



COABE 2025 ACCEPTED PRECONFERENCE SESSIONS

FULL DAY SESSIONS: SUNDAY 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM

Primary Presenter: Timothy Amaral

General Interest

The Deepest Dive: Understanding Trauma's Impact on the Thinking and Behavior

Trauma is an all too common experience (61% of all adults), and it has profound implications for the adult classroom. In this workshop, we'll explore what it takes to keep our most vulnerable students on the pathway to success by looking at what to do when the math or English or attendance gets too hard, and when self-sabotage looks inevitable. Join us as we take a deep dive into trauma's pervasive impact on the brain.

In-person and Virtual presentation

Session is a vendor or product: No

Primary Presenter: Dee Crescitelli

Math and Numeracy

Adult Numeracy Network (ANN) Teaching and Learning Institute: Understanding the Math We Teach

In Adult Education, as generalists, we often find ourselves teaching math when we don't necessarily feel sure of our own math background. In this session, we will develop our own understanding of why the math works, allowing us to make sense of familiar and new strategies. As we grow as flexible thinkers ourselves, we support students' building on their good ideas and prepare them to take on both testing and the math of life.

In-person presentation only

Session is a vendor or product: No

FULL DAY SESSIONS: SUNDAY 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM

Primary Presenter: Matt Edelen

Co-Presenter(s): Dené Shelton

Learning Differences

Overcoming Barriers: Supporting Adult Learners of all Neurotypes to Thrive and Succeed

Adult learners face many barriers in pursuit of their education. Intrinsic and extrinsic factors can easily derail even the most dedicated of students. How can we as educators support students with neurodivergent conditions (ADHD, Autism

Spectrum Conditions, Dyslexia, etc) to stay on track and motivated towards reaching their goals while overcoming all the reasons they “can’t”? This session will explore strategies to encourage neurodiverse students to overcome whatever obstacles they face and attain their education and career goals.

In-person and Virtual presentation

Session is a vendor or product: No

Primary Presenter: Vi Hawes

Co-Presenter(s): Lizelena Iglesias

Science

Unlocking the Scientific Method with AI: A Hands-On Approach

Unlock the potential of the scientific method with AI in this hands-on session. Discover how AI enhances science inquiry by guiding students through question formulation, experiment design, data analysis, and conclusion drawing. Engage in an experiment and learn practical AI applications to foster critical thinking and problem-solving skills. Equip yourself with innovative strategies to integrate AI into your classroom, making learning more interactive and impactful, and preparing students for a rapidly evolving job market.

In-person presentation only

Session is a vendor or product: No

FULL DAY SESSIONS: SUNDAY 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM

Primary Presenter: Tina Hite

Co-Presenter(s): Nicole Fleming

General Interest

Six Brain Science Principles to Engage Learners and Improve Performance

Come prepared to move and interact to experience engaging activities you can use in your classroom. Learn about the research behind using these activities and a framework for planning engaging lessons to improve learning and retention.

In-person presentation only

Session is a vendor or product: No

Primary Presenter: Leesa Kraeger

Co-Presenter(s): Anna Kaiper-Marquez & Zeljanan Javorek

Family Literacy

Family Literacy at a Glance: Implementing the Four-Component Model of Family Literacy in Your Community

This session will review the four components of Family Literacy, Adult Education, Parent Time, Children's Education, and Parent and Child Together (PACT) Time. Participants will gain a broad understanding of how to successfully implement Family Literacy in a variety of settings with a focus on creating a community of adult learners. Facilitators will lead the group in a planning session where participants will consider where and how Family Literacy can work in their own communities.

In-person presentation only

Session is a vendor or product: No

FULL DAY SESSIONS: SUNDAY 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM

Primary Presenter: Claudia Maness

Co-Presenter(s): Kaye Sharbono

Career Pathways

Career Pathways Leadership Certification Workshop for Adult Educators - Level 1

This interactive workshop introduces you to career pathways design based on CORD's Framework for Career Pathways Alignment. Sample topics include ecosystem building, employer engagement, pathway mapping, stackable credentials, credit for prior learning, and holistic supports. Participants develop a local action plan and receive a toolbox of resources to deploy with adult education, community college, and employer partners.

In-person presentation only

Session is a vendor or product: Yes

Primary Presenter: Carmine Stewart

General Interest

The Science of Reading and Adult Learners

This session for anyone who is interested in applying the science of reading to achieve outcomes for beginning and struggling adult readers, Participants will learn about the science of reading, and practice assessing and providing interventions for the five components of reading.

In-person presentation only

Session is a vendor or product: Yes

FULL DAY SESSIONS: SUNDAY 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM

Primary Presenter: Laura Weisel

Leadership for Administrators

Reimagining Adult Foundational Education: A New Model for Service Delivery Drives Student & Program Success

Adult education has updated resources, technologies, partnerships, and IET, yet most states still need to meet their projected student success goals. This session showcases a reimagining of AFE using a research-based initiative that moved a state from #32 nationally to #5 in MSGs in four years and achieved #2 nationally in sustained student employment. Learn to replicate this success by updating service delivery, rethinking administrative and instructional roles, and empowering students. Join this collaborative learning experience and start planning for FY2025.

In-person presentation only

Session is a vendor or product: No

HALF DAY AM SESSIONS: SUNDAY 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Primary Presenter: Kim Glenn

Professional Development

Supporting Transfer of Learning in Professional Development

Professional development provides adult education practitioners with opportunities to enhance their knowledge and skills, but it will only have an impact if participants put what they learn into practice. This interactive pre-conference session equips adult education professional developers and trainers with strategies to support the transfer of learning in PD settings. Focus areas include microlearning, coaching, professional learning communities, job-embedded tasks, and institutional supports. Participants will gain actionable insights and tools to enhance PD effectiveness.

In-person and Virtual presentation

Session is a vendor or product: No

HALF DAY AM SESSIONS: SUNDAY 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Primary Presenter: Sherri Lattimer

Digital Literacy & Technology

Technology as a Tool for Student Retention

Most students in your class come equipped with a smartphone. This is a key tool in creating a classroom community and can have a positive impact on student retention. In this workshop, you will learn easy ways to incorporate technology through fun activities that your students will love, that actually connect them to you digitally. Topics will include creation of QR codes, Canva and apps within GSuite including Google slideshow, Google Forms and Google Sites. Participants should bring a device if they wish to interact and create along with the presentation.

In-person presentation only

Session is a vendor or product: No

Primary Presenter: Debra Means

Co-Presenter(s): Letica Farrera

General Interest

Tools & Evaluation Services - Supporting the Economic Inclusion of Immigrants with International Education

Recent data indicates that over two million college-educated immigrants and refugees in the U.S. face unemployment or underemployment, constituting 17% of the total college-educated labor force. This underutilization not only represents a significant loss of human capital but also underscores the urgent need for comprehensive solutions and adult educators are part of that solution.

In-person presentation only

Session is a vendor or product: No

HALF DAY AM SESSIONS: SUNDAY 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Primary Presenter: Cathy Tyler

Co-Presenter(s): Kaylene Smith, and Rob Moore

Career Pathways

Blueprints for construction training: Building on the COABE/NCCER partnership!

Join this hands-on, impactful preconference session to learn about the discounts and opportunities that are available to you as a local program to offer construction training. This session will highlight special benefits that are only available through this partnership and will help learners find their career pathway while helping local program hit their WIOA metrics.

In-person presentation only

Session is a vendor or product: No

HALF DAY PM SESSIONS: SUNDAY 12:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Primary Presenter: Jeff Arnott

Leadership for Administrators

Let's Build a Successful IETs that Works for Your Program!

This session provides innovative, cost-effective strategies for implementing Integrated Educational Training (IET) in adult education. An experienced presenter will teach participants a ten-step process for developing successful IET programs. Participants will leave with practical ideas, a clear plan, and ongoing access to coaching and support.

In-person presentation only

Session is a vendor or product: No

HALF DAY PM SESSIONS: SUNDAY 12:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Primary Presenter: Anthony Burik

Co-Presenter(s): Marjorie Olavides

Digital Literacy & Technology

Tech Tools for Formative Assessment

We look at some formative assessment tools that can help determine where students are during class and how to help learners as they work with lesson materials. We also consider using AI tools to create formative assessments. Formative assessment tools include poll and survey tools, tools to present and assess simultaneously, classic tools like Kahoot and Quizlet, and exit tickets. Attendees will practice and understand how to use these tools in the classroom.

In-person and Virtual presentation

Session is a vendor or product: No

Primary Presenter: Jen Denton

Co-Presenter(s): Charlie Weeks

Advising, Recruitment, and Retention

Targeted Teaching: Intentional Instruction to Meet Adult Learning Needs, Make Gains, and Improve Student Retention

Adult students face a unique set of learning challenges. From low literacy levels and lack of prior knowledge to diagnosed learning differences and skills gaps, the needs of adult learners are diverse and formidable. When supported and channeled correctly, these perceived challenges can inspire, motivate, and strengthen the success of adult students. Equipping educators with tools to address these needs promotes skills gains, student engagement, and program retention.

In-person presentation only

Session is a vendor or product: No

HALF DAY PM SESSIONS: SUNDAY 12:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Primary Presenter: Nell Eckersley

Digital Literacy & Technology

Yes We Can! Teaching Digital Skills Using Mobile Phones

Join our interactive three-hour preconference workshop designed to enhance your ability to teach digital skills using mobile phones. Discover essential mobile tools, create engaging content, and integrate these skills into your teaching strategies. This hands-on session includes live demonstrations and collaborative activities. Bring your laptop to fully engage in creating and sharing digital content. Perfect for educators looking to expand their digital resilience toolkit.

In-person presentation only

Session is a vendor or product: No

Primary Presenter: Teddy Edouard

General Interest

The 15 Laws of Student Retention: Evidence-Based Insights to Maximize Student Engagement, Retention, and Learning

This three-hour interactive session will share and discuss adult learning theories and 15 evidence-based strategies to maximize adult student engagement, retention, and learning. Attendees will explore three adult learning theories (Andragogy, Theory of Margin, and Transformative Learning) and their implications for teaching and adult education programs' performance. Lastly, participants will discuss applying evidence-based insights to promote student engagement, retention, and learning to help learners reach their objectives.

In-person and Virtual presentation

Session is a vendor or product: No

HALF DAY PM SESSIONS: SUNDAY 12:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Primary Presenter: Denise Friend

Co-Presenter(s): Elizabeth Moya

Career Pathways

Developing an IET Syllabus: A Tool For Students, Teachers, and Partners

Join the ADVANCE Integrated Education and Training (IET) team for a workshop on designing impactful syllabi for IET programs. When designed appropriately, a quality IET syllabus can empower learners, contribute to partnership collaboration, and support integrated lesson planning. Come and create a syllabus for your IET program and leave with a draft syllabus to share. Knowledge of a specific IET program will help you to get the most out of this session.

In-person presentation only

Session is a vendor or product: No

Primary Presenter: Sara Gutting

Corrections

Understanding the Mind of the Inmate for Effective Classroom Management and Teaching

This workshop will delve into the mind of the incarcerated inmate/student to understand how to recognize and appropriately handle inmate manipulation. This presentation will share ideas on how to connect appropriately with students, how to recognize manipulation and, then, how to make appropriate changes in our teaching for effective classroom management and instruction which will result in better outcomes and student success.

In-person presentation only

Session is a vendor or product: No

HALF DAY PM SESSIONS: SUNDAY 12:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Primary Presenter: Rebecca Leder

Leadership for Administrators

Opportunities Knock: How to Build High Quality Relationships for Growth, Collaboration, and Impactful Learner Outcomes

Whether you're a state director, program administrator, or agency leader, professional relationships, collaboration, and partnership are key to delivering successful learner outcomes. How do we build tighter bridges inter-organizationally, with stakeholders, partners who help us deliver meaningful learning experiences to our learners, and learners themselves, given resource constraints like time, budget, and buy-in? Learn the research-backed, human-centered career relationship-building communications framework, The Knock Method® and begin to connect more intentionally right away.

In-person and Virtual presentation

Session is a vendor or product: No

Primary Presenter: Kelly Mobray

Co-Presenter(s): Emily Ryan & Jess Picolet

General Interest

Partners 4 Success: A Wholistic Programming Approach to Impact Successful Employability Outcomes of Students

Partners 4 Success (P4S), in the heart of Kansas, is a comprehensive employment training program designed for struggling adults who are ready to make significant life changes through obtaining gainful employment and learning the skills necessary to maintain it. Strategies will be shared for designing teaching teams and securing the investment of key community partners who together, assist student achievement of educational credentials, core skills and technical tools that allow students to experience employment success.

In-person presentation only

Session is a vendor or product: No

HALF DAY PM SESSIONS: SUNDAY 12:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Primary Presenter: Christine Roberts

Math and Numeracy

Amazing Alternate Algorithms

Learn multiple ways to do basic math operations. We will be focusing on students with low level math skills. Participants will learn new ways to perform addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division and how to help students overcome some of the more common errors when performing these basic operations. Each participant will receive a teacher guide on multiple algorithms for basic operations and an opportunity to receive student workbooks on the algorithms, written at below a 4th grade level.

In-person presentation only

Session is a vendor or product: No

Primary Presenter: Glenda Rose

ESOL and English Language Learners

Expanding DART: Digital Literacy Tools and Practices for All Levels for ESL

Incorporating Digital Literacy in ESL can be challenging, especially at the lowest levels. DART, a curriculum originally created for very low-level English Language Learners (ELLs) working at Tyson and then adopted by Texas, is a great place to start. We will explore the foundational concepts and content of the DART curriculum and then explore specific tools, including AI tools, to enhance the experience for ELLs at all levels of instruction.

In-person and Virtual presentation

Session is a vendor or product: No

HALF DAY PM SESSIONS: SUNDAY 12:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Primary Presenter: Claudette Session

General Interest

Chunking, Chewing, Roaming and Reviewing: Making Content Comprehensible

Integrating content and language instruction is key to developing the communication and CCR skills that adult ESL, ABE and ASE students need for successful interactions in the community, workforce and post-secondary education. In this fun, interactive, activity-filled session, participants will explore chunking, chewing, roaming, reviewing and other creative and engaging strategies that improve language, comprehension and critical thinking skills. Participants will also make and take two cognitive thinking manipulatives for immediate use in class.

In-person presentation only

Session is a vendor or product: No

Primary Presenter: Dana Varzan-Parker

Co-Presenter(s): Karen Greaves & Pasha Black

Advising, Recruitment, and Retention

Elevating Instruction: Classroom Observation as a Tool for Student Success

Partnerships between teachers and educational leaders drive student learning and success! This pre-conference session will help you adapt and implement a research-based classroom observation toolkit to your context and needs. Massachusetts' holistic Classroom Visit Toolkit is designed to support effective ABE and ESOL instruction through a collaborative process. Participants will explore its components, analyze high-quality instruction, learn keys to effective observations, and provide targeted feedback. The session is aimed at directors and instructional leaders.

In-person presentation only

Session is a vendor or product: No