



# Communities of Practice Pilot: Supporting Immigrant Integration through Civics Education

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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 *Supporting Immigrant Integration through Civics Education*, to be held online asynchronously from February 28<sup>th</sup> to April 11<sup>th</sup> with synchronous sessions held from 1 to 4 pm on March 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022. This module will help educators support immigrants through civics education as understood within the lens of the California Immigrant Integration Initiative and aligned to approved EL Civics metrics.

## **What are the goals and objectives of the *Supporting Immigrant Integration through Civics Education* module?**

The goal of this module is to enable instructors to 1) understand the California immigrant integration context, and 2) plan instruction that supports immigrant integration by aligning to the objectives of the Participation in Civics and Community Life Goal area of the Immigrant Integration Framework using the Teaching Skills That Matter (TSTM) lessons and tools and pre-approved COAAPS.

### **Objectives:**

- Explain how the demographics of California make it imperative that there be a concerted effort to support immigrant integration and civics education in the classroom;
- Describe how the Immigrant Integration Framework provides a structure through which to support instructors' efforts related to helping their students meet their various goals;
- Use the objectives in the Participation in Civic and Community Life Goal Area for lesson planning including topic selection, writing learning objectives, doing content mapping;
- Use the TSTM Civics Education lessons and tools to support immigrant integration in the classroom;
- Use the TSTM Lesson Planning Tool as a template to create a new lesson aligned to one of the Participation in Civic and Community Life goal area of the Immigrant Integration Framework and their program's Civics COAAPS; and
- Identify tools and resources to support classroom implementation of the Immigrant Integration Framework.

## **Who is the intended audience?**

This module is designed for instructors teaching adult English language Learners (learners may be in ABE, ASE, ESL, etc.). Many of the participants may be working in programs with IELCE funding as well, but that is not a requirement for participation.

## **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.<sup>1</sup> 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

### **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 synchronously and asynchronously 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 synchronous sessions. The synchronous sessions will not repeat information that participants have received online.

#### **2. Attend Both Synchronous Virtual Sessions**

**Dates: March 14 and 28, 2022**

**Hours: 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

**Location: Zoom (link to be sent to accepted participants)**

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

#### All Participants

- Complete all online assignments before, between, and after the synchronous sessions (NOTE: This will require teaching teach a civics lesson during the Interim and Post-Sessions. However, if

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

you are not currently in the classroom or don't have access to a class that you can teach, a colleague or group of colleagues can act as your student(s).)

- Attend both synchronous virtual sessions
- 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 all California Adult Education Program (CAEP) funded agencies are eligible to apply.

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

**Administrator approval:** Administrator approval is required for participation.

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

**Apply:** Submit your [online application here](#) or paste this link into your browser:  
<http://bit.ly/CALPROPilot2022>.

**The deadline for applications is Thursday, February 17, 2022 at 5 pm.**

Participants will be notified of acceptance by February 23, 2022.

**Questions:** For additional information, contact Marcela Movit, [mmmovit@air.org](mailto:mmmovit@air.org).