

## Improving Adult English Language Instruction

### Background

OVAE has historically responded to the need to improve the adult English Language instructional workforce through its initiatives, such as ELL-U, LINCS, TELL, CAELA Network, Teacher Effectiveness, Immigrant Integration, and its EL/Civics formula grant program. Through these efforts, OVAE has helped states to better address the diverse challenges adults face when learning English, has helped the field identify what teachers of adult ELLs need to know, and has developed a collection of effective professional development resources. This three-year initiative will build on, and extend, OVAE's previous investments to improve the knowledge, skills and abilities of teachers working with adult ELLs by providing collaborative, evidence-based, and technology-enhanced professional development opportunities.

OVAE, through a contract with the American Institutes for Research (AIR), will enhance previous OVAE efforts by compiling, revising and increasing awareness of resources from across previous key initiatives related to adult ELLs. Secondly, this initiative will encourage innovative uses of these resources by and with exemplary classroom teachers by establishing a Teacher User Group that will provide expert reviews of ESL-focused Open Education Resources (OERs). Finally, this initiative will support states' efforts toward improving adult ELL teacher effectiveness by infusing OVAE-sponsored resources into state teacher training initiatives. In so doing, this investment will help states to increase capacity to prepare teachers to meet the needs of adult ELLs and to help all ELLs achieve the educational outcomes that will lead to academic and career success. The project period is September 2013 to September 2016.

### Project Milestones

- Identify contemporary trends and issues that will serve as a theoretical lens for resource development.
- Review existing resources to update, adapt and/or revise.
- Design a plan for updating, adapting and revising resources.
- Establish a Teacher User Group and begin reviewing ESL-focused OERs.
- Design an outreach and dissemination plan, so that products are disseminated throughout field.
- Design a plan for the delivery of technical assistance to states.
- Recruit, engage, and select states to receive technical assistance.

### Outcomes and Products

- Nine professional development resources, updated, adapted and/or revised.
- At least 60 reviews of OERs to be shared through OER Commons.
- Final outreach and dissemination plan.
- Provision of technical assistance that supports states' teacher training initiatives, that facilitates the translation of teacher education research into evidence-based professional development, and that enriches States' efforts by making use of OVAE's extensive resources.
- Summary of technical assistance received by each participating state.

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