

## Issue No. 14, March 15, 2011

Each issue of the E-News reports on CAAL's programs and publications, including follow-up activities related to the National Commission on Adult Literacy. Occasional feature articles are offered, along with news about complementary work by other groups.

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## NEWS IN BRIEF



**ALERT: SAVE WIA I CAMPAIGN.** The National Skills Coalition (NSC) is actively coordinating a campaign to preserve federal funding for WIA Title I and other vital federal workforce programs which face Congressional cuts or elimination. CAAL is one of several dozen adult education and workforce development organizations that have signed onto the effort. The NSC campaign includes meetings and letters, and most recently, NSC and a group of other national organizations called for a "Workforce Day of Action" for Thursday, March 24, 2011. Groups with a stake in the outcome are being urged to call on their local and national elected officials to voice their opposition to any cuts or elimination of funding for WIA Title I and other workforce development programs. Note that WIA Title I and II programs are interconnected in important ways. For further information, contact <http://www.nationalskillscoalition.org>.



**[BEYOND BASIC SKILLS: State Strategies to Connect Low-Skilled Students to an](#)**

[Employer-Valued Postsecondary Education](#) is new from the Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP). This 17-page publication, written by Marcie Foster, Julie Strawn, and Amy Ellen Duke-Benfield, suggests state policy strategies to increase the enrollment and success of adults and out-of-school youth in further education and job training programs. As the title indicates, the focus is on connections between basic skills and postsecondary education and adult learners who need different kinds of interventions than traditional age students.



**COMPLETE COLLEGE AMERICA** has launched a \$10 million competitive grant program to help states develop innovative statewide strategies to increase college completion. The project is funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. State applicants must indicate their "intent to apply" by sending an email with that subject line to [innovation.challenge@completecollege.org](mailto:innovation.challenge@completecollege.org) by March 18, 2011. Ten 18-month projects will be selected for funding. For further information contact <http://www.completecollege.org>.



**GED TESTING SERVICE**, a program of the American Council on Education (ACE), today became a program of a new joint venture between ACE and Pearson VUE. The purpose of the partnership is to design and deliver a computer-based GED test, aligned with the Common Core State Standards. Computer-based versions of the current GED test will be rolled out gradually in official testing centers across the country, with the service to be available in California, Florida, Georgia, and Texas sometime this Spring. A new version of the GED test will be implemented by 2014. The GED Testing Service name will be retained. The overall goal is position the GED to contribute more to the national effort to move more adults to college and job readiness. Pearson is an international test development and data management company. ACE is the major coordinating body for the nation's higher education institutions and provides an array of policy, research, and advocacy services. For more information, contact <http://www.gedtestingservice.com>.



**KET-TV's *Education Matters*** features a one-hour program on "Adult Education for Kentuckians." On February 22, KET aired a panel discussion on adult education needs and services in that state. Guests were Cris Crowley (director, Madisonville Community College Adult Education Program), Dr. Cheryl King (president of Kentucky Wesleyan College, and former study director, National Commission on Adult Literacy), James Meyer (a GED student now at the University of Louisville), and Reecie Stagnolia (vice president, Kentucky Adult Education). The segment can be viewed at <http://ket.org/educationmatters>. In due course, it will appear as an archived video in the KET site.

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