



Implementing State-Adopted Challenging Content Standards

Background

For over a decade, the Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education (OCTAE) has provided leadership and support to states and programs to promote standards-based educational reforms. Using standards has been proven to increase clarity of expectations, instruction, and outcomes for instructors and students alike. Yet the key to those improvements taking hold is increasing the capacity of program staff to effectively implement high-quality standards across its organization or institution. This project is designed to assist OCTAE in the next stage of its efforts to strengthen the capacity of adult educators to implement challenging academic content standards. It will extend OCTAE's previous work into new and exciting realms to deliver professional development and instructional supports for implementing content standards sustainably and at scale.

Overview

This project supports the development of educational programs to better prepare adult students for postsecondary and career success through the implementation of standards. It will provide necessary supports to help instructors teach state standards and to help administrators prepare educators for higher-level academic standards. Implementing State-Adopted Challenging Content Standards will produce multi-leveled training and technical assistance to serve the needs and interests of all states—regardless of where they are in the standards-implementation process.

Susan Pimentel and StandardsWork Inc. will conduct *Implementing State-Adopted Challenging Content Standards*, on behalf of OCTAE, until September 2017.

Project Milestones

- Establish a cadre of national trainers and experts.
- Develop and deliver six national foundational-level training institutes.
- Develop and deliver advanced-level, targeted training and technical assistance for 12 states.
- Assemble online foundational and advanced-level professional development resources.

Outcomes and Products

- Fourteen professional development units—seven in English Language Arts/Literacy and seven in mathematics—designed to shape the approach educators take to implement high-quality content standards.

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