



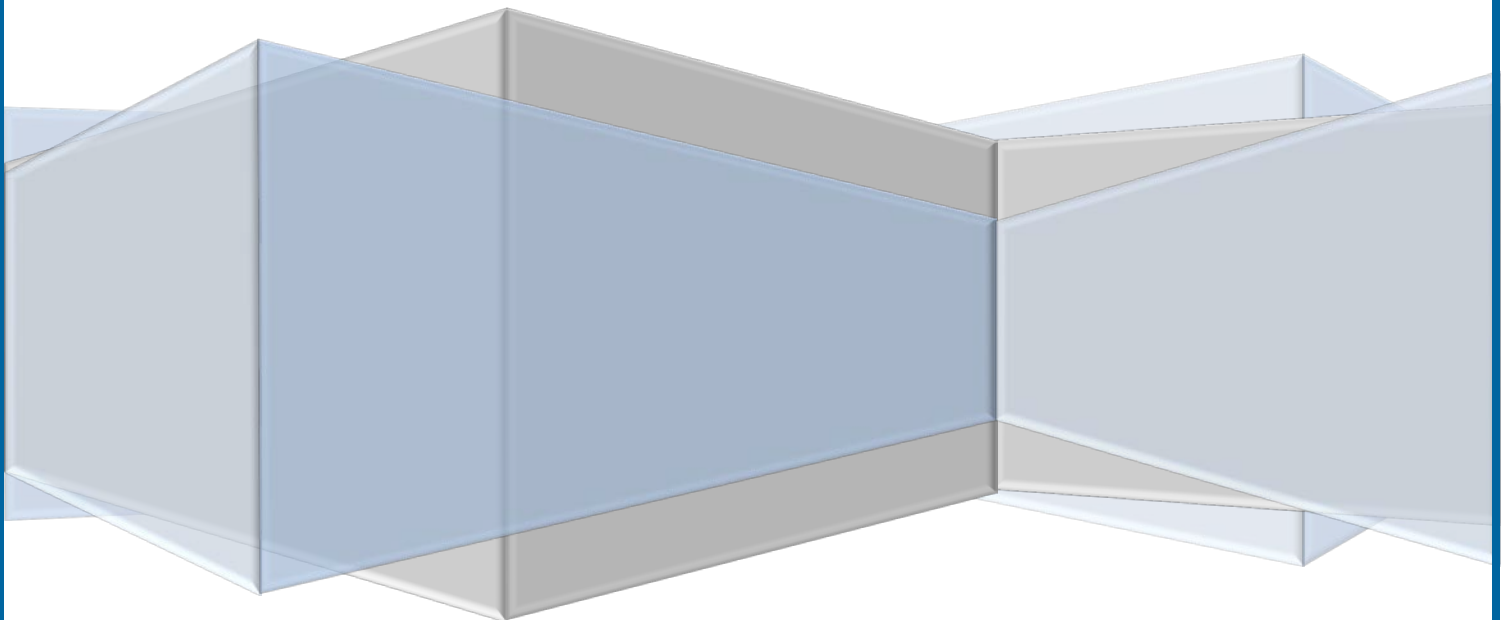
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# FY 2019 ADULT EDUCATION AND LITERACY

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## **REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY**



**ILLINOIS  
COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE BOARD  
FY2019  
ADULT EDUCATION  
AND LITERACY  
ANNUAL REPORT**

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## ICCB'S PROMISE FOR ILLINOIS ADULT EDUCATION

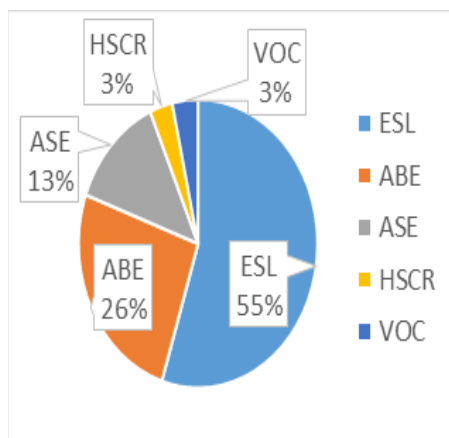
The Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) commits to maintaining statewide partnerships to integrate education, workforce, and economic development resources to create learning opportunities for adult learners that are aligned with key state-driven plans such as the Illinois Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Unified Plan, the ICCB's Workforce Education Strategic Plan, the Report of the Higher Education Commission on the Future of the Workforce, the Illinois Postsecondary Workforce Readiness Act, the Governor's Executive Order #3, Perkins V law, as well as other statewide initiatives. The outcome of Adult Education is to ensure adults have access to high quality literacy instruction, workforce preparation, and occupational training to enter in career pathways, obtain a sustainable wage, and meet the regional and local labor market need in Illinois. Illinois Adult Education has a rich history of providing services that assist adults in improving their skills, achieving their goals, and transitioning to further education and employment. In order to support the success of learners, the ICCB has collaborated with many state level partners who work toward the same goals: providing for the educational and training needs of all learners and increasing the number of residents with high-quality postsecondary degrees and industry recognized credentials.

### Purpose of Adult Education

The purpose of the federal Adult Education and Literacy Act (AELA), Title II of the Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA) of 2014, is to create a partnership among the Federal government, states and local communities to provide adult education and literacy services to individuals who are at least 16 years of age, who are not enrolled or required to be enrolled in secondary school under state law, who are basic skills deficient, who do not have a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent, who have not achieved an equivalent level of education, or who are English language learners. The most recent data for Illinois residents indicate the following:

- Over 1.3 million of Illinois' 12.7 million adults have less than 12 grades of formal education. Included in this number are 415,915 adults with less than a 9th grade education.<sup>(1)</sup>
- Approximately 2.8 million Illinois residents speak a language other than English as the primary language in their homes. English literacy skills for entry and advancement in the labor force are needed by many of these residents.<sup>(1)</sup>
- More than 311,384 immigrants are currently residing in Illinois. English literacy and civics education provides individuals with a pathway to citizenship, improved education, and employment.<sup>(1)</sup>

### Students served in Adult Education and Literacy in FY19



Instruction Type	Students	Units <sup>2</sup>
English as a Second Language (ESL)	36,074	357,952
Adult Basic Education (ABE)	16,818	149,225
Adult Secondary Education (ASE)	8,489	65,949
High School Credit (HSCR)	2,029	41,455
Vocational (VOC)	2,291	11,067
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>59,769</b>	<b>625,648</b>

#### Federal Performance

Between Program Year 2013 and 2019, Illinois has raised its overall performance in education gains by 12% (from 33% to 45%).

#### Early School Leaver Program

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census, Index of Need, 2019

<sup>2</sup> One unit of instruction equals 15 hours of enrollment

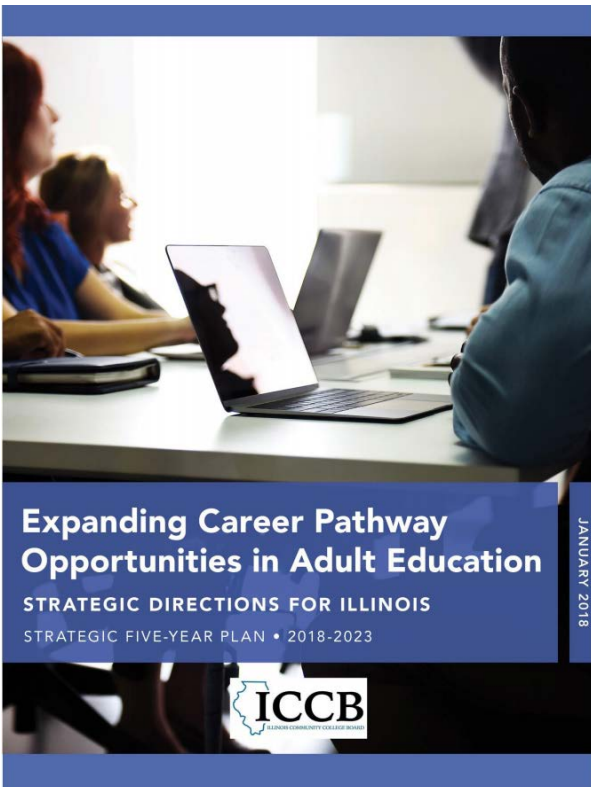
The Early School Leaver Transition Program (ESLTP) is designed for out-of-school youth between the ages of 16 and 24. The program is specifically aimed at helping at-risk students become reoriented and motivated to complete their education by allowing students to participate in adult education instruction as well as career and workforce training activities. The overarching goal of the ESLTP is to assist students in achieving high school completion or a High School Equivalency credential as the basis for entry into postsecondary education/training and meaningful employment. There are currently eight ESLTP sites across the state of Illinois serving approximately 400 students annually.

### Workforce Preparation

The ICCB continues to support the development and expansion of Integrated Education and Training (IET) programs through the Integrated Career and Academic Preparation System (ICAPS) as well as through Bridge programs. The programs are designed to connect the adult literacy instruction with training leading to industry-recognized credentials and sustainable employment. The Illinois adult education system remains committed to assisting low-skilled adults with enhancing academic and employability skills to transition into high demand workforce occupations. Technical assistance was provided to ensure programs have the support to scale IET programs. The table below indicates the diversity of IET and Bridge programs across Illinois.

<i>ICAPS/IET Programs</i>		<i>Bridge Programs</i>	
Health Sciences	14	Health Sciences	12
Manufacturing	18	Education and Training	1
Information Technology	7	Manufacturing	14
Transportation, Distribution, & Logistics	5	Transportation, Distribution, & Logistics	6
Business Management & Administration	7	Hospitality & Tourism	3
Architecture & Construction	1	Information Technology	3
		Business Management & Administration	1

### Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Title II—Adult Education Activities



The ICCB is the state-level entity responsible for Title II, is a member of the state Illinois Workforce Innovation Board (IWIB), and is represented on all state-level major Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act workgroups and committees. To ensure statewide integration of services, the ICCB staff continue to participate as core partners within the Comprehensive One-Stop Service Centers (COSC)/American Job Centers. Services delivered include outreach, intake, orientation, skills and supportive needs assessments, program coordination and referrals, training provider performance, cost information, information on the availability of supportive services and referrals, and classroom instruction. These services are offered either on-site or via a direct linkage to a site near the COSC. Additionally, Title II partners contribute infrastructure and shared delivery system costs related to meeting their partner responsibilities.

Title II funded providers fulfill membership responsibilities on each Local Workforce Innovation Board (LWIB) by providing activities and services that are outlined in the Unified State Plan as well as the goals and strategies in the Expanding Career Pathway Opportunities in Adult Education Strategic Plan. In addition, a state-level Interagency Technical Assistance Team includes Title II representation and provides direct technical assistance to strengthen the Memorandum of Understanding process which includes negotiations of infrastructure costs and shared local one-stop delivery costs among partners. The Technical Assistance Team also develops regional and local plans within the twenty-two Local Workforce Investment Boards (LWIB). The ICCB continues to work with other partners around service integration in order to reduce duplication and to ensure effective collaboration around the expansion and scaling of comprehensive career

pathways in the local area. Information is continually updated and made available on the Illinois WorkNet website [www.illinoisworknet.com](http://www.illinoisworknet.com). Additionally, webinars are hosted regularly for all workforce partners (core and required) and state-level partners to ensure consistent communication efforts statewide.

## English as a Second Language (ESL) and Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education (IEL/CE)

The ICCB held its first IEL/CE 243 competition for eligible providers in April 2017 under WIOA for FY18 provision of IEL/CE activities. The grant period for the approved will be from July 1, 2018 until June 30, 2020. For FY 2019, the 26 approved applicants were required to apply for continued funding based upon past effectiveness of provision of IEL/CE services and the ability to meet all the grant requirements in FY18. All of the 26 IEL/CE providers were approved for the continuation of services in FY19.

The ICCB continues to provide research, professional development, and technical assistance to ensure the state IEL/CE services meet the guidelines of WIOA 243 regulations. ICCB convened an advisory council committee of providers to examine national models and best practices for recommendations to strengthen the state's IEL/CE models. Recommendations resulted in the development of an IEL/CE logic model that guides programs through the development of an IEL/CE. Furthermore, IEL/CE providers were required to collaborate with WIOA partners to ensure alignment with regional and local job sector needs that led to unsubsidized employment in in-demand industries and occupations that lead to economic sufficiency for students.



### Provider Diversity

Services were offered through a variety of provider types in FY19. These providers included the following:

Local Education Agencies	13
Faith-Based Organizations	3
Community-Based Organizations	21
Community, Junior, or Technical Colleges	37
Four-year Colleges or Universities	3
Illinois Department of Corrections	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>78</b>

### Program Approval and Selection

Adult Education programs funded in FY18 were invited to apply for continuation of funding in FY19. Programs selected for funding were required to demonstrate past effectiveness in providing adult education instruction, bridge programs, and integrated education and workforce activities with the goal of transitioning adult learners to postsecondary education, entering workplace training, and obtaining industry recognized credentials leading to sustainable employment. Applicants were also required to describe their participation on local workforce boards, partnerships with core and required partners, and how their regional and local plans to meet the local needs of students and employers.

### Adult Education and Literacy Resources Federal and State Funding in FY2019

Federal Basic Appropriation	\$ 23,250,000
Federal IEL/Civics	\$ 2,572,400
State Basic Appropriation	\$ 21,572,400
State Performance	\$ 10,701,600
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 58,096,400</b>

### Stakeholder Collaboration

State Workforce System: An interagency group consisting of State Workforce Innovation Board and WIOA core partners including the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (Commerce), the Illinois Department of Employment Security (Employment Security), the Illinois Department of Human Services Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (Vocational Rehabilitation), and the ICCB Adult Education and Literacy, created a Unified State Plan. The interagency group continues to meet regularly to ensure strategic implementation of the delivery of integrated services through comprehensive One-Stop Centers in each economic development region throughout the state as outlined in the Unified State Plan.

## Future Initiatives

- The ICCB will continue to work with stakeholders in FY20 to conduct a full analysis of IELCE programs and to strengthen integration of Civics Education, workforce preparation, and occupation training that lead to employment. Past year and current data will be examined to determine program success towards achieving the indicators of performance.
- The ICCB will continue collaborate with WIOA state partners to create joint professional development opportunities and will provide technical assistance events to aid regional and local stakeholders in developing and implementing services that assist adults in improving their skills, achieving their educational goals, and transitioning to further education or employment.
- The ICCB will focus on pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship trainings to provide innovative methods of educating adult learners and creating a talent pipeline.
- The ICCB will explore a new funding methodology that will increase learner outcomes and credential attainment.
- The ICCB will examine state data and focus on equity of access of adult education and career pathways instruction that satisfies regional and local job market needs and will identify external and internal supports that will eliminate or reduce barriers for student success.
- The ICCB will work with the WIOA core and required partners to develop the Illinois State Unified Plan and work to successful implementation of the goals and strategies outlined in the plan.
- The ICCB will provide guidance and assistance to adult education providers by rebranding a web-based and live referral service for adult learners, linking all WIOA core partners and their staff to this website and the online ICCB Adult Education Provider Locator to further support the No Wrong Door initiative.



## Find an Adult Education Program in Your Area

Enter your zip code get a list of Illinois Adult Education and Family Literacy Programs in your area

To search by city, [click here](#).