

LINCS Resource Collections



Basic Skills



Program Management



Workforce Competitiveness

Welcome to LINCS Resource Collection News!

In this edition, we feature the [Workforce Competitiveness Collection](#), covering the topics of workforce education, English language acquisition, and technology. Each month Collections News features one of the three LINCS Resource Collections — Basic Skills, Program Management, and Workforce Competitiveness — and introduces research-based resources that you can use in your adult and family literacy programs and classrooms.

What's New in the Workforce Competitiveness Collection?

Workforce Education Collection

Adults with limited literacy face greater barriers than other adults when attempting to find sustainable employment. MPR Associates, Inc. and the Urban Institute produced [Partnering with Employers to Promote Job Advancement for Low-Skill Individuals](#), a resource that educators, policymakers, and employers should find useful in identifying effective research based strategies and program descriptions that illustrate how strategies have been implemented. Examples of incumbent worker training, career pathways, bridge programming, industry-based certification, and sectoral training are included in the report.

English Language Acquisition Collection

[Working with Adult English Language Learners with Limited Literacy: Research, Practice, and Professional Development](#) is a new resource that also focuses on the needs of adults with limited literacy, in this case, adult English language learners. According to the external reviewers, the brief, primarily of interest to administrators and policymakers, provides an excellent overview of research, practice, and professional development related to the topic. Further, the resource includes easy access to materials relevant to their interests, such as trainer information in the cited CAELA Guide for Adult ESL Trainers.

Technology Collection

Early in 2011, the Workforce Competitiveness Collection's Technology Content Experts worked with Regional Resource Center 1 staff and the New England PD Network to design and provide an extended professional development opportunity for New England adult educators interested in technology

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integration. As part of this opportunity, the group contracted with Susan Gaer (Santa Ana College of Continuing Education) to develop a webinar on [Using Cell Phones in Instruction](#). Although this resource has not been vetted, the webinar includes innovative ideas to use with adult learners — either in or out of the classroom — to enhance instruction.

How can I learn more about the Workforce Competitiveness Resource Collection?

The research articles, instructional materials, reports, and Web pages in the [Workforce Competitiveness Collection](#) will introduce you to strategies useful in building students' English language skills; provide information on integrating technology into your program; and help you develop effective, work-focused programs. Additional work-focused resources, organized by career clusters or occupational categories, are located in the [Career Pathways Instructional Materials Library](#). You also can subscribe to topical discussion lists to interact with experts, ask questions, and share ideas with colleagues. To subscribe, go to <http://lincs.ed.gov/lincs/discussions/discussions.html>.

Visit the Workforce Competitiveness Collection for additional resources. Contact these content experts for additional information about the resources, technical assistance, and professional development opportunities that are available at no cost: Workforce Education—Wendy McDowell, wlm12@psu.edu; English Language Acquisition—Blair Willson Toso, bwt121@psu.edu; and Technology—Tim Ponder, tponder@literacy.kent.edu, and Maria Marvin, mlm504@psu.edu.

What is LINCS?

LINCS is a project funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Vocational and Adult Education, providing online information and communication networks for adult and family literacy practitioners. *LINCS'* offerings include Discussion Lists, Regional Resource Centers, the Collections, and training opportunities. Learn more about *LINCS* on the Web site, <http://lincs.ed.gov>.

What will I find in the New LINCS Resource Collections?

The [LINCS Resource Collections](#), expanded in 2010, include items that have completed a rigorous internal and external review as well as those vetted through OVAE. Use these resources directly in the classroom or to guide development of customized professional development, programs, and classes.