

## Healthcare Contextualized Bridge Curriculum - Introduction

The Illinois Community College Board's (ICCB) Adult Education Division is pleased to release a revised statewide Adult Education Healthcare Contextualized Bridge Curriculum. The focus of the statewide Healthcare Contextualized Bridge Curriculum is to educate and train workers for sustainable employment or post-secondary training in the healthcare field. The goal is to combine adult education academics with the skills needed in the workplace through contextualized instruction. The instruction includes a combination of identified workplace competencies, career exploration, and basic skills presented in an occupational context. The curriculum is not intended to address one specific healthcare job; it includes content, skills, and resources appropriate for a variety of jobs in the healthcare industry.

We want this curriculum to work for you, your program, and your students! Teachers should feel empowered to begin with this rich curriculum and add their own knowledge, experiences, and engaging opportunities for learning.

### Purpose & Format

- The curriculum was designed for ABE/ASE and ESL learners at NRS Level 4 (High Intermediate) or above.
- Programs are encouraged to use the curriculum flexibly. The number, length, and order of activities can be adjusted to fit the needs of a program's course design. Please ensure that all courses are marked in DAISI as Bridge courses.
- The curriculum is available as Microsoft documents and PDFs, and resource links are available as Google Docs, PDFs, or .gov websites.
- Each theme (or unit) contains an outline file containing the curriculum framework which is organized in four columns: **Outcomes / Content / Activities & Resources / Assessment**. The outcomes have been correlated with the Illinois ABE/ASE Content Standards. Each theme contains vocabulary documents with key terms and definitions for the content. Each theme outline also contains a variety of resource links embedded directly in the document. *(All web-based links were live and accurate as of July 7, 2023.)*

### Foundations for Design

- This curriculum is intentionally designed to integrate College and Career Readiness Standards, Essential Employability Skills, and Universal Design for Learning principles in every theme.
- Academic content areas, career readiness strategies, and a variety of healthcare-related bridge content are seamlessly integrated in this curriculum. ESL, Language Arts and Math standards are targeted throughout, and Speaking

& Listening opportunities are stressed in each lesson as part of the emphasis on communication, teamwork, and workplace skills.

- ELL supports are noted throughout the curriculum, as are IL IELCE Civics Competencies that correlate to particular objectives. Vocabulary lists, including a list with images for each term, are available for each themed unit.
- Learning outcomes often require learners to engage in collaborative and individual projects involving authentic materials and resources and to complete documents and tasks for career awareness.

### **Assumptions**

- Lesson activities are adaptable to either in-person or online delivery. Agencies or instructors who use this curriculum will adjust activities and/or instructions as needed to suit course modality.
- Each agency or instructor who uses this curriculum will adapt instructional strategies, content level of difficulty, learning activities, and projects to meet the needs of the program's target population and adult learners of lower and higher academic levels.
- Though EBRI methodology is not always explicitly mentioned in the curriculum, it is assumed the instructor will explicitly teach the targeted vocabulary in each lesson plan & adapt instruction for the needs of students in the course as needed.
- Referenced resources, relevant Internet links, and learning activities (created, suggested, attached, or referenced) will be used, modified, or omitted based on student need and restraints of class time and resources.

### **Activities and Resources**

- Activities and resources are built directly into the lesson plans as direct, clickable links that pull from a Google Drive folder housing the Healthcare Bridge Curriculum.
- Some activities and resources are Google Docs or Slides, and settings are enabled so that users have view-only access. Users can select FILE - DOWNLOAD to download them as Word documents or PDFs if they wish to edit the material. The remaining materials are PDFs, and users can view or choose to download each document as it is opened.

### **Acknowledgements**

We would like to thank the following for their contributions to the development of this Healthcare Bridge Curriculum:

- Curriculum Developers - Barbara Bernardi, Anita Kerr, and Shannon Wood
  - Editor - Anita Kerr
  - Reviewer - Erin Vobornik
  - Project Managers - Sarah Goldammer and Tara Schwab of the Southern Illinois Professional Development Center
- 

## **Methods of Assessment**

- Group discussions
- Homework assignments
- Oral / visual presentations
- Projects
- Quizzes and worksheets
- Written assignments

## **Course Outline**

Theme 1: The Healthcare System

Theme 2: Medical Ethics

Theme 3: Preventative Health

Theme 4: Nutrition

Theme 5: Mobility

Theme 6: Cardiovascular Health

Theme 7: Infection

Theme 8: Medicine

Theme 9: Mental Health

Theme 10: Next Steps and Exploration