

2022 Legislative Session Issue Brief

Adult Basic Education and Early Childhood Education teachers

All of our teachers—including those who work with our youngest students and adult learners—are dedicated professionals who strive to see all students succeed.

Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) is an interactive, educational program for all families in Minnesota with children between the ages of birth and kindergarten. These programs recognize that parents are a child's first and most important teachers and offer parents hands-on learning tools and experiences that help build strong families.

Adult Basic Education (ABE) programs' mission is to provide adults with education opportunities to acquire and improve their literacy skills necessary to become self-sufficient and to participate effectively as productive workers, family members and citizens. This is particularly vital in a tight labor market.

However, even though they are teaching side by side with K-12 educators, licensed ECFE and ABE teachers do not have access to the same protections as their colleagues.

State lawmakers also acknowledged in 2017 that ECFE and ABE teachers are fully licensed educators under Minnesota's new tiered licensing system. Minnesota needs to treat ECFE and ABE like professionals.


Education Minnesota supports:

Changing Minnesota law so ECFE and ABE positions are covered under the continuing contract law and Teacher Tenure Act. This ensures our ECFE and ABE teachers receive due process protections. It also means they have to follow the requirements of the Teacher Development and Evaluation law.

It's time to make sure these educators are on the same playing field as their peers.

Updated: Jan. 13, 2022

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Education Minnesota is an affiliate of the American Federation of Teachers, the National Education Association and AFL-CIO.  2498



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