



**U.S. Department of Education
Office of Vocational and Adult Education
Adult Basic and Literacy Education
Division of Adult Education and Literacy**

FACT SHEET SERIES

Strengthening Adult Reading Instructional Practices

Background

The U.S. Department of Education's Office of Vocational and Adult Education (OVAE), has made significant investments in the Student Achievement in Reading (STAR) project in order to help States support the implementation of evidence-based reading instruction in adult education classrooms. Following the piloting of a draft teachers' toolkit in six States, a revised, high tech version of the STAR toolkit, training and technical assistance has been made available to States. OVAE now seeks to expand the evidence base in adult reading instruction by documenting the impact of STAR on student learning.

Overview

OVAE, in collaboration with JBL Associates and Abt Associates, is collecting and analyzing data to document the impact of STAR instructional strategies on intermediate adult basic education (ABE) learners. A technical work group (TWG) has been established to guide data collection and analysis. The quasi-experimental design study is comparing the learning gains of 180 intermediate ABE learners taught by STAR-trained teachers in several different States to 180 intermediate ABE learners taught by teachers in adult education classrooms across the United States who were not trained on STAR instructional strategies. In order to collect these data, all documents instruments that will be used have been submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for approval.

In addition to empirical evidence on the impact of STAR instructional strategies for intermediate ABE learners, a final report is expected to provide a data-based description of the continuum of high fidelity implementation of STAR instructional strategies by ABE teachers. The project period runs from October 2007 to December 2010.

Project Milestones

- Analyzed background information on STAR training in states , January 2008
- Convened TWG to discuss data collection techniques, February 2008
- Obtained OMB approval for data collection plan, October 2008
- Interviewed and selected high-implementing STAR teachers, March 2009
- Collect data, September 2009 through June 2010
- Complete data analysis and write report, December 2010

Outcomes and Products

- A final report that describes teachers' high fidelity implementation of STAR instructional strategies and documents the impact of the STAR instructional strategies on student learning.

Contact

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