

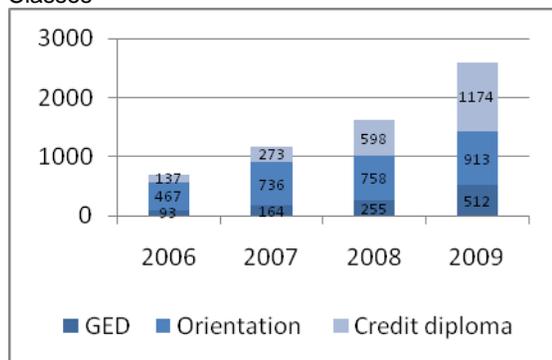
Program Report Card: CT Distance Learning Consortium's Adult Virtual High School

Quality of Life Result to Which Program Contributes: All Connecticut residents achieve a high school education and continue on to post-secondary education and/or gainful employment.

Program's Contribution to Result: The Connecticut Adult Virtual High School (CTAVHS) provides access to participants in the Adult Credit Diploma program and to adults in a GED study program the opportunity to take online course to help them complete their respective program. By doing so, adult participants that would have been unable to take courses at a Center (due to transportation, child-care, and time limitations) are now able to take more courses, increasing their odds of graduation and, subsequently, increasing their ability to succeed academically and in the workplace.

Partners: The CT State Department of Education's Bureau of Adult Education, federal and state grants, and CT Adult Education Centers.

Performance Measure 1: Enrollments in AVHS Classes

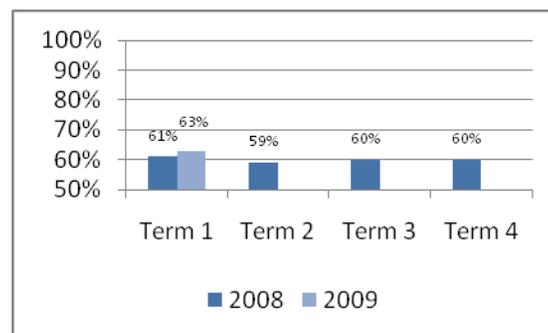


Story behind the baseline: Enrollment has grown in all three types of online courses, with enrollments in GED preparation and Credit Diploma classes almost doubling in the last year. The number of participating Adult Education Centers has grown from 7 (2006) to 29 (2009), thus ensuring that students in urban, suburban, and rural communities across the state have access to these courses. The AVHS model of requiring LEA's to support students with mentors, the success of students taking these courses, and the increasing societal awareness of online courses has all contributed to these increases.

Proposed actions to turn the curve:

The CTDLC continues to work with SDE to market AVHS courses to the remaining 26 Adult Education Centers and provide information about the success of online learning and how it improves access for all students.

Performance Measure 2: Student Success Rates in Credit Diploma Courses:

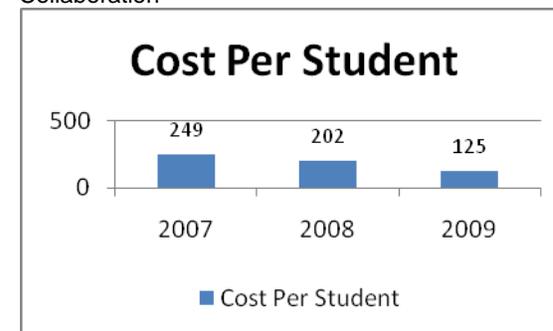


Story behind the baseline: Student success rates are calculated as the percentage of students who complete the Credit Diploma Course each 8-week term. Student success is a result of the AVHS model of combining online instruction with mentors in the Adult Education Centers who provide technical assistance and support for students enrolled in AVHS courses. Data on credit diploma course completion has been available since 2008.

Proposed Action to Turn the Curve:

The CTDLC continues to focus on improving the training of mentors and online instructors as well as creating models of best practices. The CTDLC is working to improve its data collection. It is also collaborating with SDE to find a methodology to compare completion rates in online and face to face classes and to compare the graduation rates with those who take AVHS courses versus those who don't.

Performance Measure 3: Cost Savings through Collaboration



Story behind the baseline: The cost per student is calculated by dividing the number of students by the grant provided to the CTDLC to manage the AVHS. This does not account for the monies provided by state and local appropriations to Adult Education Centers. In 2007, the grant to run AVHS was \$292,280; in 2008-9 the annual grant rose to \$325,000. Over these three years, the cost per pupil has decreased from \$250 to \$125. The cost savings is due to the centralization of services using one data center, one set of staff, and one set of software licenses, which provide major cost efficiencies.

Proposed action to turn the curve: The CTDLC continues to explore ways to increase these efficiencies including investigating open source technologies and open source courseware. At the same time should the federal funding no longer be available, it is difficult to see how the program could continue to be supported.

