

Video Transcript for Exploring the ESL Instructional Staff Professional Pathway

1 This brief video will introduce you to the ESL Instructional Staff Professional Pathway. You'll learn how it was developed and what the requirements are for each credential on the pathway.

2 In FY17, the Illinois Community College Board created the instructional staff professional pathways. Creation of the professional pathways was driven by two initiatives: the Illinois adult education advisory council's recommendations, and OCTAE's College & Career Readiness/Standards in Action Project, in which Illinois participated. The 5 year sustainability plan required as part of this project helped shape the final version of the pathways. Pathways currently exist for ABE/ASE, English as a Second Language, Transitions, and Special Learning Needs. Training for the ABE/ASE pathway is offered through the Central Illinois Adult Education Service Center. Training for the ESL pathway is provided by the Adult Learning Resource Center. Both the Transitions and Special Learning Needs pathways are offered through the Southern Illinois Professional Development Center.

3 These professional pathways indicate the skills and knowledge required for an adult education instructor to earn a credential as a Standards-Proficient Instructor, Specialist, and Master Teacher.

The pathways are part of an effort to professionalize the adult education field. The pathways are also part of a wider initiative to ensure all Illinois adult education instructors are familiar with the College and Career Readiness Standards and are actively implementing them in the classroom.

4 This graphic shows how each pathway operates in relation to the others. Starting from the left with Preferred Instructor, an instructor would enter the Standards Proficient Instructor section in either the ABE/ASE category or ESL. They would then have the option to continue on with the Specialist credential and the Master Teacher credential.

If you picture this as a sideways pyramid, the blue section – the base – would be the largest. The goal is for all instructors in the state to eventually become Standards Proficient Instructors. The next level up the pyramid would be the Specialist category where there would be fewer instructors achieving this credential. And the top of the pyramid would be the Master Teacher credential, where the fewest instructors would be.

5 You may want to refer to a printed copy of the ESL pathway during the rest of this video. Please note the section at the top of the pathway marked in yellow. Movement from one level to the next on the pathway is contingent on meeting the minimum requirements of the previous column. Therefore everything accumulates as one navigates the pathway to the right.

6 Please direct your attention to the Preferred Instructor column. The Preferred Instructor requirements are the minimum criteria necessary to begin the pathway.

An instructor who wants to participate in this pathway must begin with an application process. Their administrator must give permission for them to participate, as well as sign off on proficiency in English language and technology. The applicant provides their administrator with verification of professional development in ESL and proof of having had training or coursework in ESL methodology. If an ESL methodology course has not already been taken as part of your educational process, there are two free courses available through LINCS that will enable you to meet this requirement.

7 After all the qualifications for Preferred Instructor have been met, a teacher may choose to move to the next step on the pathway, Standards Proficient Instructor. A key component of the Standards Proficient Instructor Credential is the required professional development.

The yellow box highlights the content of ESL Standards Proficient Instructor Training, which is offered by the Adult Learning Resource Center. The training is comprised of an online course to provide a foundational understanding of the Illinois ESL Content Standards, followed by in-person training that focuses on two College and Career Readiness innovations.

8 The ESL Standards Proficient Instructor credential requires completion of the full training, which includes an online course, two days of in-person training, an interim assignment, and a culminating assignment. Participants earn 20 hours of professional development.

9 The ESL Standards Proficient Instructor Training uses a flipped hybrid model of professional development. The online prerequisite course introduces important concepts that are explored in more depth during the in-person workshops and assignments. Completing the online course before attending face-to-face training prepares participants to dive more deeply into these concepts during the in-person workshops. The online prerequisite course contains the five modules listed on this slide. It takes approximately 6 hours to complete and must be finished before the first day of in-person training.

10 If an ESL Standards Proficient Instructor chooses to continue advancing on the pathway, the next step is the ESL Specialist. Training for the ESL Specialist credential will be available from the Adult Learning Resource Center in Spring 2019.

11 Please note the credential requirements for ESL Specialist that are listed on pages 1 and 2 of the ESL Pathway. These are the additional knowledge and skills required for an instructor to obtain this credential.

12 In the final column, you'll see the skills and knowledge for an ESL Master Teacher. A Master Teacher will demonstrate each of these bulleted items, as well as participate in activities and tasks that relate to their professional work and directly contribute to the success of their program. Training for ESL Master Teacher credentialing is anticipated for 2020.

13 So why is this ESL Instructional Staff Professional Pathway important to you? First, it supports the statewide initiative to train adult educators in standards-based instruction. Second, it assists individual teachers and programs as they analyze and plan their professional development. Third, it encourages implementation of teaching tools and strategies that will improve your student outcomes.

14 If you have any questions or are interested in beginning your journey on this professional pathway, please talk to your program administrator. Also, if you need clarification or want more information on the information in this video, please contact Laurie Martin at the Adult Learning Resource Center, lmartin@cntrmail.org, 224-366-8631.