



Adult Education You've Got Options!



Graduates from Wood County Vo-Tech Center in Parkersburg, WV

Adult education gives learners the chance to increase their knowledge, develop new skills with assessments like the Tests of Adult Basic Education (TABE®) and gain high school equivalency credentials like the TASC Test Assessing Secondary Completion™.

Economic Benefits for Adult Workers with Low Measured Skills¹

Across the total U.S. working age population, ages 16-65 — data confirms that there is a significant portion of employed adults with low measured skills.

- 14% of the employed population have low literacy skills
- 23% have low numeracy skills
- 62% have low digital problem solving skills
- 50% of all low-skilled workers are not engaged in any learning opportunities like adult education programs

Labor Market Outcomes¹

- Nearly 60 % of lower-skilled adults earn incomes in the bottom quintile, or less than \$16,000 a year.
- These workers tend to be employed in retail and auto mechanic services, health and social work, hospitality and food service, manufacturing, and construction. These five industries account for 62% of the low-skilled workforce.
- Both literacy and numeracy skills pay off for workers, with a strong positive correlation between proficiency and income, but numeracy is even more strongly correlated than literacy.

The Solution...

Investing in adult education can help close our skills gap and increase college-going rates, leading to the filling of jobs and the breaking of generational poverty. Source: Coalition on Adult Basic Education (COABE)

1. U.S. Department of Education Office of Career, Technical and Adult Education, Survey of Adult Skills. (2016). Retrieved from <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ovae/pi/AdultEd/factsh/adultworkerslowmeasuredskills.pdf>



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