

**STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES**  
Service Agreement for Adult Basic Skills Professional Development

**Request:** The State Board is asked to approve a service agreement with Appalachian State University for \$372,000 for the period of July 1, 2015-June 30, 2016 to improve the professional development of Basic Skills trainers, administrators, instructors, and volunteers.

**Background Information:** Appalachian State University (ASU) and NCCCS have collaborated since 1988 on the Adult Basic Skills Professional Development (ABSPD) project to improve the quality and effectiveness of Adult Basic Education (ABE) instruction in North Carolina through focused, evidence-based professional development. During the 2014-2015 year, ABSPD developed, planned, and delivered professional development including: CEU-bearing courses at locations across the state and instructional support visits to colleges and community-based organizations.

**Rationale for the Project Funding:** Title II of the Workforce Investment Act for Adult Education and Family Literacy, Section 223 (a) (1) states that professional development programs may be established to improve the quality of instruction. Appalachian has a long history of working with the College and Career Readiness staff to provide professional development linked to the most current research. This training, now offered as part of a comprehensive credentialing system, enables instructors to implement best practices with their students.

**Method of Procurement:** In accordance with the procurement practice of the State of North Carolina, there is no requirement for competition or approval by outside purchasing authorities for contracts between state agencies.

**Contract Amount and Time Period:** The project will cover the period from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016 at a total cost of \$372,000.

**Fund Source and Availability:** Funding is contingent upon the award of the Workforce Investment Act, Title II, Adult Education and Literacy grant to North Carolina from the US Department of Education.

**Contact Persons:**

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