



CCR Monthly Email Update – December



We want to wish you a wonderful holiday and prosperous new year. At the College and Career Readiness System Office, for the new year, we have plans to offer activities on data analysis, partnerships, Integrated Education and Training (IET) and establishing a Professional Development Network. Please be on the lookout for application information to become a part of this exciting initiative. We thank all of you who have served CCR in an advisory capacity on policies and practices for the important elements of our programs.

Continuation Grant

It's that time of year again- time to update your Title II grant application! Although successful providers received approval for the 2018-21 competitive grant cycle in 2018, in each of the succeeding years, funded providers must submit a Continuation Application. To assist you in preparing the application, Nancye Gaj and members of her team will conduct a webinar describing the grant specifics, process, and timeline on

January 28th from 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM. If you have not already registered, please do so at <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1762483457586998027>.

Essential Employability Skills

Proficiency in essential employability or “soft skills” are important abilities for our students and employees to have. College Career Readiness is a partner in the development of eight modules of employability skills training: **Critical and Analytical Thinking; Problem Solving and Decision Making; Cultural Sensitivity; Interpersonal Skills; Communication; Reliability and Dependability; Team Work; Time and Resource Management.** The modules are available in the NCCCS [Virtual Learning Community](#).

Community college and community-based organization faculty and staff are encouraged to enroll their students in the modules or download the modules for use in Basic Skills instruction and courses. Revisions to the modules and assessments are being made to be effective spring 2020.

For more information contact Cassandra Atkinson atkinsonc@nccommunitycolleges.edu or Arby Cooper coopera@nccommunitycolleges.edu.

Basic Skills Plus Continues to GROW!

The Basic Skills Plus Advisory Panel’s hard work has provided guidance and strategies to help increase Basic Skills Plus student enrollment and to streamline program processes.

- The [WIOA Providers’ Guide](#) has been updated with a key enhancement to Basic Skills Plus (BSKP), **“students performing at the adult secondary education level on at least one NRS-approved assessment and who are co-enrolled in occupational and adult education courses while earning their adult high school diploma or a recognized high school equivalency credential are eligible for Basic Skills Plus waiver** (pg. 33). The [Basic Skills Plus Implementation Guide](#) has also been updated (pg.5).
- We are in the process of reviewing Basics Skills Plus guidelines. Effective January 1, 2020, colleges do not need to submit a separate budget or application in the BS plus Registry. More information will be coming in February.

Thanks to all programs who responded to the BSKP survey (55% response rate). Input from the survey will be used by the Basic Skills Plus Advisory Panel to identify new strategies for increasing enrollment, credential attainment, career pathway development, and increasing student completion.

Basic Skills Plus Achievements

- CCR’s Basic Skills Plus program was identified in 2018 as a noteworthy practice by the monitoring team from the US Department of Education (Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education).
- There are currently 72 approved career pathways in the online BSKP Registry; an increase of 76.6% from 2018 to 2019;
- Basic Skills Plus programs enrolled 191 students in 2018-19 for a 15.8 % increase from 2018 to 2019.
- Forty-four BSKP students graduated in 2018-19; 9 earned a High School Diploma and 35 earned a High School Equivalency Diploma.
- Basic Skills Plus students achieved a 63.1 % Measurable Skills Gain (MSG) in 1918-19. This level of achievement is 18.2 percentage points higher than the overall Title II MSG achievement of 44.9%.

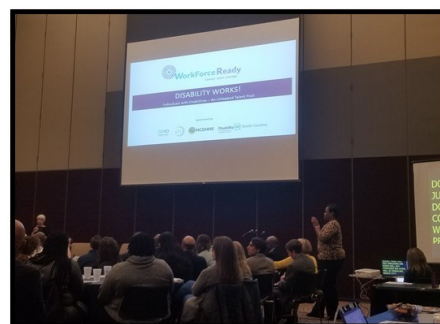
For more information contact Cassandra Atkinson atkinsonc@nccommunitycolleges.edu.



Disability Works! Individuals with Disabilities: An Untapped

Talent Pool

On November 19, 2019, the Capital Area Workforce Development Board and partners hosted a symposium entitled Disability Works! Individuals with Disabilities: An Untapped Talent Pool. The event provided awareness for companies looking to hire and diversify their workforce. During the sessions, several business leaders who have successfully integrated inclusion of individuals with disabilities provided information and models on their recruiting strategies. The North Carolina Community College System Office was represented by Trudie Hughes and Jannai Johnson of the Programs and Student Services Division. Additionally, information and resources were provided from multiple College and Career Readiness disability programs across the state.



Center of Excellence for English Language Learners' Workforce Development

The North Carolina Community College System, College and Career Readiness Unit is pleased to announce that the Center of Excellence for English Language Learners' Workforce Development will be hosting two trainings. The trainings will focus on the successful implementation of the Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education (IEL/CE) program. The training will be divided into three programmatic sections: English Language Services, Civics Education, and Integrated Education and Training (IET). The training is open to all Basic Skills programs, whether or not you currently receive IEL/CE grant funding. Providers that are interested in participating in the training should bring a curriculum development team. The team may consist of the Basic Skills program director, English Language Acquisition instructor, and Occupational Training instructor(s).

Eastern Region IEL/CE Introductory Program Implementation Training

Date: January 9, 2020

Time: 9:00am-2:00pm

Location: North Carolina Community College System Office
200 West Jones Street Raleigh, North Carolina 27603
Room: Gregory Poole Conference Room

Western Region IEL/CE Introductory Program Implementation Training

Date: January 16, 2020

Time: 9:00am-2:00pm

Location: Catawba Valley Community College
2550 Highway 70 SE Hickory, North Carolina 28602
Administration Building
Classroom: WW Commons

NC Economic Empowerment Curriculum Train-the Trainer

On December 5, 2019, eighty professionals from CCR, HRD, and CE participated in the NC Economic Empowerment Curriculum Train-the Trainer professional development at the Wake Technical Community College's Beltline Center Campus. The professional development program for adult education, workforce development, and like-minded adult service providers demonstrated the field-tested, customizable 6-hour Economic Empowerment Curriculum for adults with limited education and income. Highly flexible and multidisciplinary, this research and standards-based curriculum integrates basic economic concepts and reasoning skills throughout personal finance and entrepreneurship topics to help inform, develop, and empower economic decision-making skills within our workforce.

