



1. Oregon IET Toolkit: Understanding IETs in Oregon

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Background

If you are new to Integrated Education & Training Programs (IETs), or new to IETs in Oregon, this is a good place to start. The information in this section of the Toolkit provides a beginner-level overview of IETs.

Your key takeaways from this resource should be:

- IET programs are a critical acceleration strategy for adult learners to earn postsecondary credentials
- IET programs require the collaboration of three key partners: Adult Basic Skills, Career & Technical Education, and Career Pathways programs
- IET programs must adhere to federal and state policies guiding IET implementation
- HECC's CCWD state IET Team is dedicated to supporting the development, implementation, and continuous improvement of IETs in Oregon through professional development and technical assistance

What is an IET?

IETs are "...a service approach that provides adult education and literacy activities concurrently and contextually with workforce preparation activities and workforce training for a specific occupation or occupational cluster for the purpose of education and career advancement" (34 CFR 463.35).

The key features of IETs are that these programs are:

- Integrated - the program curriculum weaves together adult education and literacy activities (foundational literacy/numeracy, English language acquisition, college and career preparation), workforce preparation activities (employability skills), and workforce training (CTE content)
- Concurrent - learners are co-enrolled in Adult Basic Skills and Career & Technical Education programs simultaneously
- Contextualized - all adult education and literacy activities, workforce preparation skills, and workforce training are taught through the lens of the CTE program content using occupationally-relevant materials
- Credentialed - the CTE program is part of a career pathway and learners earn a recognized postsecondary credential during the IET program (e.g., Career Pathways Certificate of Completion, Non-Credit Training Certificate, Industry-Recognized Credential)

Sample IET programs in Oregon include Early Childhood Education, Welding, Accounting, and Phlebotomy. Adult Basic Skills/CTE Instructor teams work together to develop and deliver the instructional content either together in the same classroom or in separate classrooms similar to a co-requisite model. Data is collected and shared across programs for continuous improvement and to satisfy federal and state reporting requirements.

Review the resources below to better understand what an IET is, what the requirements for IETs are, the key features of IETs, and what these models look like in practice in Oregon.

Resource	Description
Oregon IET Brief	The Oregon IET brief can be used as a communication tool with college and community partners to inform what IET is, share relevant data on IET impact, and highlight student and program profiles.
Understanding IETs in Oregon	This webinar by the State IET Team covers federal and state IET definitions and policies; provides examples of IET models at community colleges in Oregon; explains the critical part that IETs play in Oregon’s postsecondary education and training programs; and applies the key features of IET programs to local case studies in order to answer the most common question received by the State IET Team: “Is this an IET?” Handout and slides are included.

IET Partners in Oregon

In Oregon, IET programs are planned and designed through a collaboration between Adult Basic Skills programs (ABS), Career Pathways programs (CP), and Career & Technical Education programs (CTE). This design allows ABS programs to partner with existing state-approved CTE programs, which are already part of career pathways, have identified labor market needs, and culminate in a recognized postsecondary credential. Additionally, programs can access wraparound services for learners through the state’s nationally-recognized Career Pathways programs. In the Oregon Department of Corrections, ABS programs cooperate with existing Work-based Learning Programs at their site. All partners are involved in IET design and implementation.



Adult Basic Skills

Oregon’s Adult Basic Skills (ABS) programs provide adult Oregonians with the skills they need to support their families, pursue their careers, participate in their communities, and/or further their education. These programs generally offer instruction in the following areas: English as a second language; reading, writing, and math; GED® test credential preparation; high school diploma preparation; workplace skills, including critical thinking, digital literacy, locating and using information, and interpersonal workplace skills. Programs are housed at Oregon’s 17 community colleges and the Department of Corrections. All WIOA Title II-funded Adult Basic Skills programs are required to offer at least one IET program per the WIOA Title II grant issued through Oregon’s Higher Education Coordinating Commission.

- [Learn more about Adult Basic Skills programs in Oregon](#)

Career & Technical Education

The State of Oregon administers federal funding to support Career Technical Education (CTE) at public institutions statewide. These programs help Oregonians gain the skills, technical knowledge, academic foundation, and real-world experience needed to prepare for high-skill, high-demand, high-wage careers.

Postsecondary CTE includes a broad range of technical and academic instruction options offered at Oregon’s community colleges. Community College CTE programs are encouraged to collaborate in offering IET programs as specified in the Oregon CTE State Plan.

- [Learn more about Postsecondary CTE Programs in Oregon](#)

Career Pathways

Oregon’s community college Career Pathways programs are delivered at all of Oregon’s 17 community colleges. These programs connect Oregonians to student support services that enable them to secure a job or advance in a high-wage, high-demand industry. The Career Pathway Certificates of Completion are short-term education and training programs (less than one year). Some features of these programs include linking education and training with student support or wraparound services to help students advance to higher levels of education and employment; offering multiple entry and exit points that provide students with flexibility; offering "stackable credentials" such as industry-recognized credentials, occupational licensed credentials, and more, preparing students for additional credentials over time. All Career Pathways programs are required to work with their ABS and CTE partners to develop and implement IET programs per the statewide Career Pathways Grant issued through Oregon’s Higher Education Coordinating Commission.

- [Learn more about Career Pathways Programs in Oregon](#)
- [Intro to Career Pathways presentation recording \(HECC, 2024\)](#)
- [Intro to Career Pathways PPT](#)

IET Professional Development

Below are key professional development and technical assistance resources for learning about IET development, implementation, and continuous improvement. If you’d like to reach out to the State IET Team with questions or for professional development/technical assistance, contact hecc.absteam@hecc.oregon.gov.

Resource	Description
IET Fundamentals	This self-study course introduces the foundational concepts, requirements, and core elements of IET design and implementation. The materials clearly explain the “why” of IETs from different perspectives and provide examples of real IET models and features. The course also introduces the IET Design Toolkit. Developed by the Department of Education’s Office of Career, Technical and Adult Education. (2 hours; create a free LINCS login)
The IET Design Toolkit	This guide provides a foundational set of resources needed to design and implement an IET program that addresses learner and business needs in local communities and regions. It takes programs through the IET Research, Design, Development, and Evaluation phases. Developed by the Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education.
IET Quality Indicators	These best practices for IETs can support programs in the development and continuous improvement of IET programs. Oregon uses the IET Quality Indicators as the basis for the Oregon IET Toolkit and the Oregon IET Self-Assessment Tool. Developed by the Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education.
Oregon IET Toolkit (see the IET Resources section)	This toolkit of resources and program examples is organized into the IET Quality Indicator categories: Program Design, Collaboration and Industry Engagement, Curriculum and Instruction, Student Experience and Progress, and Program Management/Staffing/Organization Support. Many practical resources from Oregon IETs are included. Perfect when you’re ready to dive deeper into the specifics of IETs.
Oregon IET Assessment Tool	This tool is for programs to assess their IET program against the best practices outlined by the IET Quality Indicators. This tool can be useful when you are preparing to develop a new IET program, evaluate an existing IET program, or experience significant change in your IET program and/or team members.