Q & A from Drive-In Workshops

We had two questions from the recent series of Drive-In Workshops that needed research. Here they are:

Q. If a student has a diploma, can that student be served in adult education classes without paying?

A. Federal funds such as Adult Geographic and Family Literacy may not be used to provide services for a student holding a diploma. Florida Statute 1009.25 (fee exemptions) states that fees can be waived for a student who has a high school diploma or its equivalent and who has academic skills at or below the eighth grade level pursuant to state board rule. A student is eligible for this exemption from fees if the student's skills are at or below the eighth grade level as measured by a test administered in the English language and approved by the Department of Education, even if the student has skills above that level when tested in the student's native language.

Q. Is there any way that indirect costs can be separate from administrative cost, rather than included and capped at 5%?

A. As of now, the answer is no. This was researched in depth and the response from the U.S. Office of Inspector General and USDOE say that without any specific program area direction at the national level, that is their interpretation. The Florida Department of Education plans to readdress this issue and request programmatic clarification from USDOE.