

ADULT BASIC EDUCATION

your partner in

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Adult basic education programs teach the critical skills needed for workplace, postsecondary, and training program success. Adult education programs are committed to building relationships with workforce development partners to ensure that Pennsylvanians have economic and educational success. The adult basic education services funded under Title II of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) are administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, Bureau of Postsecondary and Adult Education, Division of Adult Education.

The essentials of adult basic education services in Pennsylvania

Improving skills of over 22,000 Pennsylvanians each year

↑ The Czech Republic, Poland, and Estonia all scored higher than the U.S.

Average skill level of 23 developed countries

↓ The U.S. is **below the international average** for math and reading skills

The U.S. was ranked 21st out of 23 countries in adult math skills. The U.S. is also below the international average in literacy and technology skills.

OECD. (2013). *Time for the U.S. to Reskill: What the Survey of Adult Skills Says*. Retrieved from: http://skills.oecd.org/Survey_of_Adult_Skills_US.pdf

1.1 million

PA adults lack a high school diploma

Over 1.1 million PA adults don't have a high school diploma. This prevents them from obtaining many entry-level jobs.

U.S. Department of Education. (2014). *Tapping the Potential: Profile of Adult Education Target Population*. Retrieved from: <http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ovae/pi/AdultEd/state-profiles.html>



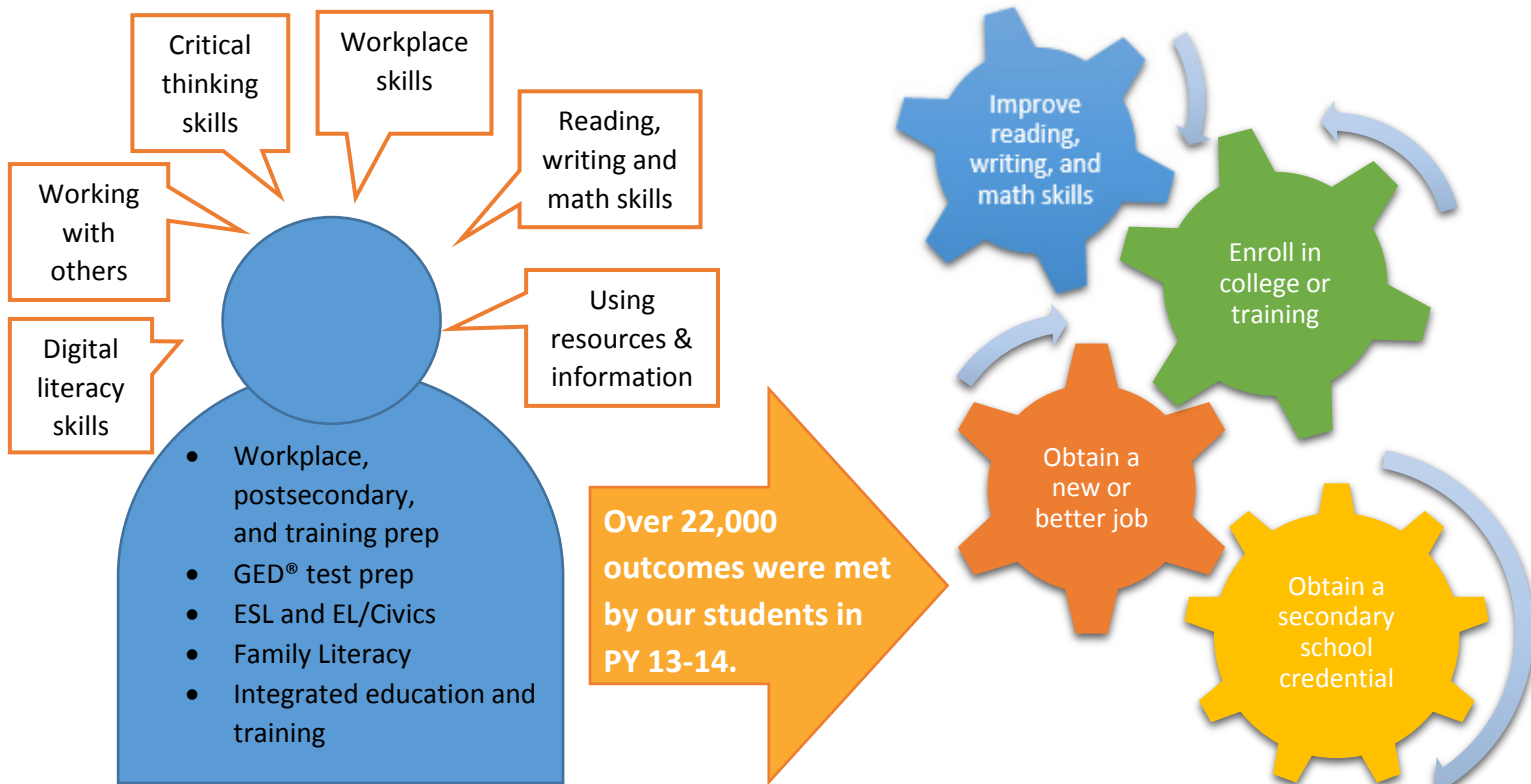
185,000

PA adults do not speak English well or at all

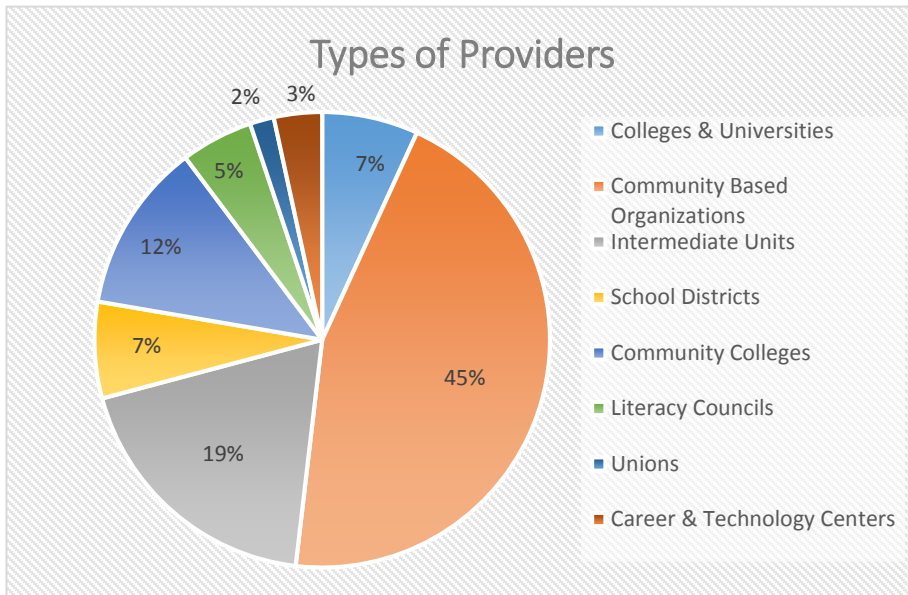
Pennsylvania adults in urban and rural areas want to learn English for their jobs, families, and everyday lives.

U.S. Department of Education. (2014). *Tapping the Potential: Profile of Adult Education Target Population*. Retrieved from: <http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ovae/pi/AdultEd/state-profiles.html>

Workforce preparation as part of career pathways education leads to a stronger workforce.



59 service providers available across the state



Who do we serve?

Participants who:

are at least 16 years of age;

are not enrolled or required to be enrolled in secondary school under Pennsylvania law;

are basic skills deficient; or do not have a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent, and have not achieved an equivalent level of education; or who are English language learners.

Successful local partnerships you can build



Building career pathways that meet employers' needs

Seneca Highlands IU 9 has a long history of partnering with the local Workforce Investment Board, PA CareerLink® site, and employers. Partners work together to determine industry-specific career pathways from entry-level employment to advanced positions. Businesses provide information to build the paths so the career planning and employment preparation meet employers' needs.



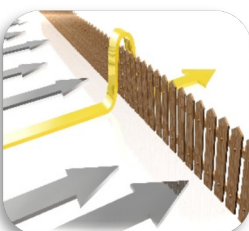
Supporting postsecondary and training program success

Community Learning Center (CLC) partners with Community College of Philadelphia to prepare adult students for training programs. CLC incorporates comprehensive career exploration and awareness into programming so adults can make informed career choices. Students are given additional support and instruction throughout the application process and training program.



Coordinating resources and sharing information

Luzerne County Community College's Career Pathways team meets on a bi-monthly basis to discuss current program offerings and workforce development needs. Ten different workforce development and community agencies share employer needs, local job market data, and resources. Partners collaborate to connect job seekers with programs to support work and education goals.



Overcoming barriers to support workforce success

Community Action Southwest's comprehensive case management approach helps students to address barriers and become self-sufficient. Referrals to community and workforce development partners allow students to build academic and workplace skills while addressing other critical needs. Local employers have provided additional funding to support services to eliminate barriers.

To learn more about partnering with adult basic education providers, contact Division Chief Amanda Harrison at RA-ABLE@pa.gov or visit our resource site at: www.paadultedresources.org