Questions and Answers – May 2014

1. What category should be check as a completion for stackable credentials for ESL and ABE?
The completion category to check should be "Other Recognized Credential"

2. If an individual increase a level gain in ESL, is that considered a stackable credential?
No, in order for ESL to count, the individual have to have graduated from ESL. Please refer to the operational definition on credentials and certificates.
http://www.co.ramsey.mn.us/NR/rdonlyres/D8E0B5D0-46CD-4185-87D7-4083943C41EB/36833/OperationalDefinitionCredentialCertsv4.pdf

3. Is there a way to receive credit for level gains in ESL?
No, the gain in the ESL level by itself does not give credit in any Report Card measure, although the hours used in participating in ESL or starting the ESL activity count in several measures:

Program Outcomes 12: Education hours for adults without a high school diploma
Outcome Target: 30% of adult participants without a HS diploma or GED are engaged in at least 20 hours per month of education activities (GED, or high school diploma completion, ESL, ABE, or FWE combined).

Program Outcomes 13A and 13B (**for Young Parents**): Education hours for participants without a high school diploma under age 20 (13A) and all participants without a high school diploma (13B)
Outcome Targets: 80% of participants in 13A and 30% of participants in 13B without a HS diploma or GED are engaged in at least 20 hours per month in education activities (GED, high school diploma completion, ESL, ABE, or FWE combined).

Program Outcome 8C: All participants engaged in any activity for at least 3 hours per month (including employment).
Outcome Target: 90% of all participants are engaged in at least 3 hours per month.

Program Outcome 9: Increase in percentage of FSS participants engaging in more hours in any activity over the previous quarter or totaling at least 130 hours.
Outcome Target: Increase in 2 percentage points agency-wide from quarter to quarter in the proportion of FSS participants increasing engagement hours or totaling at least 130 hours.

Program Outcomes 7A and 7B: Newly enrolled participants start any activity (with any number of hours) within 30 and 60 days, respectively.
Outcome Targets: 65% of newly enrolled participants start any new activity (any number of hours) within 30 days and 90% within 60 days after the enrollment date with the agency.

4. **What are some specific examples of types of certificates approved for measure 11A? For example, a participant just achieved a 1 month computer literacy certificate, is this considered a positive outcome under 11A?**

Yes, a one month computer literacy certificate is considered a positive outcome.

Approved training providers must be licensed, registered, and/or accredited by the state in which they operate (e.g. MNSCU) or by statewide or nationally recognized industry groups (e.g. MN Department of Health CNA Training or National Association of Realtors). For details for types of credentials approved, please refer to the operational definition on credentials and certificates link below and utilize ISEEK.
http://www.co.ramsey.mn.us/NR/rdonlyres/D8E0B5D0-46CD-4185-87D7-4083943C41EB/36833/OperationalDefinitionCredentialCertsv4.pdf

5. **What is the proper protocol for submitting Education status updates to Financial Workers?**

A memo was sent out earlier this year for agencies to review and update all caseloads with cases having no high school diploma/GED or no information in the highest level of education field by sending a status update to the financial worker. Moving forward, status updates should be sent to the financial workers only when a participant completes school and obtains a diploma or degree. (Ex: H.S., GED, B.A., B.S., etc)