

Subject: STudent Achievement in Reading (STAR) TRAINING Opportunity – ACT NOW!

Dear Adult Basic Skills Directors, Community-based Literacy Organization Directors

The Adult Basic Skills Professional Development Project is pleased to invite up to 90 individuals from across the state to participate in the **STudent Achievement in Reading (STAR)** training, a nationally-developed professional development opportunity, that will help instructors **improve reading outcomes among intermediate-level adult learners** so that they can transition to higher level learning and succeed in the workplace as well as in their daily lives.

STAR is a comprehensive tool kit and training package built upon evidence-based reading instructional strategies that adult education teachers and administrators can use to increase reading achievement for intermediate level adult learners. STAR is not a reading curriculum. It is a reading reform initiative that includes professional development, tools, and resources that will expand participants' knowledge of diagnostic assessment and effective reading instruction and improve their ability to build local adult basic education systems that support reading improvement.

Through STAR, adult education reading instructors and administrators will:

- understand the elements of evidence-based reading instruction;
- identify necessary resources, i.e., staff, time, materials, space, and feedback mechanisms; and
- develop systems and procedures at the classroom and program levels that support the implementation of evidence-based practices and make systemic changes to sustain evidence-based reading instruction.

STAR is based on a body of research that is summarized in a report published by the Partnership for Reading entitled, *Research-Based Principles for Adult Basic Education Reading Instruction* written by John Kruidenier. STAR supports evidence-based reading instruction, which integrates the research found in the Kruidenier report with practitioner wisdom. STAR also uses the Adult Reading Components Study to identify learner profiles for intermediate-level readers in Adult Basic Education programs. To learn more about these reports, visit the Reading Resources section of the STAR Website at <http://www.startoolkit.org/reading.html>.

Interested programs are required to send at least two participants, i.e., one lead instructor/administrator and one instructor together to both 3-day workshops (6 days of training total). Registration closes at each site two weeks prior to the start date.

Please complete and return all forms:

- *Registration Form* to register each participant,
- *Program Information Form* to be completed by an administrator of the program, and
- *Teacher Information Form* to be completed by each person attending the training.

The registration is for all workshops and once registered; participants/instructors are required to attend the two 3-day workshops at the site for which they have registered. Participants will

also be required to complete pre-training homework, action plans after each workshop, complete diagnostic reading assessments for intermediate readers, and implement STAR in their programs/classes during the 2010-2011 academic year. Participants will receive additional information upon receipt of registration.

The sites and training dates are listed below.

Training Site	Dates of Training	Location
Site 1, Training 1	August 18-20, 2010 and	Randolph Community College Archdale Center 110 Park Drive, Archdale, NC Room 321
Site 1, Training 2: Site 1 Trainers: Susan Ellis and Rebecca Schafer	October 13-15, 2010	Randolph Community College Foundation Conference Center 629 Industrial Park Ave. Asheboro, NC Foundation Building
Site 2: Training 1 & 2 Site 2 Trainers: Deborah Britton and Shelia Swift	August 25-27, 2010 and November 17-19, 2010	Western Piedmont Community College Jim A. Richardson Campus 200 East College Drive Morganton, NC Building, Room 220
Site 3: Training 1 & 2 Site 3 Trainers: Susie Colbath and Susan Schneider	September 29-Oct. 1, 2010 and December 1-3, 2010	Fayetteville Tech Community College Horticulture Educational Center 670 N. Eastern Boulevard Fayetteville, NC Room 104

Each day of training will begin at 8:15 am and end by 4:45 pm with an additional hour of training from 5:00-6:00 pm on the first day for the participants who are taking the administrative role for implementing STAR within their program. Participants are expected to arrive on time and stay for the entire training. Regular coffee and water will be provided at each training site with light snacks. Participants are encouraged to bring their own drinks and snacks. Lunch is own-your-own with an hour lunch break provided.

Please give each participant registered a copy of this letter so that they will have the location of each training. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,