

Overview

Equipped for the Future (EFF)



Transitional Studies student working on his presentation, ABE 2073 class, Mission Campus, CCSF.

Web sites: http://www.nifl.gov/lincs/collections/eTff/eff_roles.html and <http://literacy.kent.edu/EFF/toc.html>

Equipped for the Future (EFF) is the National Institute for Literacy's standards based system reform initiative aimed at improving the quality and outcomes of the adult literacy and lifelong learning delivery system. EFF starts from the recognition that the skills adults need as parents, workers, and citizens go beyond the basic academic skills that have traditionally been targeted by adult education programs.

NIFL undertook EFF in an effort to better understand what we need to do as a nation to meet the challenge posed in the National Goal for adult education and lifelong learning:

"Every adult American will be literate and possess the knowledge and skills necessary to compete in a global economy and exercise the rights and responsibilities of citizenship." Through a grass roots process, EFF partners have engaged thousands of customers and stakeholders in the adult literacy and lifelong learning system to build consensus on customer needs and goals. From this consensus [EFF Partners](#) are developing, refining and validating frameworks for content and performance standards.

The frameworks are a primary vehicle for enabling system reform that lines up instructional practice, program services, and program accountability so that they all focus on learner goals and stated purposes: access, voice, independent action, and bridge to future.

Content Framework

The foundations of the framework are the [four purposes](#) for literacy identified by adult learners and the [role maps](#) that describe what adults need to know and be able to do to carry out responsibilities as citizens/community members, parents/family members, and workers. The three components that complete the framework structure - the [activities](#) common to all three roles, the standards, and the core knowledge domains - are all linked to the four purposes, and through the role maps, to the key contexts in which adults live.

Standards

The [16 EFF Content Standards](#) are derived from research that helped us clarify the core knowledge and skills adults need to carry out their roles as family members, workers, and community members. EFF Standards focus on application of skills - what adults need to know to actually use skills effectively in daily life.