

Form **990-EZ**

# Short Form Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

OMB No. 1545-1150

**2009**

**Open to Public Inspection**

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except black lung benefit trust or private foundation)  
 ▶ Sponsoring organizations of donor advised funds and controlling organizations as defined in section 512(b)(13) must file Form 990. All other organizations with gross receipts less than \$500,000 and total assets less than \$1,250,000 at the end of the year may use this form.  
 ▶ The organization may have to use a copy of this return to satisfy state reporting requirements.

**A For the 2009 calendar year, or tax year beginning** , 2009, and ending , 20

<b>B</b> Check if applicable: <input type="checkbox"/> Address change <input type="checkbox"/> Name change <input type="checkbox"/> Initial return <input type="checkbox"/> Terminated <input type="checkbox"/> Amended return <input type="checkbox"/> Application pending	Please use IRS label or print or type. See Specific Instructions.	<b>C Name of organization</b> Aspire Education Project		<b>D Employer identification number</b> 205274459	
		Number and street (or P.O. box, if mail is not delivered to street address) Room/suite PO Box 10083		<b>E Telephone number</b> 510-658-7500	
		City or town, state or country, and ZIP + 4 Oakland, CA 94610		<b>F Group Exemption Number</b> ▶	

• Section 501(c)(3) organizations and 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts must attach a completed Schedule A (Form 990 or 990-EZ).

**G Accounting Method:**  Cash  Accrual  
Other (specify) ▶

**I Website:** ▶ www.aspireeducation.org

**J Tax-exempt status (check only one)** -  501(c) ( 3 ) ◀ (insert no.)  4947(a)(1) or  527

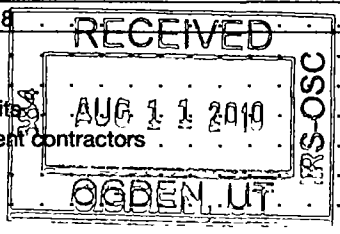
**H Check** ▶  if the organization is not required to attach Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF).

**K Check** ▶  if the organization is not a section 509(a)(3) supporting organization and its gross receipts are normally not more than \$25,000. A Form 990-EZ or Form 990 return is not required, but if the organization chooses to file a return, be sure to file a complete return.

**L Add lines 5b, 6b, and 7b, to line 9 to determine gross receipts; if \$500,000 or more, file Form 990 instead of Form 990-EZ** ▶ \$ 290,401

**Part I Revenue, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances (See the instructions for Part I.)**

		1	2	3	4	5a	5b	5c	6a	6b	6c	7a	7b	7c	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Revenue	1	Contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts received . . . . .														4,481												
	2	Program service revenue including government fees and contracts . . . . .														285,920												
	3	Membership dues and assessments . . . . .														0												
	4	Investment income . . . . .														0												
	5a	Gross amount from sale of assets other than inventory . . . . .														0												
	b	Less: cost or other basis and sales expenses . . . . .														0												
	c	Gain or (loss) from sale of assets other than inventory (Subtract line 5b from line 5a) . . . . .														0												
	6	Special events and activities (complete applicable parts of Schedule G). If any amount is from gaming, check here ▶ <input type="checkbox"/>																										
	a	Gross revenue (not including \$ 0 of contributions reported on line 1) . . . . .														0												
b	Less: direct expenses other than fundraising expenses . . . . .														0													
c	Net income or (loss) from special events and activities (Subtract line 6b from line 6a) . . . . .														0													
7a	Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances . . . . .														0													
b	Less: cost of goods sold . . . . .														0													
c	Gross profit or (loss) from sales of inventory (Subtract line 7b from line 7a) . . . . .														0													
8	Other revenue (describe ▶ ) . . . . .														0													
9	<b>Total revenue.</b> Add lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5c, 6c, 7c, and 8 . . . . .														290,401													
Expenses	10	Grants and similar amounts paid (attach schedule) . . . . .														0												
	11	Benefits paid to or for members . . . . .														0												
	12	Salaries, other compensation, and employee benefits . . . . .														270,764												
	13	Professional fees and other payments to independent contractors . . . . .														0												
	14	Occupancy, rent, utilities, and maintenance . . . . .														7,502												
	15	Printing, publications, postage, and shipping . . . . .														3,625												
	16	Other expenses (describe ▶ (see attached) ) . . . . .														8,280												
17	<b>Total expenses.</b> Add lines 10 through 16 . . . . .														290,172													
Net Assets	18	Excess or (deficit) for the year (Subtract line 17 from line 9) . . . . .														229												
	19	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (from line 27, column (A)) (must agree with end-of-year figure reported on prior year's return) . . . . .														(13,500)												
	20	Other changes in net assets or fund balances (attach explanation) . . . . .														9,936												
	21	<b>Net assets or fund balances at end of year.</b> Combine lines 18 through 20 . . . . .														3,335												



**Part II Balance Sheets.** If Total assets on line 25, column (B) are \$1,250,000 or more, file Form 990 instead of Form 990-EZ.

(See the instructions for Part II.)

		(A) Beginning of year	(B) End of year
22	Cash, savings, and investments . . . . .	(1,017)	22 13,566
23	Land and buildings . . . . .	0	23 0
24	Other assets (describe ▶ accounts receivable, prepaid expenses, deposits ) . . . . .	41,143	24 26,235
25	<b>Total assets</b> . . . . .	40,126	25 39,801
26	<b>Total liabilities</b> (describe ▶ accounts payable, payroll liability, credit, deposits ) . . . . .	53,626	26 43,137
27	<b>Net assets or fund balances</b> (line 27 of column (B) must agree with line 21) . . . . .	(13,500)	27 (3,336)

For Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the separate instructions.

Cat. No 106421

Form **990-EZ** (2009)

99

SCANNED AUG 25 2010

19



**Part V Other Information** (Note the statement requirements in the instructions for Part V.)

		Yes	No
<b>33</b>	Did the organization engage in any activity not previously reported to the IRS? If "Yes," attach a detailed description of each activity . . . . .		✓
<b>34</b>	Were any changes made to the organizing or governing documents? If "Yes," attach a conformed copy of the changes . . . . .		✓
<b>35</b>	If the organization had income from business activities, such as those reported on lines 2, 6a, and 7a (among others), but not reported on Form 990-T, attach a statement explaining why the organization did not report the income on Form 990-T.		
<b>a</b>	Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more or was it subject to section 6033(e) notice, reporting, and proxy tax requirements? . . . . .		✓
<b>b</b>	If "Yes," has it filed a tax return on <b>Form 990-T</b> for this year? . . . . .		
<b>36</b>	Did the organization undergo a liquidation, dissolution, termination, or significant disposition of net assets during the year? If "Yes," complete applicable parts of Schedule N . . . . .		✓
<b>37a</b>	Enter amount of political expenditures, direct or indirect, as described in the instructions. ▶ <b>37a</b> 0		
<b>b</b>	Did the organization file <b>Form 1120-POL</b> for this year? . . . . .		✓
<b>38a</b>	Did the organization borrow from, or make any loans to, any officer, director, trustee, or key employee or were any such loans made in a prior year and still outstanding at the end of the period covered by this return? . . . . .		✓
<b>b</b>	If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II and enter the total amount involved . . . . . <b>38b</b>		
<b>39</b>	Section 501(c)(7) organizations. Enter:		
<b>a</b>	Initiation fees and capital contributions included on line 9 . . . . . <b>39a</b>		
<b>b</b>	Gross receipts, included on line 9, for public use of club facilities . . . . . <b>39b</b>		
<b>40a</b>	Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on the organization during the year under: section 4911 ▶ 0 ; section 4912 ▶ 0 ; section 4955 ▶ 0		
<b>b</b>	Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations. Did the organization engage in any section 4958 excess benefit transaction during the year or is it aware that it engaged in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person in a prior year, and that the transaction has not been reported on any of the organization's prior Forms 990 or 990-EZ? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I . . . . .		✓
<b>c</b>	Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on organization managers or disqualified persons during the year under sections 4912, 4955, and 4958 . . . . . ▶		
<b>d</b>	Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations. Enter amount of tax on line 40c reimbursed by the organization . . . . . ▶		
<b>e</b>	All organizations. At any time during the tax year, was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction? If "Yes," complete Form 8886-T. . . . .		✓
<b>41</b>	List the states with which a copy of this return is filed. ▶		
<b>42a</b>	The organization's books are in care of ▶ <u>Kenneth Husbands</u> Telephone no. ▶ <u>925-354-4033</u> Located at ▶ <u>1904 Franklin St. Suite 901, Oakland, CA</u> ZIP + 4 ▶ <u>94612-2923</u>		
<b>b</b>	At any time during the calendar year, did the organization have an interest in or a signature or other authority over a financial account in a foreign country (such as a bank account, securities account, or other financial account)? . . . . .	Yes	No
	If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country: ▶ _____		✓
	See the instructions for exceptions and filing requirements for <b>Form TD F 90-22.1, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts</b> .		
<b>c</b>	At any time during the calendar year, did the organization maintain an office outside of the U.S.? . . . . .		✓
	If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country: ▶ _____		
<b>43</b>	Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts filing Form 990-EZ in lieu of <b>Form 1041</b> —Check here . . . . . ▶ <input type="checkbox"/> and enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the tax year . . . . . ▶ <b>43</b>		
<b>44</b>	Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ . . . . .		✓
<b>45</b>	Is any related organization a controlled entity of the organization within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ . . . . .		✓

**Part VI Section 501(c)(3) organizations and section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts only.** All section 501(c)(3) organizations and section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts must answer questions 46-49b and complete the tables for lines 50 and 51.

	Yes	No
<b>46</b> Did the organization engage in direct or indirect political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>47</b> Did the organization engage in lobbying activities? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>48</b> Is the organization a school as described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>49a</b> Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization? . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>b</b> If "Yes," was the related organization a section 527 organization? . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**50** Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated employees (other than officers, directors, trustees and key employees) who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None."

(a) Name and address of each employee paid more than \$100,000	(b) Title and average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Compensation	(d) Contributions to employee benefit plans & deferred compensation	(e) Expense account and other allowances
none				

**f** Total number of other employees paid over \$100,000 . . . . . ▶ \_\_\_\_\_

**51** Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated independent contractors who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None."

(a) Name and address of each independent contractor paid more than \$100,000	(b) Type of service	(c) Compensation
none		

**d** Total number of other independent contractors each receiving over \$100,000 . . . ▶ \_\_\_\_\_

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge

**Sign Here**

▶ Alexandra Calsoyas | 8/6/2010  
 Signature of officer Date  
 ▶ **Alexandra Calsoyas, Board President**  
 Type or print name and title

**Paid Preparer's Use Only**

Preparer's signature ▶ Date ▶ Check if self-employed  Preparer's identifying number (See instructions)  
 Firm's name (or yours if self-employed), address, and ZIP + 4 ▶ EIN ▶ Phone no ▶

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? See instructions . . . . . ▶  Yes  No



**Part II Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Sections 170(b)(1)(A)(iv) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)**  
 (Complete only if you checked the box on line 5, 7, or 8 of Part I.)

**Section A. Public Support**

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ►	(a) 2005	(b) 2006	(c) 2007	(d) 2008	(e) 2009	(f) Total
<b>1</b> Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received. (Do not include any "unusual grants.") . . . . .						
<b>2</b> Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf . . . . .						
<b>3</b> The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge . . . . .						
<b>4 Total.</b> Add lines 1 through 3 . . . . .						
<b>5</b> The portion of total contributions by each person (other than a governmental unit or publicly supported organization) included on line 1 that exceeds 2% of the amount shown on line 11, column (f) . . . . .						
<b>6 Public support.</b> Subtract line 5 from line 4.						

**Section B. Total Support**

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ►	(a) 2005	(b) 2006	(c) 2007	(d) 2008	(e) 2009	(f) Total
<b>7</b> Amounts from line 4 . . . . .						
<b>8</b> Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources . . . . .						
<b>9</b> Net income from unrelated business activities, whether or not the business is regularly carried on . . . . .						
<b>10</b> Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part IV.) . . . . .						
<b>11 Total support.</b> Add lines 7 through 10 . . . . .						
<b>12</b> Gross receipts from related activities, etc. (see instructions) . . . . .					<b>12</b>	
<b>13 First five years.</b> If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and stop here . . . . .						<input type="checkbox"/>

**Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage**

<b>14</b> Public support percentage for 2009 (line 6, column (f) divided by line 11, column (f)) . . . . .	<b>14</b>	%
<b>15</b> Public support percentage from 2008 Schedule A, Part II, line 14 . . . . .	<b>15</b>	%
<b>16a 33 1/3 % support test—2009.</b> If the organization did not check the box on line 13, and line 14 is 33 1/3 % or more, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization . . . . .		<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>b 33 1/3 % support test—2008.</b> If the organization did not check a box on line 13 or 16a, and line 15 is 33 1/3 % or more, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization . . . . .		<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>17a 10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2009.</b> If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, or 16b, and line 14 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and stop here. Explain in Part IV how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization . . . . .		<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>b 10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2008.</b> If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, or 17a, and line 15 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and stop here. Explain in Part IV how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization . . . . .		<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>18 Private foundation.</b> If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, 17a, or 17b, check this box and see instructions ►		<input type="checkbox"/>

**Part III Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Section 509(a)(2)**  
(Complete only if you checked the box on line 9 of Part I.)

**Section A. Public Support**

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ►	(a) 2005	(b) 2006	(c) 2007	(d) 2008	(e) 2009	(f) Total
<b>1</b> Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received. (Do not include any "unusual grants.") . . . . .			3694	4034	4,481	12,209
<b>2</b> Gross receipts from admissions, merchandise sold or services performed, or facilities furnished in any activity that is related to the organization's tax-exempt purpose . . . . .			236,303	299,239	285,920	821,462
<b>3</b> Gross receipts from activities that are not an unrelated trade or business under section 513 . . . . .			0	0	0	0
<b>4</b> Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf . . . . .			0	0	0	0
<b>5</b> The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge . . . . .			0	0	0	0
<b>6 Total.</b> Add lines 1 through 5 . . . . .			239,997	303,273	290,401	833,671
<b>7a</b> Amounts included on lines 1, 2, and 3 received from disqualified persons . . . . .			0	0	0	0
<b>b</b> Amounts included on lines 2 and 3 received from other than disqualified persons that exceed the greater of \$5,000 or 1% of the amount on line 13 for the year . . . . .			0	0	0	0
<b>c</b> Add lines 7a and 7b . . . . .			0	0	0	0
<b>8 Public support</b> (Subtract line 7c from line 6.) . . . . .						833,671

**Section B. Total Support**

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ►	(a) 2005	(b) 2006	(c) 2007	(d) 2008	(e) 2009	(f) Total
<b>9</b> Amounts from line 6 . . . . .			239,997	303,273	290,401	833,671
<b>10a</b> Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources . . . . .			0	0	0	0
<b>b</b> Unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 taxes) from businesses acquired after June 30, 1975 . . . . .			0	0	0	0
<b>c</b> Add lines 10a and 10b . . . . .			0	0	0	0
<b>11</b> Net income from unrelated business activities not included in line 10b, whether or not the business is regularly carried on . . . . .			0	0	0	0
<b>12</b> Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part IV.) . . . . .			0	0	0	0
<b>13 Total support.</b> (Add lines 9, 10c, 11, and 12.) . . . . .			239,997	303,273	290,401	833,671

**14 First five years.** If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and stop here . . . . .

**Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage**

<b>15</b> Public support percentage for 2009 (line 8, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f)) . . . . .	15	%
<b>16</b> Public support percentage from 2008 Schedule A, Part III, line 15 . . . . .	16	%

**Section D. Computation of Investment Income Percentage**

<b>17</b> Investment income percentage for 2009 (line 10c, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f)) . . . . .	17	%
<b>18</b> Investment income percentage from 2008 Schedule A, Part III, line 17 . . . . .	18	%

**19a 33 1/3 % support tests—2009.** If the organization did not check the box on line 14, and line 15 is more than 33 1/3 %, and line 17 is not more than 33 1/3 %, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ►

**b 33 1/3 % support tests—2008.** If the organization did not check a box on line 14 or line 19a, and line 16 is more than 33 1/3 %, and line 18 is not more than 33 1/3 %, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ►

**20 Private foundation.** If the organization did not check a box on line 14, 19a, or 19b, check this box and see instructions ►

**Part IV** **Supplemental Information.** Complete this part to provide the explanations required by Part II, line 10; Part II, line 17a or 17b; and Part III, line 12. Provide any other additional information. See instructions.

Area with horizontal dashed lines for supplemental information.

## Part I: line 16

## Other Expenses

Fingerprinting	402 00
Job postings	375 00
Supplies	616.00
Telephone & telecommunications	3464.00
Web Hosting	174 00
Interest Expense	1118 00
Insurance	584 00
Membership dues	127 00
Misc. Expenses	590.00
Paypal Fees	269.00
Bad Dept Expenses	561.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>8280.00</b>

## Part I: Line 20

Our payroll liabilities were reduced to correct an accounting error which had not been detected in the previous fiscal year. Payments for employee health care had not been properly credited against the liability account.

## Part III Statement of Program Accomplishments

**Line 28 Individual Tutoring.** AEP provided tailored one-on-one tutoring in academic subjects and standardized test preparation to 150 students in 2009, 9% of whom come from families who earn below 400% of the federal poverty level and receive our services at reduced or no cost. Our tutoring helps students overcome obstacles that stand in the way of their education by increasing confidence and understanding of subject matter, improving grades, and increasing scores on crucial tests such as high school exit exams and college entrance exams. The individualized program means that we achieve the greatest impact in the least amount of time.

**Line 29 Academic Support for Schools and Other Institutions.** AEP coordinated after school centers at East Oakland School of the Arts and the Castlemont Information and Technology School, where we also provided academic tutoring. We provided tutors to the BUILD Oakland afterschool program and we ran supervised study centers at the Bentley School and at Head Royce. The goals of these programs include helping students to raise and maintain grades, improve comprehension of subject matter, and increase

confidence and enjoyment in learning. Through these programs we reached approximately 725 students in 2009.

AEP provided standardized test preparation to students at the June Jordan School for Equity in San Francisco, Envision Academy in Oakland and other schools and to select groups of at risk students in cooperation with the Gooden Family Scholarship Fund and UC Berkeley's Educational Guidance Center. These programs target disadvantaged students and increase their likelihood of graduating from high school and/or attending college by improving their performance on standardized exams. These programs have improved the scores of over 100 students on the SAT, ACT or CAHSEE exams.

**Line 30 Community Reading Buddies.** We recruited over 100 junior and high school students to volunteer to spend two afternoons a week with a similar number of pre-k – 4<sup>th</sup> graders at Oakland Unified School District Childhood Development Centers. The primary focus of the eight week program is building language skills for children from predominantly non-English speaking families. The volunteers lead reading activities and literacy-based games while also serving as role models. At the same time, the volunteers learn from the children they work with, are provided with training in pedagogy and are exposed to the challenges and rewards of teaching.