

**Michigan Adult Education Professional Development
Training Institute Agenda**

March 6-8, 2012

Locations

Tuesday, March 6
Henry Ford MTEC
3602 Schaefer Road
Dearborn, MI 48126

Wednesday, March 7
Western Michigan University
2333 E. Beltline Ave. SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49546

Thursday, March 8
Lansing Ramada
7501 Saginaw Highway
Lansing, MI 48917

Presenters: Dianne Duthie, Erica Luce, Kate Wolinski, Ronald Froman, Bonnie Goonen, Debra Hargrove, Tony Lagos, Susan Pittman-Shetler, Kathi Polis, Gilda Rubio-Fest,

Overview

Michigan Adult Education programs are constantly searching for new and innovative methods for improving outcomes for students. To assist programs in their endeavors, the Michigan Adult Education Professional Development Project, sponsored by the Office of Adult Education, is hosting a training institute focused on provide educators with the tools and resources they need in order to address the challenges in their programs. This institute will focus on three specific areas:

- Implementing career pathways
- Using technology to assist in implementing contextualized instruction for low-skilled adults
- Bridging the gap in ABE and GED programs to help students meet the challenges of the current GED Tests and successfully transition to higher levels of education and training

The institute will open with a general session for all participants that focuses on the specific career clusters for the different economic regions and the focus of the Division of Education and Career Readiness. Following the opening session, participants will attend two of three concurrent sessions (pre-registration required). The institute will also include a closing session with final comments from Dianne Duthie, Division Director.

The following are the overviews/agendas for each of the two-hour break-out sessions. These sessions will be repeated.

The Nuts and Bolts of Career Pathways Design

Presenters: Kathi Polis, Gilda Rubio-Fest

We know the benefits of career pathways for our adult learners. Students can easily see how education and certification are linked to a progressive ladder of employment opportunities. To make it work, however, adult education and training providers must work together to develop schedules, curriculum, advising services, and a host of other issues. This session will focus on practical strategies for getting started, working effectively with your training partners, and examples of successful adult education/community college partnerships for both native and non-native students. You will learn how career pathways can work from the recruitment stage to the graduation ceremony. A Think-Pair-Share activity will enable you to begin thinking critically about crucial components needed for career pathways in your program. You will leave with a chart outlining the steps you will take in designing your own career pathway system.

Bridging the Gap in ABE/GED® Programs

Presenters: Bonnie Goonen, Susan Pittman-Shetler

Many adult learners enter programs thinking that they can obtain the skills necessary to pass the GED® test within a very short time frame. This requirement for immediacy is often reflected by students settling for a minimal passing score on the GED® test, believing that it is all they need to pursue their long-term career and educational goals. However, a minimal score does not mean that a GED® graduate is ready for a degree-granting course of study or today's workforce. There are many "missing pieces" that result in a gap between a GED® credential obtained through a minimal passing score and the skills necessary for success in the 21st century.

To bridge the gap, GED® programs need to provide:

- A curriculum that incorporates the higher-order thinking skills identified by the GED® 2002 Series Test, rather than the basic skills of ABE (Adult Basic Education) programs
- A wide range of instructional strategies to ensure students are prepared for the GED® test, as well as career- and college-placement tests.
- A focus on helping students "learn to learn" as well as the ability to understand and use higher-order critical thinking skills.
- More specific counseling and support for students as they develop attainable goals and work to achieve those goals.
- Homework and other out-of-class assignments completed by students.

MAEPD.ORG for Teachers

Presenters: Debra L. Hargrove and Tony Lagos

Have you been struggling with finding the time to explore new resources? Want to get your students on a Career Pathway, but don't know where to start? Freaking out about the new GED series Tests? Fed up with looking for good ESOL resources? Looking for ways to get your students prepared for the workforce? Look no further than MAEPD.

The Michigan Adult Education Professional Development (MAEPD) Project website is a clearinghouse of valuable resources, tools and curriculum materials that will help you answer those questions. Join Deb and Tony as they guide you on this exploration through the website and introduce you to the value of MAEPD. This is a session you won't want to miss!

Training Institute Agenda

Time	Content	Presenters
8:30-9:00 a.m.	Registration and Networking	
9:00 – 9:45 a.m.	General Session – Setting the Stage - Career Clusters and Adult Education Programs	Erica Luce, Kate Wolinski, Ronald Froman
9:45 – 10:00 a.m.	Break	
10:00 – Noon	Concurrent Sessions	
	1) Implementing Career Pathways	Kathi Polis and Gilda Rubio-Festa
	2) Using Technology and Contextualized Instruction	Dr. Debra Hargrove and Tony Lagos
	3) Bridging the Gap	Bonnie Goonen and Susan Pittman-Shetler
Noon – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch	
1:00 – 3:00 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions	
	1) Implementing Career Pathways	Kathi Polis and Gilda Rubio-Festa
	2) Using Technology and Contextualized Instruction	Dr. Debra Hargrove and Tony Lagos
	3) Bridging the Gap	Bonnie Goonen and Susan Pittman-Shetler
3:00 – 3:30 p.m.	Closing Session – Building for the Future	Dianne Duthie and Ronald Froman