

Transitions for Intermediate Level Adult Education Students

The Critical Link Between Education and Careers



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Why Are They Leaving?

- ❑ Family responsibilities
- ❑ To get a job
- ❑ Achieved their education goal
- ❑ Do not have a goal for the future
- ❑ Changes in immigration laws
- ❑ ???

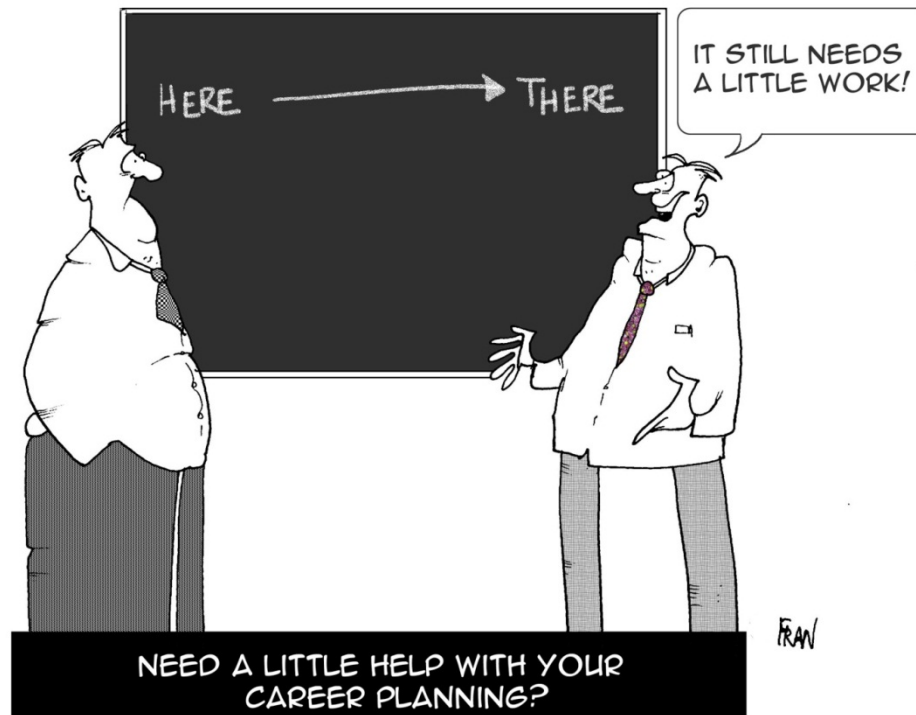
Helping Students Understand Critical Link

- Goal Setting
- Career Exploration
- Career Planning

Goals: Education and Career

- Are you connecting the two?
- How does instruction need to change to integrate goal setting, career exploration and career planning?

Career and Educational Planning



Contextualized Basic Skills Instruction

- Career Pathway Basic Skills Curriculum
- EBRI
- Integrated Technology Skills
- Career Awareness/Career Development

Career Pathway Basic Skills Curriculum

- https://www.iccb.org/adult_ed/?page_id=853
- Designed for ABE levels 5.0-7.0 and ESL 5 & 6
- Stand alone or integrated format
- Modules: Career Awareness, Contextualized Lit/Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies
- Outcomes/Standards, Content, Activities/Resources, Assessment

EBRI

- Strategies used with appropriate level readings from various Career Pathways
- Vocabulary from the World of Work

Integrated Technology Skills

- Illinois Adult Education Technology Checklist
- IL WorkNet (career exploration, etc.)
<https://www.illinoisworknet.com/>
- Career Project (resumes, cover letters, etc.)
- Online Technology Related Resources for Adult Educators
<http://www.excellenceinadulthood.com/resources/online-technology-related-resources-for-adult-educators/>

Career Awareness/Career Development

- ❑ Academic/Career Plans
- ❑ Career awareness activities
- ❑ IL Essential Employability Skills
- ❑ Job Readiness Skills
- ❑ Introduction to Adult Education Bridge/Pre-IET, ICAPS/IET, and training opportunities
- ❑ Introduction to community college life

Knowing Self

- ❑ Skills and abilities
- ❑ What do I enjoy doing?
- ❑ Work alone or in groups
- ❑ Work with my hands/ sitting down/outdoors/indoors
- ❑ How long can I commit to training
- ❑ Motivation...persistence

Goals

- ❑ Short term
- ❑ 2-5 years
- ❑ Long term
- ❑ What is realistic/challenging but obtainable?
- ❑ How will these goals benefit me?
- ❑ What will get in my way?

Requirements for the career sought

- Certification
- High School Equivalency
- Physical requirements
- Licensure needs - Past record
- Reading /writing level
- Math skills

Education/training needed

- ❑ Program of study
- ❑ Certification
- ❑ Length of time
- ❑ Basic skills instruction
- ❑ Persistence – motivation
- ❑ Future training

Timeline

- ❑ How long will this education/training take vs. how long student can afford to commit
- ❑ Finances
- ❑ Motivation
- ❑ Planning

Room for adjustment

- ❑ Life happens
- ❑ Adjustment of goals does not mean giving up!
- ❑ The future comes one day at a time!
- ❑ “I’m a slow walker, but I never walk back.”



Abraham Lincoln

Career Plans

Career/Future Plan

Your Qualities

Like working with my hands, solving problems, making things, working alone

Education Completed

11th grade, vocational course in auto body

Employment Experience

Taco Bell – 3 years
Joe's Garage – 6 months – work there now

Personal Preferences

Working alone, being challenged, competitive

Values

Making better world for my family

Obstacles/How I Will Overcome

No high school diploma & hate school/
Get in new program where I learn machinist skills while I learn reading and math

My Goals:

Short Term

Work – Get CNC certificate so I can get a CNC machinist job
Get GED

Home – learn enough to help my kids with homework

2-5 Years

Work – Get CNC programmer certificate – work as programmer

Home – move my family to a better location to live

More than 5 Years

Work – Get an AA degree – be a tool designer - start my own business

Home – be an inspiration to my kids

Current Competencies, Skills, Knowledge, Experience

Familiar with tools and working with machines
Willingness and motivation to learn and succeed
Analytical – good problem solver – willing to ask questions
Good basic math skills when used in applied situations

Development Needs and Skills Required for Future Job

CNC Certificate
GED
Basic skills for machinist job
Improved reading and math skills

Action Plan

Enroll in accelerated program at community college
Work part-time so I can give full effort to new program
Sell my car so I can afford to work part-time
Find

Transition/Support Services

- Child care
- Transportation
- Balancing education/career/family
- College financial aid
- Scheduling
- Mentoring
- Student support groups/clubs
- Career counseling
- Academic advising

Benefits for Low-Skilled Adults

- Focusing on the future will aid in retention
- Instruction has enhanced application for deeper understanding and increased interest level
- Counseling to help with career and educational planning and overcoming barriers to success
- Exposure to a broad range of jobs, careers, and educational opportunities

Benefits (cont.)

- Facilitated contacts and connections to the labor market, employers, and specific jobs
- Access to postsecondary occupational education
- Higher earning potential

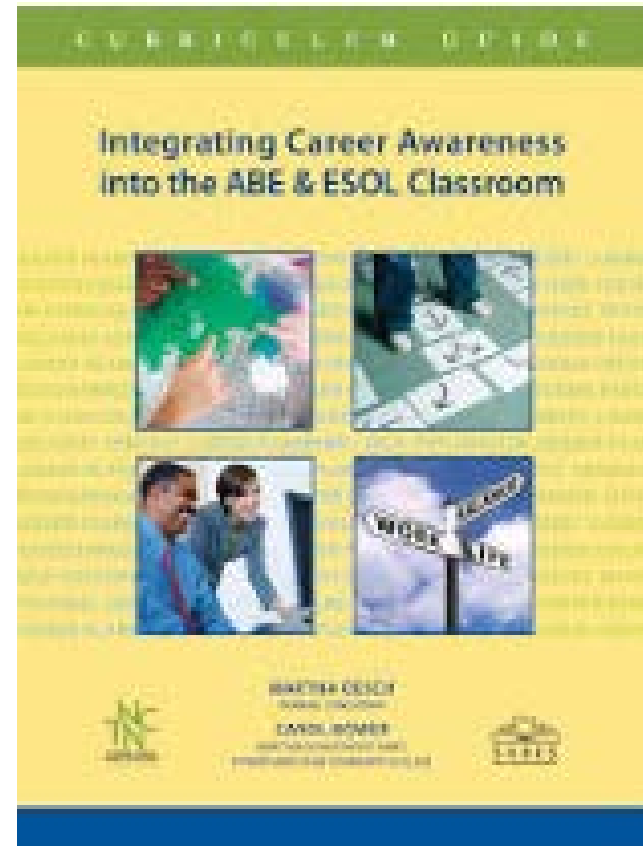
Additional Resources

- NCTN Integrating Career Awareness Curriculum
- Illinois Essential Employability Skills Framework and Self-Assessment
- NC-NET Employability Skills Resource Toolkit

Resources for Integrating Career Awareness

- NCTN Integrating Career Awareness Curriculum

<http://www.collegetransition.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/ICA-curriculumguide.pdf>



Resources for Integrating Career Awareness

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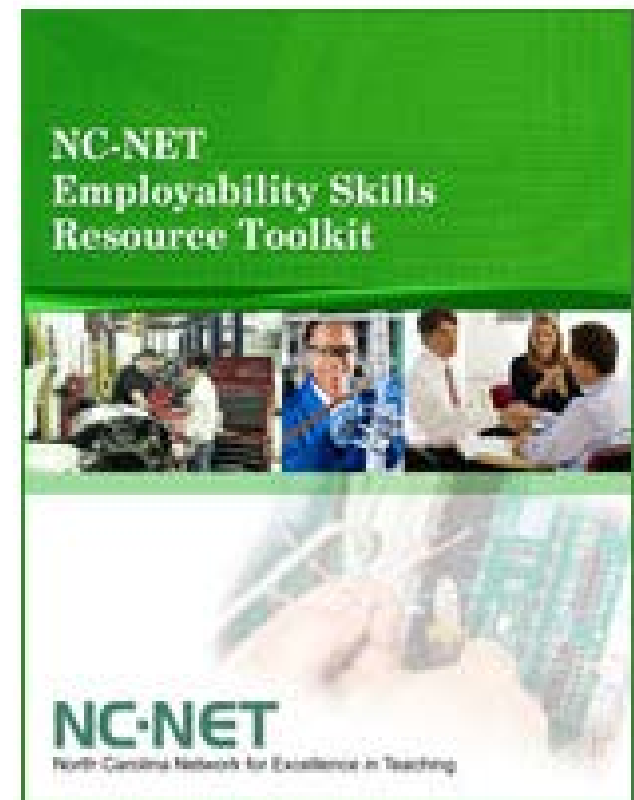


<https://icsps.illinoisstate.edu/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/Essential-Employability-Skills-Framework-Final-Printed-Version.pdf>

Resources for Integrating Career Awareness

- NC-NET Employability Skills Resource Toolkit

<http://www.nc-net.info/employability.php>



Professional Development Opportunities

Excellence in Adult Education PD Portal

Illinois Adult Education: What You Need to Know

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