



2024 SUMMER SYMPOSIUM

JUNE 10 -11, 2024

Hutchinson Shores Resort

Jensen Beach, Florida

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Welcome!



Dear Esteemed Colleagues,

Welcome to ACE of Florida's 2024 Summer Symposium at the beautiful Hutchinson Shores Resort and Spa! It is my pleasure to extend a warm welcome to each and every one of you. Your presence marks the beginning of what promises to be an engaging and enriching experience and hopefully, you'll find some time to enjoy some fun in the sun!

The Summer Symposium serves as a platform for all to collaborate and work towards a common goal: the advancement of adult education in the state of Florida. With our collective expertise and passion, we have the opportunity to make a profound impact on the lives of countless individuals seeking to further their education and enhance their skills.

Throughout the Symposium, you will have numerous opportunities to network and collaborate with peers and discover new avenues for growth and innovation. I encourage each of you to take full advantage of these opportunities, as we can truly effect positive change.

I am particularly excited to highlight our Assessment Overview session scheduled for Sunday afternoon. With recent changes in the landscape of adult education assessments, this session will provide invaluable insights and strategies to navigate these changes effectively. I urge all attendees to participate actively and contribute to the discourse.

Following the Assessment Overview, I invite you to join us for a Welcome Reception on Sunday evening. This will be a wonderful opportunity to unwind, connect with fellow attendees, and lay the foundation for fruitful collaborations in the days ahead.

Monday's and Tuesday's agendas have an impressive lineup of topics that are both timely and relevant to our work. From updates from the Florida Department of Education to discussions on the Florida Ready to Work program, IET, Vocational Rehabilitation, the National Adult Education Honor Society, data quality, and recruitment, there is much to learn and discuss. Additionally, a session on the emerging trend of AI's role in adult education will provide valuable insight into the future of our field. Furthermore, legislative updates will ensure that we are informed and equipped to advocate effectively for policies that support adult learners across the state.

In closing, I want to express my sincere gratitude to each of you for your dedication and commitment to adult education. Together, we have the power to inspire, empower, and transform lives. I wish you all a productive and memorable symposium.

Warm regards,
Mary Keen, ACE President



ACE of Florida is committed to providing you the most up-to-date professional development designed to meet your immediate needs. To that end, if there are topics or issues you would like to see considered for the 2024 ACE Conference or future stand-alone workshops, please indicate that need by following the link in the QR code.

2024 SUMMER SYMPOSIUM AGENDA

Sunday, June 9

12:00 pm – 4:30 pm **Registration**
Location: Sea Turtle Foyer

3:00 pm – 4:00 pm **Assessment Overview**
Location: Loggerhead Salons
Moderator: Dave Barnes, Programs Coordinator, ACE of Florida
Presenter: Carol Bruner, Director, Adult Education Program Implementation,
Division of Career and Adult Education, Florida Department of Education

Join the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) in this informative pre-conference session as we review the general state and federal requirements related to assessments in adult education programs. This session will provide an in-depth exploration of the latest updates on the National Reporting System (NRS) federal assessments, including both new and expiring series.

4:30 pm – 5:30 pm **Welcome Reception**
Location: Sea Turtle Foyer

Monday, June 10

7:15 am **Registration**
Location: Sea Turtle Foyer

7:15 am – 8:00 am **Continental Breakfast**
Location: Sea Turtle Foyer
Sponsor: **English Discoveries**



8:00 am – 8:40 am **Welcome, Overview and Introductions**
Location: Loggerhead/Leatherback
Presenters: Julie Roberts, Executive Director, ACE of Florida
Mary Keen, ACE President, and Director, Career and Adult Education,
RIVEROAK Technical College, Suwannee County School District

DOE Greetings
Presenter: Dr. Kevin O'Farrell, Chancellor, Division of Career and Adult Education,
Florida Department of Education

8:40 am – 9:40 am **Session I**
Updates from the FDOE, Division of Career and Adult Education
Moderator: Carol Bruner, Director, Adult Education Program Implementation
Presenters: Carol Bruner
Charles Feehrer, Bureau Chief, Grants Administration and Compliance
Catherine O'Neil, Director, Integrated Education and Training (IET)
Ashley Olevitch, High School Equivalency Diploma Program and GED® Administrator
Dr. Brittany Ross, Director, Research and Evaluation
Ashley Cooper, Education Policy Analyst, Adult Education Specialist

Stay informed and ahead of the curve with this crucial session on the latest updates from the Florida Department of Education (FDOE). This session will cover a wide range of important topics including professional learning opportunities, recent and upcoming legislation, curriculum and assessment changes, Integrated Education and Training (IET) developments, and the latest research and evaluation data. Additionally, attendees will receive updates on reporting procedures, grants and compliance requirements, and GED testing advancements.

Monday, June 10

9:45 am – 10:05 am Session II

Florida Ready to Work – Alignment to Adult Education Employability Curriculum

Moderator: Mary Keen

Presenter: Holly McFadden, Customer Success Manager, Florida Ready To Work

Learn how the Florida Ready to Work modules are aligned with the Florida Department of Education’s Adult Education Employability Curriculum. Focusing on outside the box implementation strategies that have proven successful, this presentation will highlight ways to seamlessly incorporate Florida Ready to Work lessons into your adult education curriculum. The program is two-fold, offering corresponding online career-contextualized training to develop the essential employability skills required by most jobs. Then there are proctored assessments providing individuals an opportunity to showcase proficiency in crucial life and career skills, including critical thinking, problem-solving, technology usage in the workplace, and foundational academic employability skills. This program is research-based, career contextualized, easy-to-implement, and provides students the opportunity to earn state-sponsored, nationally recognized credentials as a part of their coursework. The Florida Ready to Work team will be on hand to assist you with mapping out how to utilize Florida’s FREE career readiness solution.

10:10 am – 10:30 am Sunshine Break

Location: Sea Turtle Foyer

Sponsor: Pearson



10:35 am – 10:55 am Session III

Florida’s Division of Vocational Rehabilitation: Supporting Opportunities for Floridians with Disabilities

Moderator: Mary Keen

Presenter: Victoria Gaitanis, Acting Director, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Florida Department of Education

This session provides information and updates about outcomes, programs, and services with a focus on how VR can partner with adult education programs to improve outcomes for individuals with disabilities.

11:00 am – 12:00 pm Session IV

The Next Frontier: Exploring AI’s Influence on Adult Education

Moderator: Dave Barnes, Program Coordinator, ACE of Florida

Presenter: Neil Richmond, Co-founder, ConnectAble

This session will show how AI improves adult education program operations, making processes more efficient. It offers strategies to implement AI, highlighting its benefits and challenges, and emphasizes its role in maximizing educators’ time for direct student interaction.

12:05 pm – 1:10 pm Lunch

Location: Hawksbill

Sponsor: BurlingtonEnglish



Monday, June 10

1:15 pm – 2:00 pm Session V

Elevating IET: Strategies and Success Stories

Location: Loggerhead/Leatherback

Moderator: Catherine O'Neil

Panelists: Lorri Benjamin, Director, Adult and Community Education, Brevard County Public Schools
Regina Browning, Assistant Director, Adult & Community Education (ACE)-Leon
Meagan Duke, Instructional Coordinator, Indian River State College
Brittney Gulino, Program Coordinator, Indian River State College
Colleen Maynard, Assistant Director, Manatee Technical College
Ed Rivadeneyra, Dean of Adult Education, Seminole State College of Florida

This session will highlight the diverse approaches and MSGs utilized by IET programs at state colleges, technical colleges, and adult education centers. Our panelists will share successful strategies for enrolling students across a variety of programs, offering insights into both the planning and implementation of effective IET initiatives. Attendees will learn how these institutions maintain and scale their programs and will be equipped with the knowledge and inspiration to drive meaningful improvements in their own organizations. The focus will be on student outcomes and success, strengthening partnerships, and overcoming the challenges associated with implementing and sustaining IET programs.

2:05 pm – 2:25 pm Session VI

National Adult Education Honor Society

Moderator: Mary Keen

Presenter: Elizabeth Luciano, Director

The National Adult Education Honor Society (NAEHS) is an organization that is dedicated to honoring hard working adult education students all around the United States. The mission of the NAEHS is to provide meaningful recognition to deserving adult education students, improve student employment opportunities, develop student ambassadors for local adult education programs, and create adult education awareness with school administrators and state legislators. Founded in 1991, the original director, Floyd Weaver, set out with the goal to provide materials and assistance to programs and schools looking to honor the adult education students who showed dependable attendance, work ethic, and a positive and dedicated disposition. What started as a small induction of seventeen members in Kentucky has now branched out into an organization with over two hundred-fifty charters in forty-two states. Partnering with adult education programs, they are continuing to grow and raise awareness of ways to recognize deserving adult education students and encourage other future students to reach for success.

2:30 pm – 2:50 pm Sunshine Break

Location: Sea Turtle Foyer

Sponsor: Essential Education



2:50 pm – 3:10 pm Session VII

Project Anchor – Postsecondary Opportunities for Juvenile Justice Involved Youth

Moderator: Mary Keen

Presenter: Adrienne Campbell, Deputy Secretary, Florida Department of Juvenile Justice

What do young adults in the juvenile justice system do to continue their education after graduation? The Department of Juvenile Justice is proud to highlight Project Anchor – a partnership with Tallahassee State College that provides skill building opportunities in career readiness and workforce development. Join us as we explore the pathways provided to committed youth to successfully enter, remain and advance in the workforce, either through unsubsidized employment, internships, externships, job shadowing, or other work-based related opportunities.

2024 Summer Symposium Wrap-up and Raffle



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Monday, June 10

3:15 pm – 3:35 pm Session VIII

Introducing Xello: Florida's CCLR Platform

Moderator: Dave Barnes

Presenter: Carol Lopez, Training Team Lead, Xello

Join the Xello team as we explore how Xello empowers every student to design a personalized plan for the future. We'll dive into the following features designed specifically to support your adult education learners:

- Assessments: a key component of helping students connect who they are to future opportunities.
- Comprehensive career profiles: students explore hundreds of career options that align with their assessment results.
- Pathways: go beyond college and explore nine pathways, including military, technical schools, straight-to-work, entrepreneurship, and more.
- Portfolio development: helps students easily create and share vibrant portfolios to showcase their work across subjects and reflect on what they've learned.
- And much more!

Get yourself up to speed on everything Xello has to offer and gather key resources to get started with your students today.

3:35 pm – 4:00 pm Session IX

2024 Legislative Update

Presenter: Dave Barnes

The 2024 Florida Legislative Session is in the books. 285 bills were passed during the Session and have either made it to the Governor's desk or are in the process of being transmitted to the Governor. This session will highlight bills and budget issues that passed, as well as noteworthy legislation that did not pass with a look forward to the 2025 Legislative session.

4:00 pm Daily Wrap-up and Evaluation

Tuesday, June 11

7:30 am Registration

Location: Sea Turtle Foyer

7:30 am – 8:20 am Breakfast Buffet and Announcements

Location: Hawksbill

Sponsor: ACE of Florida



8:30 am – 8:50 am ACE Updates

Location: Loggerhead/Leatherback

Presenters: Julie Roberts and Mary Keen

8:50 am – 9:00 am IPDAE's IET Catalog

Moderator: Dave Barnes

Presenter: June Rall, Director, Institute for Professional Development of Adult Educators (IPDAE)

9:05 am – 10:05 am Session X

Using Census Data to Drive Program Implementation

Moderator: Mary Keen

Presenters: Carol Bruner

Samantha Dudley, Director of Outreach and Recruitment,
Division of Career and Adult Education, Florida Department of Education

Embark on a transformative journey with us as we dive into the art of leveraging data for your outreach endeavors through the lens of "Your Way" - Florida's adult education outreach and recruitment campaign. In this collaborative session, tailored to your unique geographical domains, we'll work together to understand how data can help you connect with the right people in your specific area, using the tools and resources of "Your Way." Plus, you'll hear about the newest ways we're reaching out to people across the state. Get ready to learn new ways to enhance your outreach efforts!

Tuesday, June 11

10:10 am – 11:20 am Session XI

Florida Adult Education Policy Updates: Data Reporting & Accountability Implications

Moderator: Julie Roberts

Presenters: Dr. Brittany Ross, Director, Research and Evaluation,
Division of Career and Adult Education, Florida Department of Education

The Division of Career and Adult Education recently released a memo detailing adult education program implementation and assessment policy changes. From the release of updated NRS tables, new assessment series, and revised accountability policies, there is much to discuss. During this session, accountability implications of these changes will be discussed in detail.

11:25 am Wrap-up, Evaluations and Drawing

Presenters: Mary Keen and Julie Roberts

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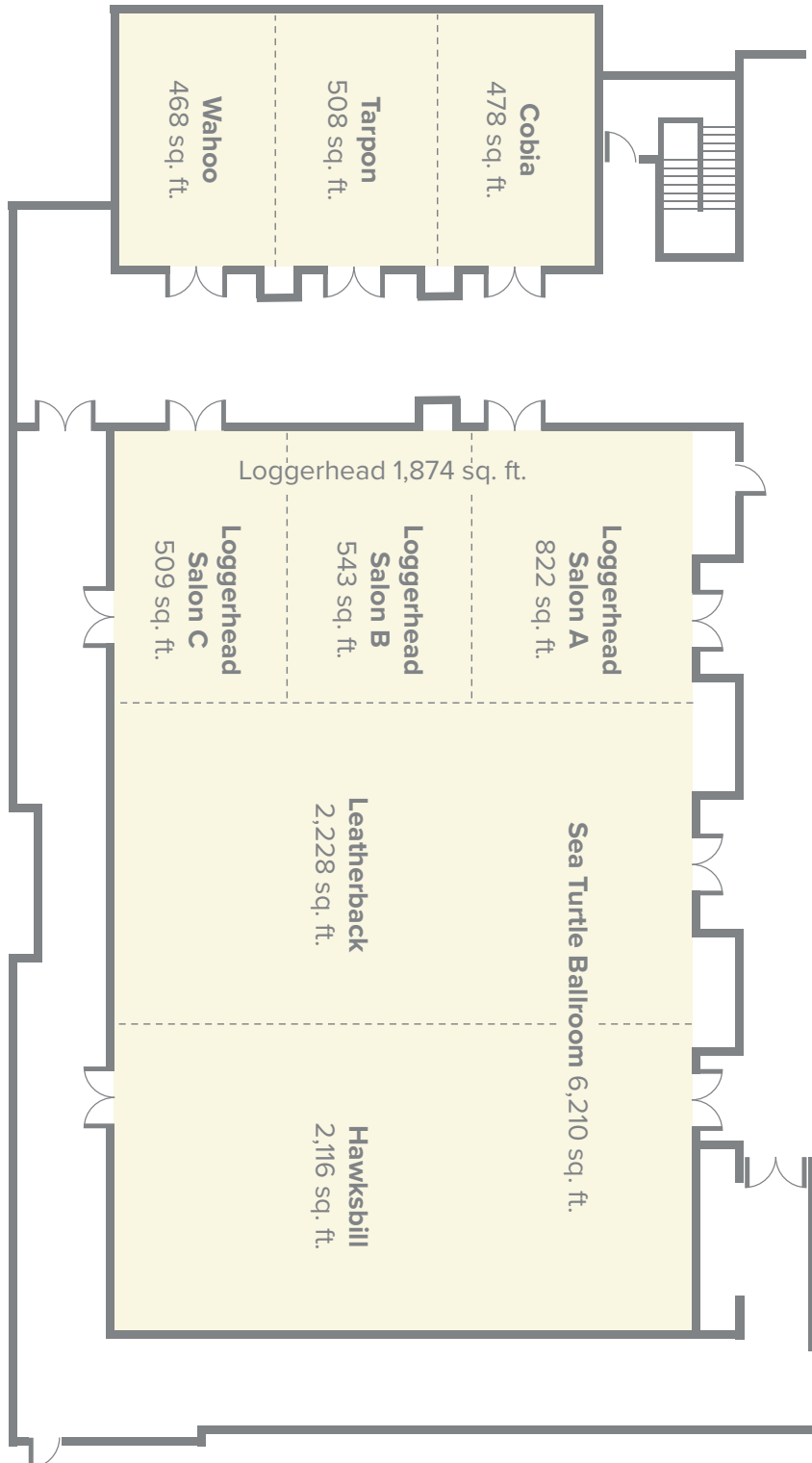
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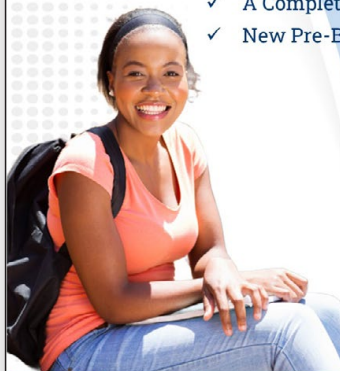
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