



**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**

---

## **National Diffusion of the Standards-in-Action Innovations**

### **Background**

In recent years, many states have adopted adult education standards to guide educators in providing effective instruction to students. For standards-based reforms to take hold in adult education programs, however, instructors must become full and active partners in transforming their classrooms for the twenty-first century. The Standards-in-Action (SIA) innovations give adult educators at all levels the methods and materials they need to take their state standards off the shelf and put them to use for students—literally making them *standards in action*.

Directed at the crucial intersection where standards meet classroom instruction, the innovations build on past efforts by the Office of Vocational and Adult Education (OVAE) to promote state-level institutionalization of adult education standards. OVAE's efforts began in 2003. The SIA innovations were developed in collaboration with eight pilot states committed to standards-based education—KS, LA, MD, MA, OK, RI, TX, and VA. The process to develop, pilot and finalize the SIA innovations lasted from 2006–2009. This new project, as well as the completion of the SIA innovations, represents OVAE's readiness to roll out the SIA innovations nationally.

### **Overview**

- Seven states—AR, GA, KS, KY, MT, NV, and VT—are participating in this project to learn how to implement the SIA innovations in their states. Participants have committed to implementing all four SIA innovations and to conducting local SIA professional development activities in the 18 local programs serving as implementation sites. States and programs are receiving assistance to develop and carry out implementation plans, and to learn how to scale up and sustain use of the SIA innovations after the life of this project. MPR Associates, Inc., through a contract with OVAE, manages the National Diffusion of the Standards-in-Action project, and oversaw the development of the SIA innovations, located at: (<http://www.adultedcontentstandards.ed.gov/standardsInAction.asp>).

### **Project Milestones**

- Seven participant states selected, January 2010
- Four national workshops and six Webinars conducted, February 2010-September 2011

### **Outcomes and Products**

- Implementation of the SIA innovations and development of plans to scale up and sustain the SIA innovations in seven states

### **Contact**

Ronna Spacone [Ronna.Spacone@ed.gov](mailto:Ronna.Spacone@ed.gov)