

Institute to Credential Resource Specialists
for
Special Learning Needs

Conducted by Sarah Goldammer, Certified Illinois Trainer

This Institute will train selected adult education staff in regional locations to screen adult education students for the presence of learning difficulties and to provide effective instruction of adults with special learning needs. Successful completion of the Institute will result in a credential of Special Learning Needs Resource Specialist. **Participants must attend all 3 days and 9 online sessions of the series.**

Sponsored by the Southern Illinois Professional Development Center

OVERVIEW

The *Institute to Credential Resource Specialists for Special Learning Needs* (SLN) is an intensive training designed to enhance program capacity to meet the needs of adults with special learning needs through the development of local resource specialists. Participants will be trained to serve as resources for instructional staff in their programs and provide screening for SLN, observe the manifestations of special learning needs, and develop appropriate instructional strategies for use by instructors within their programs.

Participants must be recommended by program administrators. No individual applications will be considered. Note that because of legal limitations, no volunteer tutors can be admitted. Additionally, literacy/ABE/ASE will be the focus of this training. Due to their unique characteristics, ESL and correctional populations will not be addressed in this training.

INSTITUTE CONTENT

The Institute will consist of 3 in-person days and 9 1½ hour online sessions of training over a one-year period as follows:

Session I – (1 in-person & 2 online)

- Definition of LD characteristics of adults with special learning needs
- Screening practices vs. assessment and diagnosis
- Administration and interpretation of the Payne Learning Needs Inventory
- Introduction to instructional practices, methods, and approaches
 - use of informal and explicit instruction
 - use of advanced organizers
- Understanding basic accommodations
- Resources and referrals

Session II (1 in-person & 2 online)

- Diagnostic/prescriptive teaching
- Learning styles and teaching styles
- Task analysis
- Using strategy instruction
- Understanding and using brief interview techniques

Session III (3 online)

Flexible and creative instruction

- Evaluation
 - Student progress
 - Instructional effectiveness
- Cognition/metacognition
- Critical thinking skills
- Effective instruction issues
 - reading
 - writing
 - math

Session IV (2 online & 1 in-person)

- Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accommodations/compensations
- Self-advocacy
- Community resources
- Technology
- Understanding self-esteem and social skills issues
- Transition issues
 - workplace
 - daily life/independence

CRITERIA FOR SELECTING INSTITUTE PARTICIPANTS

Participants need to:

- Possess the ability to work collaboratively with colleagues within their programs
- Be able to attend all workshop sessions
- Be willing to administer screening/inventories and to serve as resources for administrators and instructors in their programs
- Have at least two years of experience teaching adults
- Be employed within their adult education programs at least 20 hours a week (*volunteer tutors are not eligible*)
- Anticipate continued employment within their programs

BENEFITS OF PARTICIPANTS IN THIS INSTITUTE

Benefits to participating adult educators and their programs are:

- Improved capacity to meet the needs of adults with special learning needs
- Availability of an on-site Resource Specialist for special learning needs
- Access to the special learning needs screening instruments presented at the Institute and a trained screening specialist
- Availability of duplicable materials for program use

- Ongoing participation as a team member in this statewide initiative to meet the special learning needs of adult education students
- Participation in statewide and regional networking and communication systems with other Special Learning Needs Resource Specialists and with the Service Center System
- Ongoing technical assistance and support from the Service Center System

Special note: This Institute represents basic specialist training and will not prepare participants to be trainers or diagnosticians.

SEE ATTACHED REGISTRATION FORM FOR INSTITUTE DATES, TIME, AND LOCATION.

- **CPDUs will be offered for those interested.**

**INSTITUTE TO CREDENTIAL RESOURCE SPECIALISTS
for SPECIAL LEARNING NEEDS**

REGISTRATION/RECOMMENDATION FORM
(To be completed by the appropriate program administrator)

Program: _____

Recommended Participant's Name: _____

Current Position of Participant: _____

Program Address: _____

Program Phone number: _____

Participant's Home Address: _____

Participant's Home Phone Number: _____

Participant's e-mail address _____

ADMINISTRATOR RECOMMENDATION:

I understand that this institute is designed to train selected adult education staff as Special Learning Needs Resource Specialists. The participant(s) that I have recommended meet the following criteria:

- Possess the ability to work collaboratively with colleagues
- Is able to attend all in-person and online days of the workshop sessions
- Is willing and able to administer screenings and inventories and serve as a resource for administrator(s) and instructor(s) in this program
- Has two or more years experience teaching adults
- Is employed within this adult education program at least 20 hours a week
- Anticipates continued employment with this program

I further understand that my program may incur some training-related expenses (travel, substitute pay, etc.). In addition, I understand that ESL and correctional populations will not be addressed in this Institute.

Administrator's Signature of Recommendation: _____

Administrator's Title: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: () _____ Fax: () _____

ALL TRAININGS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Day #1 September 18, 2009
Rend Lake College Marketplace
Mt. Vernon, IL
8:30am- 4:00pm

Online Session #1 September 25, 2009
Online – Horizon Wimba
9:30am-10:00am – Walk-Through of online system
10:00am- 11:30am – SLN session

Online Session #2 October 16, 2009
Online – Horizon Wimba
10:00am- 11:30am – SLN session

Day #2 November 20, 2009
Rend Lake College Marketplace
Mt. Vernon, IL
8:30am- 4:00pm

Online Session #3 December 11, 2009
Online – Horizon Wimba
10:00am- 11:30am – SLN session

Online Session #4 January 8, 2010
Online – Horizon Wimba
10:00am- 11:30am – SLN session

Online Session #5 January 29, 2010
Online – Horizon Wimba
10:00am- 11:30am – SLN session

Online Session #6 February 12, 2010
Online – Horizon Wimba
10:00am- 11:30am – SLN session

Online Session #7 February 26, 2010
Online – Horizon Wimba
10:00am- 11:30am – SLN session

Online Session #8 March 26, 2010
Online – Horizon Wimba
10:00am- 11:30am – SLN session

Online Session #9 April 9, 2010
Online – Horizon Wimba
10:00am- 11:30am – SLN session

Day #3 April 16, 2010
Rend Lake College Marketplace
Mt. Vernon, IL
8:30am- 4:00pm

COST: \$75/PARTICIPANT (MATERIALS)
All meals are on your own.

Return this Registration/Recommendation Form and check for \$75 (payable to SIUE) to:

Southern Illinois Professional Development Center
Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
Campus Box 1128
Edwardsville, IL 62026-1128

Deadline: September 4, 2009

Questions? Call Pat Wellen (618) 650-2254, fax: (618) 650-3455, or e-mail:
pwellen@siue.edu