



# **ICCB: WIOA TITLE II: ADULT EDUCATION AND LITERACY AND POSTSECONDARY PERKINS**

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# WHAT IS ADULT EDUCATION?

Adult Education aims to serve the diverse need of those who lack basic literacy, knowledge, and skills as well as immigrants and English Language Learners by providing a wide variety of instructional services and supports.

Over 1 million adults in Illinois have less than a 12<sup>th</sup> grade education.

Nearly ½ million Illinoisans lack the English literacy skills necessary for entry and advancement in the labor force.

More than 65% of jobs require some postsecondary education.\*

Only 27% of young adults with no more than a high school diploma have a “good job”.\*\*

\*Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce. (2014). [Recovery: Job growth and education requirements through 2020](#)

\*\* Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce. (2018). [Three educational pathways to good jobs.](#)

# BOARD GOALS

- **GOAL 1:** Support minority, first generation, and low-income students across urban, rural, and suburban communities, through the promotion of evidence-based best practices that results in system wide improvement of equity metrics that reduce equity gaps.
- **GOAL 2:** Support a seamless transition for students into and through postsecondary education and the workforce by fostering system engagement and equitable access and outcomes for these students.
- **GOAL 3:** Contribute to economic development by supporting the Illinois community college system's effort to provide robust workforce training, to expand apprenticeships, to increase credential attainment, to build quality career pathways, and to address the future needs of the Illinois workforce.

# FUNDING

Funding is distributed to the Illinois Community College Board from the following sources:

- U.S. Department of Education: ~\$20 M annually
- State of Illinois Maintenance of Effort: ~\$35.5 M annually
- State of Illinois Initiatives:
  - \$2 M for Expanding Distance Education
    - 12% of adult education learners attended classes virtually
  - \$750,000 for the Expansion of English Language Acquisition Programs to respond to the growing needs of programs serving New Arrivals

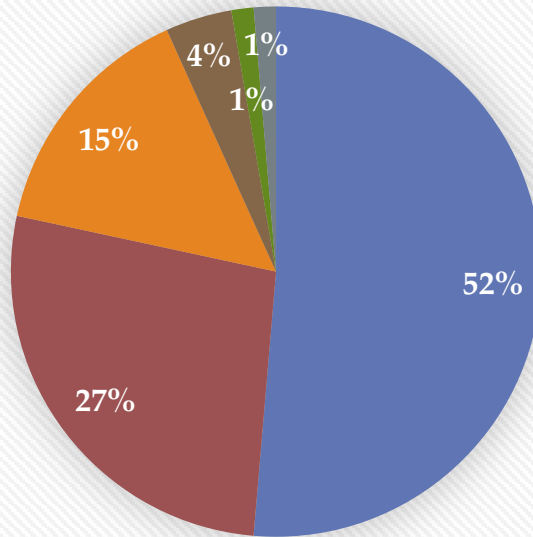
# TYPES OF PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

- **Adult Basic Education for learners at the most basic literacy levels.**
- Adult Secondary Education to prepare learners for their High School Equivalency Certificate.
- **English as a Second Language instruction.**
- Integrated Education and Literacy / Civics instruction for English Language Learners.
- **Bridge Programming for ABE learners to provide work-based contextualized instruction.**
- College and career readiness instruction to prepare learners to transition to postsecondary education or training.
- **Employability Skills instruction is embedded in all elements of Adult Education and Literacy instruction.**
- Integrated Education and Training [through the ICCB's Integrated Career & Academic Preparation System (ICAPS)] that blends adult education instruction and workforce training, leading to an industry recognized credential and community college certificates at those programs administered by the state's community colleges.

# ADULT EDUCATION PROVIDERS

74 total providers across 600 locations

## Providers by Type



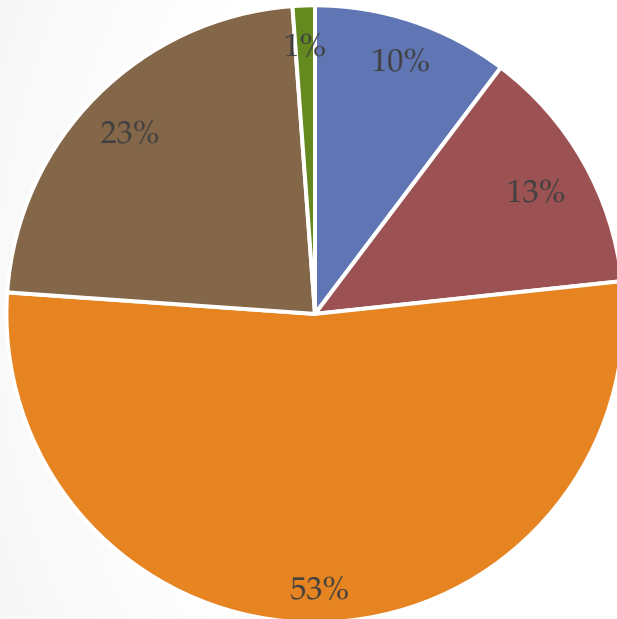
- Community College Districts
- Community-based Organizations
- Local Education Agencies
- Faith-based Organizations
- Four-Year IHEs
- Department of Corrections



# WHO WE SERVE

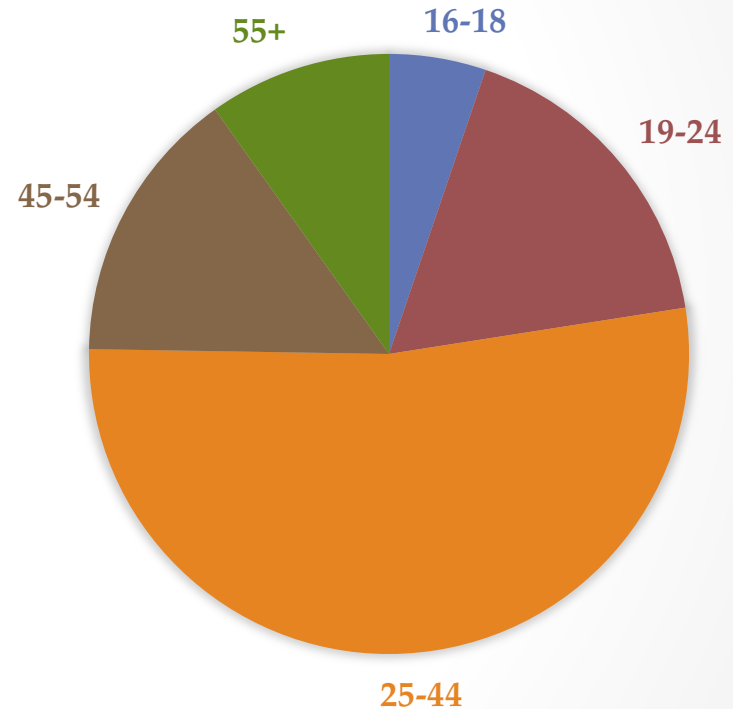
FY2024 Total Students Served To Date: 59,100

## RACE/ ETHNICITY



- Asian
- Black or African American
- Hispanic or Latinx
- White
- American Indian, Native Hawaiian, Two or More Race

## AGE



# PREPARATION FOR THE WORKFORCE

- Local coordination and referral to and from other Titles, including Title I
- All adult education providers offer bridge and Integrated Education and Training Opportunities for eligible students.
  - Bridge Programming: a course or set of courses that provides career exploration and contextualized instruction for a specific sector aimed at transitioning a student into training or postsecondary education.
  - IETs: an accelerated pathway to an industry-recognized credential through training partnerships to serve eligible adult education students, including English Language Learners, while they are completing their Illinois High School Diploma and/or improving their English language skills.
- Workplace Literacy programs: education and literacy programs offered at employer sites for current employees



# STUDENT SUCCESS

Vanessa, an immigrant from El Salvador, joined **Heartland Community College** Adult Education offered English as a Second Language classes. She also found a job at The Organic Cleaning Machine and was able to schedule her work hours around her class times. Vanessa persevered when the pandemic struck and continued with AELP classes online. In May of 2023, Vanessa completed her GED exam for a high school diploma and earned her Bookkeeping Certificate. Cleaning houses is no longer Vanessa's job at the Organic Cleaning Machine. Now she works in the bookkeeping area and handles the payroll. Her plan is to attend Illinois State University to earn a BA in Accounting





# POSTSECONDARY PERKINS

WIOA Required Partner

# CTE

## Strengthening Career and Technical Education Act Administration (Perkins)

- **Authorization:** Perkins V reflects the 100-year federal commitment to Career Technical Education (CTE) and remains the most important piece of legislation affecting CTE in the country. The program focuses on improving the academic and technical achievement of CTE students, strengthening the connections between secondary and postsecondary education, and improving accountability.
- **Focus:** While the focus of the law is on secondary to postsecondary transitions for CTE students, community colleges serve students of all ages with the average age ranging between 27-30.
- **Funding:** ~\$18 M from U.S. Department of Education; \$18.9 M in Maintenance of Effort from State of Illinois
- **Other CTE funding initiatives in SFY2025:** \$15M for Pipeline for the Advancement of the Healthcare Workforce; \$9M for Rev Up EV Initiative; \$5 M for Trade School Initiative, etc.

# CTE

- All community colleges are eligible training providers under WIOA providing low-cost, high-quality training opportunities to WIOA clients
- All CTE programs have program advisory committees made up of employers who provide feedback on curriculum development, training needs, and WBL opportunities.
- **As of August 2023:**
- Statewide, CTE credit program enrollments were at 103,840.
- There are 4,254 approved CTE programs, consisting of 1,217 degree programs and 3,037 certificate programs across all sectors and career clusters.

# RESOURCES

- ICCB Adult Education Resources:  
[https://www2.iccb.org/adult\\_ed/](https://www2.iccb.org/adult_ed/)
- ICCB CTE Resources: <https://www2.iccb.org/cte/>
- Individuals interested in AE programs and services:  
<https://yourpathyourfuture.org/>
- Adult Education Hotline:  
<https://alrc.thecenterweb.org/other/illinois-adult-education-hotline/>
- Employers interested in workplace literacy programs: Behind Every Employer Campaign- *coming soon!*
- ICCB Forum for Excellence:  
<https://icsps.illinoisstate.edu/cte/forum-for-excellence>