Communities of Practice Pilot:
Increasing Motivation and Persistence in Adult Learners

The California Department of Education (CDE) and the California Adult Literacy Professional Development Project (CALPRO) are pleased to offer a regional Community of Practice (CoP) pilot on *Increasing Motivation and Persistence in Adult Learners,* to be held online and in Sacramento from 1 to 4 pm on March 7th and 21st, 2019. This module will introduce participants to research on motivation and persistence and suggest a variety of ways to support learners in reaching their goals.

What are the goals and objectives of the *Increasing Motivation and Persistence* module?

- Introduce adult education instructors to the concept of self-efficacy and prepare them to incorporate several strategies supporting self-efficacy into their instructional practice
- Explore and practice applying the strategies to increase student engagement
- Create and implement a student goal-setting activity

Who is the intended audience?

The module focuses on motivation and persistence and is relevant for teachers and instructional leaders from all content areas within adult education. Teachers are encouraged to apply in teams of two or more from either a program or a consortium in order to support each other in learning and implementing what they learn, but this is not required.

What are "Communities of Practice"?

Communities of Practice are groups of people who share a concern or a passion for something they do and strive to learn how to do it better as they interact regularly.[1] To provide opportunities for California adult educators to interact regularly and to engage in sustained professional development, CALPRO is offering professional development in a Community of Practice format that includes online interaction along with two face-to-face sessions.

What is a pilot?

This Community of Practice is complete and ready for participants, but before offering it statewide, we are field-testing the content, design, and the online activities as a pilot. Throughout the pilot, participants will be asked for feedback. This feedback will be used to improve the delivery of future trainings

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[1] Etienne Wenger, Communities of Practice: A Brief Introduction. June 2006. http://wenger-trayner.com/introduction-to-communities-of-practice/ (accessed March 2017).

What are the benefits of participating in this CoP Pilot?

- More in-depth engagement with training content;
- Opportunity for "early adoption" of best practices;
- Opportunity to interact with fellow educators and the trained facilitator online and in-person to share practical experiences and problem solve;
- Collegial support for thinking about program and curriculum changes;
- Contribution to the development of an enriched statewide professional development experience for adult educators in California.

Participant Commitment and Expectations

1. **Complete Online Activities**
   Participants must access pre-session, interim and post-session assignments. The online assignments are essential to the training, and participants must complete the assignments prior to attending the in-person sessions. The in-person sessions will not repeat information that participants have received online.

2. **Attend Both In-Person Sessions**
   Dates: March 7 and 21, 2019
   Hours: 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
   Location: CALPRO Offices
   2151 River Plaza Drive, Suite 320
   Sacramento, CA 95833

For a CoP to be effective, participants must commit to the following expectations:

All Participants
- Complete all online assignments before, between, and after the face-to-face meetings
- Attend both face-to-face meetings
- Provide collegial support and feedback to fellow training participants
- Be comfortable using the computer, internet, and e-mail. Technology use may include opening an internet browser, opening documents online, clicking to view videos, and typing text in a Web site. In-depth training on using the internet will not be provided.

  NOTE: When you register for the CoP, you will automatically also be enrolled in a brief online, self-directed course on how to use the Moodle platform that will help you to better understand how to navigate the online portions of the CoP, if you are new to Moodle. Completion of the Moodle course is not required, but participants are encouraged to take advantage of what it has to offer.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Eligibility: Staff from programs funded by the California Department of Education Adult Education Office through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)-II are eligible to apply.

Cost: There is no registration fee to participate. All expenses for educators' release time, travel and meals are the responsibility of the agency/participants.

Certificates: Certificates of completion will be issued to those who complete all online activities on time and participate in both in-person sessions.

Apply: Submit your online application here or paste this link into your browser: http://bit.ly/CALPROpilot2019.

The deadline for applications in Friday, February 15, 2019 at 5 pm.

Questions: For additional information, contact Marian Thacher, mthacher@air.org or 916-286-8810.