

**Illinois Community College Board – Adult Education and Literacy**  
**AFL Special Learning Needs Instructional Staff Professional Pathway**

**Qualifications for Special Learning Needs Specialist:**

- ✓ Preferred instructor AND complete either ABE or ESL Standards Proficient Instructor certification
- ✓ Administrator recommendation on the following areas:
  - Possess the ability to work collaboratively with colleagues
  - Is willing and able to administer screenings and inventories and serve as a resource for administrator(s) and instructor(s) in this program
  - Is employed within this adult education program at least 20 hours a week
  - Anticipates continued employment with this program
- ✓ Willingness to serve on SLN committees within program, regionally, or within the state of Illinois

**Recruitment for Special Learning Needs Specialist:**

- ✓ Solicit nominations/recommendations from Illinois Adult Education Administrators
- ✓ Solicit applications through SLN Blog
- ✓ Solicit nominations from previous Certified Special Learning Needs Resource Specialists

**Criteria for Competency-based Credit:**

- ✓ Individuals with prior experience and/or training completion may request competency-based credit for any of the required training sessions for Specialist. This can be completed by submitting documentation to the SLN State Trainer providing fulfillment for each of the training objectives for a specific training unit.

**Pool of Applicants for Special Learning Needs Content Specialist:**

- ✓ ABE or ESL Standards Proficient Instructors

**Qualifications for Special Learning Needs Master Teacher:**

- ✓ Special Learning Needs Content Specialist certification including Certified Special Learning Needs Resource Specialist
- ✓ Administrator approval
- ✓ Desire to provide instructional leadership activities through a teaching/mentoring process within program and regionally
- ✓ Desire to contribute to SLN Blog
- ✓ Desire to contribute regionally and state-wide in one of the following ways:
  - Train to serve as certified SLN trainer
  - Complete Adult Education research project with SLN focus

- Create SLN instructional application project with goal of advancing SLN instruction in Illinois

**Recruitment for Special Learning Needs Master Teacher:**

- ✓ Solicit applications from Certified Special Learning Needs Resource Specialist
- ✓ Solicit nominations/recommendations from Illinois Adult Education Administrators

**Pool of Applicants for Special Learning Needs Master Teacher:**

- ✓ Certified Special Learning Needs Resource Specialists