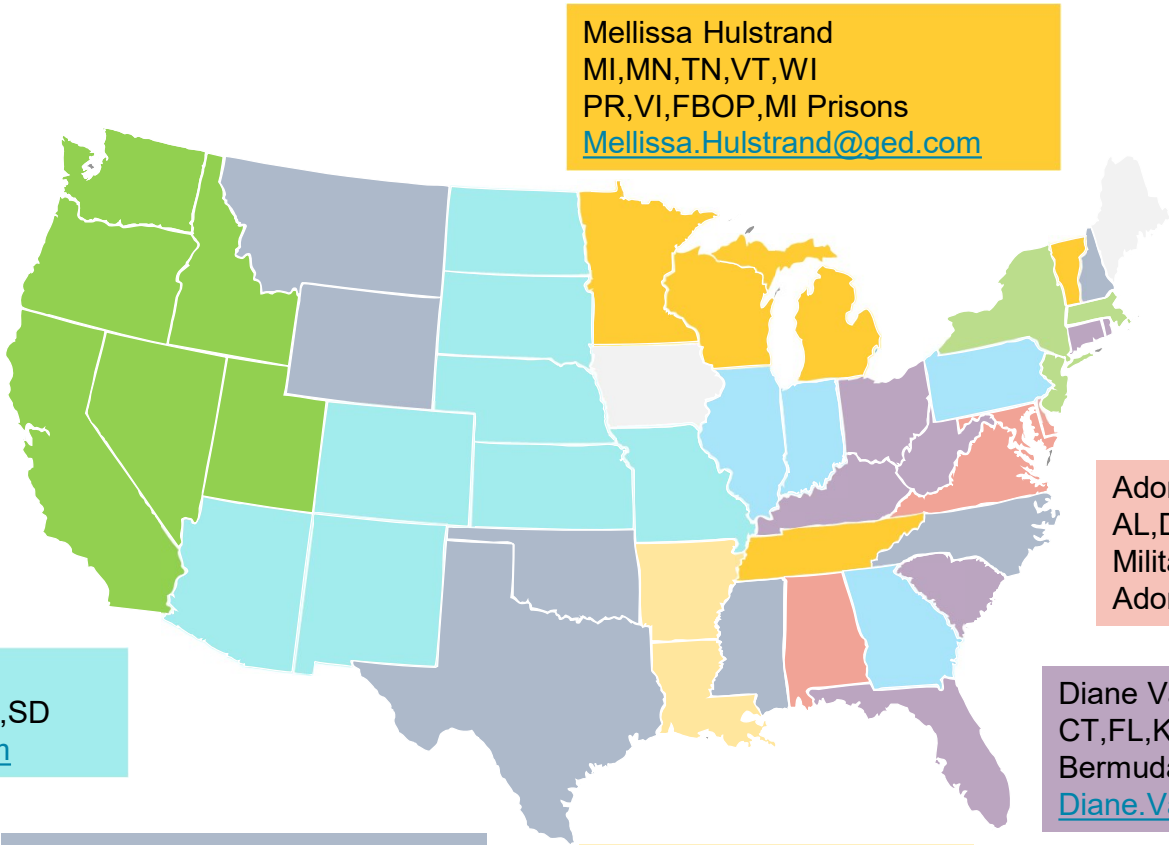
Questions for the Panelists

Your State Relationship Team



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**WE'RE NOT
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2024 GED CONFERENCE

Thank You!

Communicate with GED® Testing Service: [Contact Us - GED](#)

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Session Survey

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