

LINCS Resource Collections



Basic Skills



Program Management



Workforce Competitiveness

Welcome to LINCS Resource Collection News!

In this edition, we feature the [Workforce Competitiveness Collection](#), which covers 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?

Dr. Cristine Smith notes in her Summer 2010 article in the *Adult Basic Education and Literacy Journal* that research indicates, “that teacher quality is the strongest predictor of student achievement.” After considering this statement, explore the resources available on teacher training and professional development in the [English Language Acquisition Collection](#), including for example, [Professional Development for Experienced Teachers Working with Adult English Language Learners](#), [Adult ESL Teacher Credentialing and Certification](#), and [Reflective Practice in the Professional Development of Teachers of Adult English Language Learners](#) each focusing on a specific aspect of and offering evidence-based recommendations for supporting teacher quality.

Adult educators also can pursue professional learning less formally through communities of practice that meet to discuss specific issues and explore ways in which they can improve their practices and learners’ knowledge and skills. Examples of resources in the Technology and in the Workforce Education Collections can guide professional learning.

- The [Technology Collection](#) includes a research study, [Preparing Teachers to Integrate Technology for Literacy Education](#), which provides recommendations to inform development and implementation of strategies to improve the effective integration of technology in the classroom.
- A [Workforce Education Collection](#) resource, [ABE Career Connections: A Manual for Integrating Adult Basic Education into Career Pathways](#), was funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Vocational and Adult Education and describes the impact that sites experienced when they focused on career pathways for learners in their communities. Another resource, the [One Step Forward Initiative—Guide to Adult Education for Work](#), includes strate-

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gies and practices to transform adult education into workforce programs that are effective in transitioning adults to postsecondary experiences and work.

How can I learn more about the Workforce Competitiveness 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, can be found 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>.

For additional information about the resources, technical assistance, and professional development opportunities that are available at no cost, contact the Workforce Competitiveness Collection content experts: 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 three [LINCS Resource Collections](#), expanded in 2010, are comprised of items that have completed a rigorous internal and external review. Use these resources directly in the classroom or to guide development of customized programs and classes. You can find more information about the Resource Collections on the [LINCS Web site](#).