2017-2018 Offerings

NEW!

Addressing the Needs of High-Skilled Immigrants and Refugees
For the first time, WIOA calls out the need to address the needs of immigrants and refugees with "high skills" – people who come to this country with post-secondary education and/or occupational training but need language and other supports to reclaim their careers. This workshop will introduce models and strategies for serving this population through adult education programs.

Civic Skills Matter
Being informed participants in a democracy is as important as being work-ready. This workshop invites discussion of why civic skills matter, examines the overlap between civic and work readiness skills, and shares approaches for developing those skills in the context of civic engagement.

Effective Communication Strategies: Developing Partnerships and Building Enrollment   The aim of this workshop is to develop a messaging strategy that fosters an understanding of the significant benefits adult education programs contribute to their community. Participants will strengthen the skills needed to identify and engage community partners, to customize their messaging to effectively communicate with specific partners, and to reflect on how messaging affects student recruitment and retention.

Promoting Life Skills, College, and Career Readiness for All ESOL Learners
This workshop introduces participants to the *Life Skills, College, and Career Readiness Guide* and engages them in envisioning how they can use it in their programs. We review the research that serves as the foundation for this Guide. We also discuss how the Guide aligns with the College and Career Readiness Standards. For each skill, real life competencies are identified in three domains—life skills, postsecondary education, and employment.

Workplace Education: Lessons from a Case Study
In this workshop, we will share our research designing effective workplace education programs, and will highlight our experience using the Massachusetts model for workplace education with one particular employer. Learn how we identified the employer partner, designed and carried out a needs assessment, implemented the program, and evaluated results. We will discuss the positive outcomes for both the employer and employees that resulted, and share the lessons we learned about the key elements and conditions for successful workplace partnerships and programs.

COMING! **Incorporating Digital Literacy into Classroom Instruction**

Contextualized instruction
Teaching Math with Socially Relevant Content
Have you ever heard this question from your math students: "What do I need to know this for?" This workshop will provide real-life applications of math skills – offering students opportunities to see how knowing math can actually serve you well in life, at work, and in community. Several lessons will be modeled – looking at percents and ratios, analyzing charts and graphs, and thinking critically about statistics. Participants will also have the opportunity to work in small groups to develop their own ideas for how to use these applications in the classroom.

Teaching ESOL with Socially Relevant Content
Relevance is a key driver of persistence. When you teach English language skills in the context of issues that matter to students, you increase their motivation to learn and to persist despite challenges. In this workshop, you will learn some tips for teaching multi-level texts that are accessible but also rich in complexity *and* helpful to students beyond the classroom! And you will leave with ready-to-use ideas for the classroom.

Using *The Change Agent* to Teach Writing
See how you can use *The Change Agent's* Call for Articles to help inspire students to write and submit their articles for publication. The process of writing on topics that matter can help students see themselves as writers, understand what it means to develop their voice, hone a cohesive and well-supported text, and build community in the classroom. This workshop will give you techniques for peer-to-peer editing, writing drafts, and dealing with discouragement and writer's block.
Note: *The Change Agent* publishes a new Call for Articles every August and February. This workshop is best done in early September or early March – to best take advantage of *The Change Agent's* publishing cycle. Writing deadlines are usually in early November or early May.

ESOL and Immigrant Integration
Second Language Acquisition: Bringing Theory into Practice
Starting with an introduction to key theories in second language acquisition, this workshop guides teachers in examining their beliefs about language learning and engages them in activities that support both explicit language instruction and the negotiation of meaning.

Adult Education's Role in Immigrant Integration
This workshop will focus on the role adult ESOL programs can play in advancing immigrant integration (civic, linguistic, and economic) through organizational networks that collaborate on a common aim. We will share examples of activities that were implemented in five networks participating in the national *Networks for Integrating New Americans* initiative, and consider local options for partnership.

Standards-based instruction
Using *The Change Agent* to Address the College and Career Readiness Standards (CCRS)
This workshop is about using relevant stories and texts to promote CCR skills such as read with understanding, make logical inferences, convey ideas in writing, write arguments to support claims, analyze multiple sources, observe critically, read charts and graphs, and interpret and analyze data. Whether you are teaching ESOL, ABE, GED, or college transitions, you will leave with lessons that students will find engaging and that will support them to achieve the standards laid out in the CCRS.

Planning for Formative Assessment of the CCR Standards
This workshop helps instructors apply the principles of formative assessment to the CCR English Language Arts (ELA) Standards. It focuses on what to look for to determine whether students can apply their learning to real tasks and how they might capture that evidence. Participants consider ways to include students in the development of assessment tools and in the use of assessment information.

Program improvement
Using the Adult Education Teacher Competencies as a Staff Development Tool
In this session, participants will review the Adult Education Teacher Competencies, examine what implementing them would look like in varied instructional settings, and consider how to use the results of the Competencies Self-Assessment to shape program-based PD.

Using Mentoring to Support New Instructors
This workshop shares the work of the national *Supporting Teacher Effectiveness in Adult Education* project, which used a mentoring approach to support instructors who are new to teaching or to a program. Participants will explore the model and tools and evaluate how it might be applied to their own program contexts.

Collaborative Leadership
Providing services that bridge students to their next steps requires the building of networks and collaborations. This workshop supports program administrators in developing and implementing collaborative leadership strategies. Topics include developing a collaborative culture, recruiting and mentoring staff, developing partnerships, and mobilizing community resources.

Career Pathways and Student Support
Develop a Career Interest Self-Assessment Tool
This session is geared towards instructors, career navigators, administrators - anyone engaged in planning, designing, or running a targeted career pathways programs. The presenter will share a career exploration and self-assessment tool that was developed for advisors recruiting students for IT pathways. Using this tool as a model, participants will generate ideas, questions, and content that can serve as foundation for a career interest self-assessment tool they can customize for their program's targeted career pathways.

Learning Outside the Classroom Counts
This workshop shares how experiential learning gained from work, volunteerism, training, and military experiences may translate into college-level credit. While the onus of implementation lies with post-secondary institutions, awareness of Prior Learning Assessment opportunities strengthens the bridge to college for eligible adult learners.

Mentoring for Student Success
This workshop session details the activities and outcomes of the student peer mentoring project, Adult College Engagement. The Mentoring Toolkit and its resources are described in detail and project replication ideas and strategies are discussed.

Mapping Your Financial Journey
This workshop focuses on the financial concerns of adult learners as the primary barrier to postsecondary education. Participants learn how to support learners as they do college planning and navigate through the financial aid system using *Mapping the Financial Journey*, a free NCTN publication.

Providing Comprehensive Student Supports: The Role of the Coach/Navigator/Advisor
Participants will consider the impact that an advisor, counselor, or coach - sometimes referred to as a Navigator - can have on student outcomes. We will identify and discuss the core functions, responsibilities, and competencies of someone in a navigator role and the types of services one might coordinate and/or provide to supplement academic instruction and promote college and career readiness. Topics may include advising approaches and styles, intake and assessment, strategies for identifying and engaging adult learners' aspirations, addressing barriers, career and education planning, and building networks of student supports.

Career Pathway Program Models, Best Practices and Tools
Are you thinking about designing a career-focused or career pathway program? Are you running a career pathway program now and want to learn more? This session is for program administrators, instructors, advisors who want to learn about the core elements, best practices, and resources of career-focused and career pathway programs.

College and Career Readiness - More than a Stand-Alone Class
This session is for program directors to consider ways to design a program-wide integrated approach to supporting college and career readiness throughout the entire adult education spectrum of services.