Northern Illinois Regional P-20 Network
Adult Learners Work Group

January 30, 2015, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.
College of DuPage 425 Fawell Blvd. Glen Ellyn, IL 60137
Admissions and Outreach Office, Student Services Center, Room SSC2207
Call in Number – 815.753.0010

Agenda

- Overview of the White House Commitments made at the College Opportunity Day of Action
- Decide on definition of adult learners for purposes of this work group
- Review survey results regarding successful approaches for adult learners across network institutions.
- Identify gaps in bachelor degree completion programs for adult learners
- Document best practices at leading institutions across the country with prior learning assessments for possible implementation at northern Illinois institutions
- College of DuPage update on adult learner research – Angela Nackovic
- Next Steps
  a. Tasks
     i. Brief your president or executive on the progress of this work group prior to the February 10 meeting
     ii. Identify exemplar office(s) or program(s) that support adult learners who are college ready and are institutionally sustainable. Please provide what indicators of success the program(s) have (e.g. awards, designations) and explain why you felt this is an exemplar institution.
     This will help us further prepare to develop a model for better serving adult learners across the region through collaboration among network institutions (our final stated objective.)

     Recommend new practices to the Network’s CEOs in September for attracting and retaining this important population.
  b. Next work group meeting – late February
Meeting materials
Documents related to this topic are posted online at www.niu.edu/p20network. Click on the Resources tab and then on the Adult Learners Work Group under Meetings and Materials. Feel free to send links to other documents that you recommend for this group to Debbie Pixton (d pixton@niu.edu).

Location and Parking
College of DuPage is located at 425 Fawell Boulevard in Glen Ellyn, IL 60137. Directions and a campus map are available at http://www.cod.edu/about/maps_and_directions/index.aspx.

Work Group Participants
Meryl Sussman, Assistant V-P for Outreach Adult and Non-Credit Programs, NIU – CONVENER
John Cowan, Senior Research Associate, NIU
Earl Dowling, Vice-President, Student Affairs, COD
Peggy Heinrich, Dean of Adult Basic Education, ECC
Joanne Kantner, Dean of Adult Basic Education, KC
Mark Mrozinski, Dean, Continuing Education & Business Outreach, Harper College
Angela Nackovic, Adult Admissions Representative, College of DuPage
Tom Pierce, Executive Director of Adult Education, MCC
Jane Smith, Dean, Admission Services and Registrar, COD

Always in Mind
Goal: Increase higher education enrollments of adult learners, who are essential to meeting the goal of increasing the proportion of adults in Illinois with high-quality degrees and credentials to 60% by 2025

Objectives
• Identify gaps in bachelor degree completion programs for adult learners with associate degrees, including AAS degrees, and/or professional certifications.
• Document best practices at leading institutions across the country with prior learning assessments for possible implementation at northern Illinois institutions.
• Share successful approaches for adult learners across network institutions, including flexible scheduling, alternative delivery modes, reduced time to degree completion, and solutions to out-of-district fee issues.
• Develop a model for better serving adult learners across the region through collaboration among network institutions.