

# IPDAE 2021 CAREER PATHWAYS ACTION GUIDE

## (Student Perspective)

### Topic: **Strategies to Break Down Barriers Faced by AE Students**

#### Overview:

Adult learners vary widely among ages, socioeconomic levels, abilities, educational experiences, job skills and personal goals. Some adult learners have special learning needs while others encounter many barriers to school attendance from unclear registration procedures to changes in work schedules. Adult Education practitioners work as a team to address the unique needs of the adult learner and address barriers to help them achieve their full potential.

#### Key Elements:

- Student Advisor
- Instructors
- Administration
- Affiliated partners
- Common meeting time
- Solution oriented mindset

#### Components:

- Awareness of common adult education barriers
- Awareness of community partners and their services
- Creating a flexible program
- Building transparency within adult education program starting at orientation
- Acting on opportunities

#### Plan Actions:

- Educating staff of the different support services and options for students
- Dialog among key staff members to identify students in need of support
- Identifying the main barrier
- Establishing working relationships with community partners

#### Related Resources:

- Florida Department of Children and Families - [myflfamilies.com](https://myflfamilies.com)
- Florida Division of Vocational Rehabilitation - [rehabworks.org](https://rehabworks.org)
- Florida Literacy Coalition - [floridaliteracy.org](https://floridaliteracy.org)

Topic Video: <https://www.youtube.com/embed/fubKBWEziak?rel=0>



## Topic: Retention Strategies from Research to Practice

### Overview:

This topic provides an overview of evidence-based practices for program retention/student persistence in adult education and considerations for administrators seeking to improve in this area. Important areas to consider from the research and specific strategies are reviewed. In addition, a showcase of district's perspective on strategies related to barriers and successes in consideration of implementation are showcased.

### Key Elements:

- It is important to cultivate persistence in students so they stay in programs long enough to meet their goals
- Educational history, avoidance of reading, low reading skills, and economic hardship predict persistence
- Programs can help ensure student persistence if they assist students in understanding the cost-benefit of program participation and if they align program services with learner motivations and life contexts.

### Plan Actions:

- Be aware of the characteristics that predict persistence so you can support those who may find it more difficult to complete their programs.
- Develop a persistence plan with students that is relevant to their goals, reflects the support you will provide, and expectations of the students.
- Be sure to re-visit the plan often to make revisions as goals are met or change and as life circumstances change.
- Emphasize the cost-benefit of persisting in the program.
- Celebrate the successes of your students!

### Related Resources:

- [Designing and Delivering Career Pathways at Community Colleges](#)
- [Self-Study Guide for Evidence-Based Practices in Adult Literacy Education](#)

Topic Video: <https://www.youtube.com/embed/pZab90hFPIQ?rel=0>

## Topic: **The Importance of Articulation Agreements**

### **Overview:**

We shared an overview of Articulation Agreements and the participants of those who use them. Within this session, viewers will understand the benefits of Partnerships, Articulation Agreements, Articulated credits, and how one could utilize them to benefit their students. Strather DuPree, the Director of Articulation and Partnerships, Chair of the (QCCPC) Quad County Career Pathways Consortium

### **Key Elements:**

- Articulation Agreements
- Partnerships

### **Components:**

- Articulation Credits

### **Plan Actions:**

- Steps for Student Acceleration from Secondary to Post Secondary

### **Related Resources:**

- Florida Department of Education – [Career & Technical Education](#)
- Quad County Career Pathways Consortium – [Career Pathways St. Lucie County](#)
- Annual Submission of Dual Enrollment [Agreement Memorandum](#)

**Topic Video:** <https://www.youtube.com/embed/tsJGDkD2d4k?rel=0>

## Topic: **The Adult Student Perspective in Practice**

### **Overview:**

The perspective of adult education students on navigating the adult education world from the ESOL classroom to a CTE program. Understand how their efforts and interactions have given them the motivation to succeed and continue working towards their goal.

### **Key Elements:**

- Flexible options
- Support and counseling services
- Transparency in programs mission
- Relevant content
- Build relationships
- Creative and convenient program design

### **Components:**

- Accessible program information
- Orientation and onboarding
- Pre-assessment / screening to identify strengths and needs
- Alignment with student needs

### **Plan Actions:**

- Is your program information accessible to students? Consider everything thing from your website to your location and who it is that you are targeting.
- Do you have a solid orientation and onboarding process centered around the targeted student population? Consider what is most important to your students, what are those commonly asked questions.
- Is there an established pre-assessment and/or screening tool? Consider your program targeted outcomes and the needs for target audience?
- Is the program aligned to meet the needs of the students? Consider the students and what is bringing them to your door.

### **Related Resources:**

- LINC – [Persistence: Helping Adult Education Students Reach Their Goals](#)
- IPDAE – [Retention Strategies for Adult Educators](#)

**Topic Video:** <https://www.youtube.com/embed/XYAG2jB67zg?rel=0>