

Rethink Adult Ed Challenge

Virtual Information Session

October 15, 2020



Agenda



- Challenge overview
- Challenge structure
- Q&A

Introductions



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Challenge overview

Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education



OCTAE administers and coordinates programs related to:

- **Adult education and literacy:** enabling adults to acquire & necessary basic skills to function in today's society. &
- **Career and technical education:** helping students prepare for occupations in the 21st century workforce.
- **Community colleges:** providing national leadership to strengthen the role of community colleges.

Ed Prizes

Ed Prizes is a series of challenges run by the U.S. Department of Education in collaboration with innovators across the country.

These challenges strengthen the competitiveness of the American workforce by preparing learners for the careers of today and tomorrow.



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Ed Prizes

Current Challenges



CTE Mission: CubeSat

Launched August 18, 2020

CTE Mission: CubeSat is a national challenge to build technical skills for careers in space and beyond. ED invites high schools to bring space missions to students by designing and building CubeSat prototypes.



Rural Tech Project

Launched June 30, 2020

The Rural Tech Project is a national challenge to advance rural technology education. The U.S. Department of Education invites high schools and local educational agencies to propose technology education programs that use competency-based distance learning.



Rethink Adult Ed Challenge is a \$750,000 U.S. Department of Education competition to advance pre-apprenticeships.

We are seeking designs for **adult education programs that better prepare learners for apprenticeships and beyond.**



What is a pre-apprenticeship?

A pathway into a well-paying, rewarding career

Pre-apprenticeship programs help adults enter, prepare for, and succeed in apprenticeships and other roles with opportunities for progression.

Programs typically target groups that are underrepresented in apprenticeships.

Programs exist across a range of industries — from construction to healthcare — and can be structured in different ways.

What do pre-apprenticeships offer?



- **Career exposure:** Expose adult learners to different occupations and opportunities.
- **Skill advancement:** Equip learners with both academic and workplace skills.
- **Job readiness:** Introduce learners to workplace culture.
- **Holistic support:** Provide financial assistance and access to support services.
- **Guided transition:** Explain the apprenticeship system, facilitate the transition into an apprenticeship program or similar role, and help cover upfront costs.

What are the benefits of pre-apprenticeships?



“It’s a great opportunity to try and **figure out what you want to do**. I started the program wanting to be an electrician, and ended up becoming a laborer.”


— *Construction pre-apprenticeship graduate*

“... having an instructor to answer questions and provide **constructive feedback** was invaluable in actually mastering the material.”

— *Technology pre-apprenticeship graduate*

“It **opened new doors** to me that I didn't necessarily know about. The program accelerated the key skills needed to do that work. That was exciting and liberating.”

— *Healthcare pre-apprenticeship graduate*



Why are we running this challenge?

1. **Learners often aren't aware of pre-apprenticeships**, so they miss out on these opportunities.
2. **There aren't enough pre-apprenticeships** — particularly in growing industries like technology and healthcare.
3. **Adult ed providers would like more guidance and support** to design and deliver pre-apprenticeships.



How will this challenge help?

Through this challenge we aim to:

- Spur the creation of **new adult pre-apprenticeship programs** across a range of industries.
- **Increase adult educators' capacity** to deliver high-quality pre-apprenticeship programs.

Why should organizations participate?



Access to **resources**
and **expert support** on a
range of topics



A chance to receive a
share of the **\$750,000**
prize pool



Opportunity to be at the
forefront of adult pre-
apprenticeships

Who is eligible?



Participating organizations can be working in **any industry, anywhere in the United States.**

Organizations must be:

- **An eligible provider**, as defined in section 203(5) of WIOA.
- **Receiving AEFLA-funding** to provide adult education and literacy services, at the time of application and for the duration of the 10-month Challenge.

Challenge details

Stage overview

Stage 1: Open submissions

AEFLA-funded adult education providers are invited to submit preliminary designs for pre-apprenticeship programs. Submissions close on **November 25, 2020**.

No prior experience with pre-apprenticeships is required.

Up to 100 finalists will progress to Stage 2.

Stage 2: Virtual accelerator

The virtual accelerator will run from **Feb – June 2021**. It will include a mix of virtual resources, activities, and webinars with subject matter experts. At the end of the accelerator, finalists will be invited to submit more detailed program proposals.

Following judging, winners will be announced in **summer 2021**.

Submissions



Stage 1 submission: preliminary design

- Evidence of the industry demand that the pre-apprenticeship program may meet.
- An overview of the adult education activities the program may deliver.
- A description of prospective adult learners and potential apprenticeship partners.
- Your team's expertise.

Stage 2 submission: program proposal

- A description of the proposed pre-apprenticeship program, including mode of delivery and structure.
- An overview of the workplace and academic skills the program will address.
- Evidence of partnership development.
- Your team's expertise, plus a program budget and list of target outcomes.

Stage 1 selection criteria



Local or national need

Extent to which the entrant describes local or national industry demand for more skilled workers in the relevant field.

Skill advancement

Extent to which the entrant identifies appropriate adult education and literacy activities needed to help adult learners prepare for apprenticeships or other industry roles with opportunities for progression.

Team

Extent to which the entrant demonstrates the necessary skills, experience, and commitment needed to advance its pre-apprenticeship program concept.

Industry connection

Extent to which the entrant identifies quality apprenticeship programs and other potential industry partners.

Learner focused

Extent to which the entrant demonstrates an understanding of its prospective adult learners and their specific needs.

Stage 2 selection criteria



Local or national need

Extent to which the entrant demonstrates local or national industry demand for more skilled workers in the relevant field.

Skill advancement

Extent to which the program will deliver adult education and literacy activities that will equip participants with the necessary academic, occupational, and workplace skills and credentials needed to enter apprenticeships or other industry roles with opportunities for progression.

Team

Extent to which the entrant demonstrates the necessary skills, resources, and commitment to establish and deliver a high-quality pre-apprenticeship program beyond the challenge.

Industry connection

Extent to which the entrant has established partnership commitments to facilitate placements in apprenticeships or other industry roles with opportunities for progression.

Learner focused

Extent to which the program reflects the interests and needs of the target adult learners, such as through tailored outreach strategies and support services.

Prizes



Total prize pool

\$750,000

A judging panel will review Stage 2 submissions and select:

- One grand-prize winner to receive **\$250,000**.
- Up to five runners-up to receive **at least \$100,000 each**.

How to enter



To enter the challenge you will need to do the following by **11:59 p.m. ET on November 25, 2020**:

1. Create a Luminary Lightbox™ account.
2. Review the Stage 1 selection criteria.
3. Complete and submit the Stage 1 submission form at: rethinkadulthood.com.

Please plan to complete all of these steps well ahead of the deadline. That will allow time to resolve any potential technical issues.

Q&A

Please submit questions in the Q&A window in Zoom.

Apologies if we don't get to your question. Please check the challenge website, where we will publish responses to many questions received. Published answers (not live answers to questions) will be considered final responses.

Additional questions may also be sent to hello@rethinkadulted.com

What next?



- Add hello@rethinkadulthood.com to your address book to make sure important messages are not marked as spam.
- Visit rethinkadulthood.com to sign up for the Rethink Adult Ed Challenge newsletter.
- Visit [EdPrizes.com](https://edprizes.com) to learn more and sign up for the Ed Prizes newsletter to receive updates for future challenges.

