

LINCS Has Free Resources for Building Career Pathways Instruction

States and local adult education program staff who are ready for new ideas for career pathways instruction can find help in the [Literacy Information and Communication System \(LINCS\) Career Pathways Instructional Materials Library](#). This online resource includes research-based products and materials as well as research papers to help educators develop and implement work-based education programs and career pathways for adult learners. Materials are categorized using the [U.S. Department of Education's 16 career clusters](#), which define the skills and knowledge needed to work in particular industries. Resources are listed by title with a short abstract and link. Professionals in state adult education departments and at the [National Adult Education Professional Development Consortium \(NAEPDC\)](#) submitted these materials. If you have materials to be considered for this collection, send an URL and brief abstract to the [NAEPDC](#) or [LINCS Workforce Competitiveness Resource Collection](#) with "career pathways resource" in the subject line.

New NRCCTE Research Report on Community College Online Programs

A new National Research Center for Career and Technical Education (NRCCTE) report funded by a grant from OVAE, *Online Occupational Education in Community Colleges: Prevalence and Contextual Factors* was recently released. It provides information about the institutional, economic, and social factors that influence how community colleges offer online programs and make connections to their local workforce to meet its development needs. The study included a random sample of 321 U. S. institutions. The survey results show that among the sample institutions with data available (n = 301) almost half (47.5 percent) offered credit-granting online occupational programs. About one quarter of these programs (26 percent) focused on one of its state's five fastest growing occupations. The complete report is available through the NRCCTE Web site at <http://www.nrccte.org> in the right hand column under "Recent Publications."

Cummings Led U.S. Delegation to Bi-National Workshop on Automotive Production and Green Occupations

OVAE Deputy Assistant Secretary Glenn Cummings led a delegation of 11 U.S. Post-Secondary Education and Training experts at a bi-national workshop on Globally Competitive and Sustainable Qualifications in Vocational Education and Training, in Bonn, Germany, May 4-6, 2010. [The German Federal Ministry of Education and Research](#) and the U.S. Department of Education are embarking on a partnership to

develop competitive models for education and training that address the demands of sustainable economic development. Through the partnership, high-impact practices in automotive production, green occupations, lifelong learning and cooperative education will be shared. The bi-national workshop provided a forum for discussing current practice and innovation in each country, as well as the opportunity to identify action steps for future cooperation. Proceedings from the workshop will be posted on the OVAE website in the near future.

Florida's Biotechnology Education Program: A CTE STEM Model for the Future

Florida's biotechnology industry is transitioning its focus from research and development to testing and manufacturing. To address workforce needs, the Florida Biotechnology Articulation Consortium (FBAC) was established under a grant from OVAE to promote the state's new high school biotechnology program and establish statewide articulation opportunities from secondary school to a community college associate degree. Rigor and quality are built into this combined career and technical education (CTE) and academic credit program so that students will be prepared for success in postsecondary programs and for careers in this high-skill/high-wage transitioning industry.

As part of the transition, [the University of Florida's Center of Excellence for Regenerative Health Biotechnology \(UF CERHB\) Education Center](#) and the [Sid Martin Biotechnology Development Incubator](#) brought together the critical elements needed to establish statewide, industry-recognized, biotechnology education programs and formed a partnership among industry, secondary and postsecondary education, workforce boards, and economic development agencies to ensure that college and career readiness are aligned with students' career goals and interests. In addition, [Santa Fe High School](#), [Santa Fe Community College](#), and the UF CERHB Education Center collaborated to create a health science-biotechnology program of study. These institutions designed seamless transitions to multiple levels and opportunities of study. Curricula were developed at the middle school, high school, college, university, graduate, and professional levels, including teacher training. Over 800 high school students now take the courses, with the program's first graduates expected in 2010.