

Suggestions for Self-Study Professional Development

Note: Hours and certificates for the activities on this list are NOT provided through the Adult Learning Resource Center. Some activities have certificates that can be printed out, but others do not. Teachers should contact their program administrator to determine an appropriate number of hours and the means to demonstrating participation.



iLEARN

Courses on a variety of topics are available online through Illinois' iLEARN website. Some courses may require registration and/or an enrollment key to enter the course. Browse the course offerings at <http://excellenceinadulted.org/> (click PD at a Distance from the menu), then contact your adult education service center for more information.

ABE/GED

I. Reading for Adults

http://lincs.ed.gov/publications/reading_components

A free series of five online, self-paced LINCS courses is available for adult educators who would like to learn more about teaching the components of reading.

- Teaching Adults to Read: Alphabetics
- Teaching Adults to Read: Fluency
- Teaching Adults to Read: Vocabulary
- Teaching Adults to Read: Comprehension
- Assessment Strategies and Reading Profiles

II. GED Testing Service

<http://www.gedtestingservice.com/educators/professionaldevelopment>

Several resources for professional development on the GED® Test are offered on this site, including webinars and online courses.

III. GED® Test Info: Reasoning Through Language Arts

IV. <http://www.pbs.org/teacherline/catalog/courses/LEAD1135/>

This online professional development course introduces adult education teachers to the 2014 series GED® tests and the Reasoning through Language Arts section .

GED® Test Info: Mathematics

<http://www.pbs.org/teacherline/catalog/courses/LEAD1141/>

ESL

ELL-U (English Language Learner University)

<http://lincs.ed.gov/programs/ell-u/online-courses>

These five courses for ESL instructors are available online for independent self-study. Certificates can be printed out, with various numbers of hours for the different courses.

Examples of course titles:

- The Role of Culture in the Education of Adult English Language Learners
- Teaching ELLs who are Emergent Readers
- Second Language Acquisition: Myths, Beliefs, and What the Research Shows

ORGANIZATIONS THAT OFFER BOTH ESL AND ABE/GED COURSES

Calpro Virtual Workrooms

<https://www.calpro-online.org/VirtualWorkroom/default.asp>

- Virtual Workroom for Multilevel ESL Instructors
- Virtual Workroom for Workforce Readiness
- Virtual Workroom on Best Practices in ABE Reading Instruction

The Virtual Workrooms are free courses for independent use, each with multiple modules, videos, podcasts, downloadable resources, and more.

Proliteracy Education Network

<http://www.proliteracyednet.org/>

These free courses are for instructors in the following content areas:

- Reading, Writing
- Citizenship
- ESL
- Math and Numeracy
- Getting Started in Instruction

SPECIALIZED COURSES

I. Learning to Achieve

These courses are for those teachers who have students with learning disabilities or are interested in learning more about the field.

<http://lincs.ed.gov/programs/learningtoachieve/training#online>

- Learning Disabilities and Accommodations
- Learning Disabilities and English Language Learners
- Learning Disabilities and Neuroscience
- Professional's Guide to Educating Adults with Learning Disabilities

As well as courses, these three documents are available for download in PDF format from the *LINCS* website:

- [*Learning to Achieve: A Review of the Research Literature on Serving Adults with Learning Disabilities*](#)
- [*Learning to Achieve: A Professional's Guide to Educating Adults with Learning Disabilities*](#)
- [*Learning to Achieve: A Review of the Research Literature on Employment Experiences and Outcomes for Youth and Adults with Learning Disabilities*](#)

II. CAST (Center for Applied Special Technology) UDL (Universal Design) Online Modules

CAST has live and recorded webinars on Universal Design
<http://castprofessionallearning.org/free-udl-webinars/>

TEXT RESOURCES

I. Adult Learner Persistence

<http://www.nelrc.org/persist/index.html>

This is a study on reasons adults remain or leave adult education classes with recommendations for teachers.

II. CAELA Network Briefs

<http://www.cal.org/caelanetwork/resources/briefs.html>

“The CAELA Network provides information and resources focusing on high quality professional development for educators working with adult English language learners and makes research findings and evidence-based resources available to practitioners across the nation, who work with this population.” The briefs range from 3 to 8 pages and include research and classroom applications.

III. Promising Practices – National College Transition Network

With transition from ESL and ABE/GED to careers and post-secondary, this reading is especially appropriate for both teachers and administrators.

<http://www.collegetransition.org/promisingpractices.briefs.html>

Video

New American Horizons: The Adult ESL Training Video Project

<http://www.newamericanhorizons.org/>

Examples of the twelve videos (These may be purchased or viewed online for free)

- Lesson Planning Through Life Skills
- Building Literacy with Adult Emergent Readers
- Growing Vocabulary with Beginning Learners