

**STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES**  
**Service Agreement for Adult Basic Skills Professional Development**  
**FY 2017-18**

**Request:** The State Board is asked to approve a service agreement with Appalachian State University for \$407,295 to improve the professional development of Basic Skills trainers, administrators, instructors, and volunteers.

**Background Information:** Appalachian State University (ASU) and the North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS) have collaborated since 1988 on the Adult Basic Skills Professional Development (ABSPD) project to improve the quality and effectiveness of Basic Skills (ABE, ASE and ELA) instruction in North Carolina through focused, evidence-based professional development. During the 2016-2017 year, ABSPD developed, planned, and delivered professional development including: CEU-bearing courses at locations across the state and follow-up instructional support to colleges and community-based organizations.

**Rationale for the Project Funding:** Title II of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, Section 223 (a) (1) (B) requires that professional development programs be established to improve the quality of instruction. Appalachian State University has a long history of working with the College and Career Readiness staff to provide professional development linked to the North Carolina Community College System content standards and 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, 2017 through June 15, 2018 at a total cost of \$407,295.

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

**Contact Persons:**

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