

**Illinois Community College Board
Adult Education and Family Literacy**



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Adult Education Colleagues,

The Illinois Community College Board's (ICCB) Adult Education Division is pleased to release a statewide Adult Education Bridge Curriculum for Healthcare to programs seeking to enhance current programs or to develop Bridge Programs. Bridge Programs are designed to offer students the opportunity to participate in basic skill instruction that is contextualized with occupational knowledge and skills, career awareness and development activities, as well as offer services that transition students to postsecondary education.

The purpose of this Healthcare Curriculum is not to provide training in a healthcare specific occupation but rather to introduce key concepts and terminology as they are integrated into basic skills instruction. The curriculum is divided into ten modules. Each module is designed to be used together and/or as a standalone, depending on the needs of the program. For example, the Career Awareness and Academic Success and the Technology Awareness modules are appropriate for all students as they help to prepare and introduce students to the occupations in healthcare as well as the essential technology skills. The curriculum provides expanded opportunities for our students to learn and grow, and provides students with an enhanced opportunity for education.

As the Adult Education Community implements its new strategic plan titled, "*Creating Pathways for Adult Learners*," this curriculum will serve as a useful resource in developing programs and services that meet the needs of students, education, and the workforce. Bridge Programs are one example of how to assist adult learners in transitioning to postsecondary, career and technical education programs, and/or pathway employment.

The ICCB would like to thank the featured programs, individuals, and businesses, as well as the Southern Illinois Professional Development Center, for taking the time to create and coordinate this curriculum. It is our hope that this curriculum will provide you with valuable information and insight into the development and implementation of bridge programs.

Jennifer K. Foster
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