

Follow-up Discussion

Professional Development Monthly Advisor and Planner (PDMAP)

College and Career Readiness: Program-Level Strategies

January 2014

Discussion Questions:

1. The Zafft and Kallenbach report describes five ABE transition program models. Which model most closely matches your adult education program? Which other program models, if any, caught your interest as a future possibility for your program?
2. Which of the 17 promising practices described in the *Promising Practices for Transitioning* article do you believe your adult ed program could implement?
3. How do recruitment and orientation processes at your program include information for transitioning to PSE or career training?
4. The article *To Ensure America's Future* notes the lack of alignment between the curricula of adult education programs and postsecondary education (PSE) institutions. This disconnect makes it difficult for students to move directly from adult ed to PSE. How familiar are you with curricula at your local PSE institution? What collaborations, if any, have your adult ed program and local PSE institution engaged in to align curricula? What would it take to make such collaborations happen?
5. Several articles described college-awareness/readiness curricula ranging from the four 90-minute lessons from Holyoke Community College to the 9-day (3-week) Backpacks to Briefcases program in Lexington, NC to the 14-week GED Bridge program at LaGuardia Community College in NY. What role is your adult education program taking, if any, to help adult learners build their college knowledge and become college-ready?
6. Several articles describe non-academic supports such as counseling, creating social relationships, and clarifying learner aspirations. What is happening now or has happened in the past at your adult ed program regarding non-academic supports for helping adult learners transition to PSE or training?
7. What experience do staff members at your program and your ASE learners have with COMPASS and ACCUPLACER assessments? Have your learners ever taken a college placement exam while also studying for the GED? If so, what role did your adult ed program take in facilitating that?
8. If your adult ed program is not offering transition counseling services, what do you know about such services at your nearby PSE institution? How did you learn about those services?