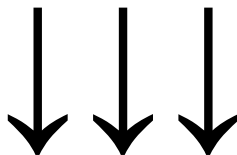The Adult Education and Literacy Services Office of the Maryland Department of Labor is excited to welcome you to our seventh Virtual Training Institute. We are so fortunate to be able to deliver to you these professional learning opportunities taught by experts in the field of Adult Education at no charge. You must register separately for each session you wish to attend. Click the "Register" link at the end of each session description to complete the Zoom webinar registration. You will then receive a confirmation and calendar invite via email directly from Zoom for that session.

Proof of Participation emails will be sent via Zoom for each webinar a participant has attended. Questions may be directed to Ahu Moser, Adult Education Program Specialist at ahu.moser@maryland.gov

<u>**Access to Session Information and Registration Links starting on Page 2**</u>

↓ ↓ ↓

Division of Workforce Development and Adult Learning
https://www.labor.maryland.gov/adultliteracy/aevti.shtml

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Monday, February 13th

10:00 AM- 10:30 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Presenter: Ramona Kunkel
Target audience: ABE
Keywords: Professional Development
What Happens After You Provide Professional Development?
Providing effective professional development can be challenging. We know all too well that we provide an amazing PD session, but that's where it ends. What could you do to improve your follow through on PD offerings? This VTI session will focus on a model used by a MD Department of Labor program specialist that demonstrates how you could get a better outcome. The session will include the step-by-step process used and what were the results.
Register

12:00 PM- 1:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Presenter:Joana C. Winningham
Target audience: ABE and ESL/ESOL
Keywords: Barrier Removal and Supports,Internationally-trained Professionals,Workforce Development
Skilled Immigrant Workforce Challenges and Innovative Solutions for Integration
According to the Migration Policy Institute, it's estimated that 2 million immigrants and refugees with a college degree are either unemployed or underemployed in the U.S. This internationally-trained workforce faces unique challenges to entering the U.S. workforce and moving from entry-level to middle- or high-skilled jobs that make use of their education and work experience. This session will provide an overview of these unique challenges and innovative programs working to support the integration of internationally-trained professionals into the U.S workforce.
Register

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1:30 PM- 2:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Presenter: Morgan Williams
Target audience: ABE and ESL/ESOL
Keywords:Adult Learning Theory, Barrier Removal, Distance Learning,Professional Development,Retention and Recruitment,Workforce Development
Personal Growth Leads to Student Growth
How can acknowledging and addressing personal growth translate to student growth? Professional development is great for professional settings; however, it is very difficult to achieve great professional results when your personal life is in shambles. How can we expect our students to focus on their academics when their personal lives are hectic, when we as educators struggle with that skill ourselves? Let's talk about, and find strategies for, organizing and managing our personal lives in order to fully provide the best version of our professional selves.

[**Register**](#)

4:00 PM- 5:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Presenters: Mary Scholl & Iván Suazo
Target audience: ABE, ESL/ESOL
Keywords: Adult Learning Theory/How Adults Learn,Curriculum Development,Distance Learning,Professional Development,Effective Instructional Strategies
Journeying Together: Holding Space as a Vision and a Tool for Infusing DEI (Diversity,Equity and Inclusion) in Our Lessons
How can we become facilitators of inclusive learning opportunities that open possibilities and potential for all students in our paths? In this session we'll explore the concept of "holding space" as a way of envisioning our role as teacher-facilitators and look at how holding space guides us to keep learning at the center, and learners as leaders of their own experiences, and inclusion and accessibility as an on-going aim for all we do.

[**Register**](#)

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4:00 PM- 4:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Presenter: Joseph Ploskonka
Target audience: ABE
Keywords: Mathematics
How to Use Prime Numbers to Solve Fraction Problems
Most students have difficulties finding a common denominator, and reducing a fraction to lowest terms. The approaches taught to solve these problems can be characterized as either "brute-force" or" heuristic". The approach presented uses prime factorization of a number to systematically solve both problems. Prime factorization of both the numerator and denominator readily display how to reduce the fraction to its lowest terms. Prime factorization of the denominators of an addition or subtraction fraction problem, and the application of a process the author calls the "bucket-process", readily produces the lowest common multiple (LCM) of the denominators. The presentation will give examples of prime factorization, and describe each method with examples.
Register

**** END OF MONDAY SESSIONS****

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Tuesday, February 14th
8:00 AM- 9:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Presenter: Jeanie Moon
Target audience: ABE
Keywords: Adult Learning Theory/How Adults Learn,Differentiation,Effective Instructional Strategies, Motivating Students to Persist, Mathematics
It's Your Students' Turn: Let Them Talk about How They Solved the Math Problem
We often hear students (or anyone) saying, "I'm not a math person." This presentation aims to provide an opportunity for math instructors to think about allocating class time for adult learners to talk more. More specifically, students will be encouraged to explain how they solved a (pre) algebra problem and what they think worked. This can help math learners accumulate experiences of understanding a concept, self-tracking their progress and strengthen persistence and a growth mindset. The role of the instructor in this activity is mainly to wisely allot class time and facilitate an effective whole-group discussion, where learners voluntarily articulate their ideas on solving a problem.
Register

9:00 AM- 10:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Presenter:Joana C.Winningham
Target audience: ABE and ESL/ESOL
Keywords: Barrier Removal Supports
Language Access: It is Essential
This session will cover why language access is important, by discussing relevant data about the limited English proficient (LEP) population in Maryland. As well as, discuss the Maryland Department of Labor's Divisions of Workforce Development and Adult Learning and Unemployment Insurance's Language Access Plan, why it was created and how it can help those working with the LEP population. Finally, provide additional resources and strategies that can aid those working with the LEP population.
Register

10:00 AM- 11:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Presenter: Racquel Francis
Target audience: ESL/ ESOL
Keywords:Effective Instructional Strategies
Show What You Know: Engaging PowerPoint Activities for Remote Classrooms
Although there are countless apps or websites available, instructors don't have time to fully explore and learn how to use them all. This presentation will review several PowerPoint based games and activities that can be used to perform engaging formative assessments in the remote learning environment when paired with Zoom's polling, chat and annotation features.
Register

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10:00 AM-11:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Presenters:Sarah Nagy & Shafiqullah Attayee
Target audience: ABE and ESL/ESOL
Keywords:Refugees/Refugee Settlement Process
Trauma Informed Care: Challenges and Considerations when Working with Refugees and Other Displaced Populations

Displaced populations have experienced trauma as a result of the conflicts in their home countries and prior to their arrival in the United States. From the sudden destruction of their homes and communities to the loss of loved ones and family members, newly arrived immigrants are often coping with enormous loss. Additionally, the process of starting over in a new country has its own set of employment-related challenges, including language barriers and different standards for qualification in a particular field. In this presentation, Sarah Nagy and Shafiqullah Attayee will explore the challenges of resettlement in the United States and how it affects an individual's wellness outcomes. They will pay particular attention to the sudden evacuations from Afghanistan and Ukraine and the specific challenges of those populations resettled to the United States.

Register

12:00 PM- 1:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Presenter: Laura Ostrowski
Target audience: ABE,ESL/ESOL
Keywords:Distance Learning, Digital Literacy
Making Technological Footprints: Overview & Applications of the Digital Literacy Framework Learning Modules

Upon viewing this webinar, participants can expect to readily identify the essential definitions associated with each element of the Digital Literacy Framework for Adult Learners. Participants will be able to recognize the core skills necessary for students to interface with digital tools. Finally, using the ideas presented in the learning modules, participants will design immersive activities using applications that foster transferability and digital collaboration within a variety of learning platforms and environments.

Register

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12:00 PM-1:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Presenter: Peg Gould
Target audience: ABE , ESL/ESOL
Keywords:Integrated Education and Training
Short-Term Credential Options: Examples from NJ

Noncredit workforce education has entered the adult education arena. Yet our adult education students 'just want a GED' or 'want to speak English'. What if it didn't have to be that way? What if the students persisted? What do you want them to leave your program prepared to do?Participants will hear specific information on credentials largely focused on the construction sector. Building collaborations with industry employers, offering a mandatory soft skills mini course, and work preparedness are integral components to getting students in, credentialed, and employed. This session will present a model of design and engagement that helps our students over the long haul, creating a pipeline to employment and lifelong learning.

Register

2:00 PM- 3:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Presenter: Marquita Johl
Target audience: ABE , ESL/ESOL
Keywords:Barrier Removal and Supports,Distance Learning,Digital Literacy,Effective Instructional Strategies, Techniques to support low-literacy students
Dynamic Digital Literacy:Using Google Apps for ESL & ABE Classrooms

Language barriers, limited digital literacy, and technological incompatibilities often limit ESL & ABE students from successfully using technology in the classroom. Google Slides, Docs, Sheets, and Forms, give teachers a cost effective, readily accessible way to engage students with individual and collaborative assignments. This workshop will show educators the practical ways of using Google apps in the classroom and how to create assignments.

Register

4:00 PM- 4:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Presenter: Tiffani Ross
Target audience: ABE, ESL/ESOL
Keywords: Adult Learning Theory/How Adults Learn
Adult Learning Principles in Action: How to Create Engaging Learning Experiences for Adult Learners

When teaching adults, it can be difficult to switch from a traditional " the teacher teaches and the students listen" model to one better suited for the learning needs and preferences of adult learners. During this workshop, we will explore Malcolm Knowles' Adult Learning Principles and examples of classroom practices and activities we can use to bring these principles to life to create more engaging learning experiences for adult learners.

Register
**** END OF TUESDAY SESSIONS****

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Wednesday, February 15th

1:00 PM- 1:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Presenters:Rhonda Davis & Jessie Thompson
Target audience: ABE
Keywords: Adult Learning Theory/How Adults Learn, Barrier Removal and Supports,Motivating Students to persist,Retention and Recruitment
Rubrics
Rubrics serve as a framework to guide student accountability for the success of course completion. The presenters will share information on the student rubrics that they have prepared at Harford Community College. The student rubrics assist in student investing in learning and completion of leveled course work. Each semester, students receive a level-specific rubric on the skills required for mastery of class content and academic achievement. In this 30-minute presentation, presenters will share completed rubrics with Maryland programs to adapt and adjust to specific needs.The presenters also hope to gain feedback from other programs on rubric usage.
Register

2:00 PM-3:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
VENDOR SESSION This session will not be recorded. A copy of the session agenda will be shared with participants with presenter contact info to request a copy of the presentation slides.
Presenter:Lynn Napolitano
Target audience: ABE,ESL/ESOL
Keywords: Adult Learning Theory/How Adults Learn, Integrated English Language and Civics
Engaging Students with Burlington In-Class Lessons
Educational resources have the power to spark a light in students. They can create meaningful connections, build understanding, and inspire students to reach higher. BurlingtonEnglish is a powerful teaching tool that can help teachers do all the above! Please join Lynn Napolitano as she models and highlights the key features and benefits of Burlington. In this session you will learn how to engage students with digital lessons, interactive activities, expansion exercises, and so much more!
Register

3:00 PM- 4:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Presenters:(Chen) Nan Allen & Molly Tidwell
Target audience:ESL/ESOL
Keywords:Adult Learning Theory/How Adults Learn,Barrier Removal and Supports
Integrated Education and Training (IET),Professional Development,Internationally-trained
Professionals,Workforce Development,Refugees/Refugee Resettlement Process
Refugee Economic Empowerment
This presentation will be focused on refugee and immigrant economic empowerment specifically highlighting career upskilling opportunities and resources for the refugee and immigrant community in Maryland. Audience members will also be given an in-depth understanding of the need for career upskilling programs for refugees and immigrants as well as how they may refer students to LIRS' career upskilling program for services including job placement, registration for career training programs, career case management, and career advising mentorship program. Presentation topics will include the following: barriers to employment for refugees (including the need to integrate ESOL programs within the workplace), barriers to career upskilling, the importance of community engagement, seeking low-cost to free training opportunities in Maryland, accessing ESOL programs, refugee and immigrant eligibility for WIOA programs, and finally case management. The presentation will include a brief look at Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services' career upskilling program called the New American City program. Lastly, LIRS staff will be sure to provide suggestions for how audience members can partner with our mission of advocating for refugee and immigrant integration in Maryland.
Register

4:00 PM- 5:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Presenter: Debra Golden
Target audience: ESL/ESOL
Keywords: Adult Learning Theory/How Adults Learn, Barrier Removal and Supports,Curriculum Development, Effective Instructional Strategies
The Psychology of Teaching Adult ESL Students
Understanding the psychology of teaching ESL students takes into account their cultural background and their desire to fit in while not losing their heritage. Teachers have the opportunity to enhance the learning experience for ESL students when they keep in mind students' background, and culture. Join Prof. Golden in her session to apply emotional intelligence skills and to be culturally aware of students' backgrounds.
Register

**** END OF WEDNESDAY SESSIONS****

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Thursday,February 16th

09:00 AM-10:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Presenters: Melissa Rea & Juan Perez
Target audience: ABE
Keywords:Barrier Removal and Supports,Motivating Students to persist,Retention and Recruitment
Where to Next? How to Support Learners' Next Moves through Student Advising
Research indicates that when learners engage with a school or program beyond the classroom setting through an advisor-type relationship, program retention improves, and students are more likely to reach their goals. As such, student advising services provide the necessary support for students to bring their dreams to fruition. Come learn from our 6+ years' experience doing this how a student advising program can help your students reach their long-term goals.

Register

10:00 AM- 12:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Presenter: Kristine Kelly
Target audience: For instructors teaching ESL Level 5 through ABE Level 6
Keywords: Effective Teaching Strategies, Curriculum Development
Taking Students on a Deep Dive into Texts
What are some key questions we can ask ourselves when planning instruction? How can text sets help us to build student knowledge around an essential question? What are some effective pre-, during and post-ELA tasks to support students in gathering evidence and engage them into diving deep into a variety of texts? Let's work with these questions, try out some literacy activities and reflect on how they could be incorporated into different levels and instructional contexts.

Register

11:00 AM- 12:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Presenter: Shauna Egan
Target audience: All Instructors
Keywords:Effective Instructional Strategies, Distance Learning, Differentiation
Tips for Managing Instructional Time and Pacing Your Lessons
Does a perfectly timed lesson exist? Lesson pacing can be one of the most challenging aspects of instruction. This presentation will include an overview of practical tips to improve lesson timing and sequencing of activities. Many of the ideas can be implemented immediately. While not every lesson can be timed to the minute, this presentation aims to increase instructor confidence and allow for increased responsiveness and flexibility in the classroom.

Register

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1:00 PM- 2:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Panel Session
Target audience: ABE
Keywords:Motivating Students to Persist,High School Equivalency
Moderator: Laura Ostrowski
Panelists:Patricia Meszaros, Toya Ramirez, Rita Foley, Rosa Piño Cruz, Jovita Vas
NEDP® 360: A Cross-Disciplinary Roundtable Discussion of NEDP® by Maryland Adult Education Professionals

Emerging in Maryland in 1979, the National External Diploma Program® (NEDP) today remains an essential option for adults pursuing Maryland High School Diplomas. Greater flexibility,contextualized applications, and barrier removal due to high-stakes testing – all describe benefits of NEDP. NEDP's success as an integral diploma pathway depends on the efforts of many coordinated components and inter-connected roles within adult education programs. During this webinar, we converse with program staff and leaders who share the crucial ways in which, individually, each contributes to holistically delivering on program operations, public awareness, and goal achievement.

Register

4:00 PM- 4:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Presenter: Debra Golden
Target audience,ESL/ESOL
Keywords: Adult Learning Theory/How Adults Learn, Barrier Removal and Supports,Curriculum Development, Effective Instructional Strategies
Time Management: Productivity vs Activity

Consider the last time that you were " busy". The day flew by and when the clock struck 5 pm, you felt like you had accomplished nothing.Understanding the difference between being productive and being busy with activities will allow you to be more active. You can learn to eliminate activities that may make you feel like you were productive but you were not. In this short presentation,participants will learn how to be more efficient during your work hours and at home.

Register

**** END OF ALL VTI SESSIONS****