Reforming the Adult Education Credential
Do Adult Literacy Teachers Need a Credential?

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by
Elza Hess, Pittsburg (CA) Adult Education Center and CATESOL
M.Ed., Mills College
ELLLI Partner (English Learner Leadership and Legacy Initiative)
elzahess@yahoo.com
The Current Adult Education Credential in California

• Takes 3-5 years to obtain
• Part of studies on-line
• Can start teaching upon registering for credential program
• Can cost +- $3000.00
• Only valid for Adult Ed
• Literacy jobs are in ESL, Adult Basic Education, High School Diploma, GED classes
• Most jobs part-time, no benefits
• Adult Ed can have large, multi-level classes
Most Recent Credential Reform Attempts in California

• 2018 — Eliminate Adult Ed Credential completely. Use minimum hiring requirements for teaching at Adult Ed.

• 2019 — Set up statewide workgroup to study “reciprocity” between Community College instructors and Adult Ed teachers. Goal is to minimize requirements to obtain Adult Ed credential in order to make it easier for Community College instructors to teach at Adult Ed. Caveat — Community Colleges have higher minimum hiring requirements for instructors than Adult Ed.
Perspectives from the Field 1
In what Adult Literacy teaching environment is a credential desired?

• Public?
• Private?
• Corrections?
• Adults with Disabilities?
• Other?
Perspectives from the Field 2
With what kind of student groupings is a state credential desired for Literacy teachers?

• For teaching classes vs. individual tutoring?
• For both classes and tutoring?
• Is there special value in teaching Literacy skills to students as a group or a cohort?
Perspectives from the Field 3
Within the current Adult Ed credential course of study, should there be a specialization in Adult Literacy?

• Should there be a special authorization for teaching Adult Literacy?
• Adult Literacy student assessment and placement?
• Adult Literacy curriculum development?
• Low-Literate adult learning theory?
• ESL Adult Literacy instruction?
Thank you for your attention!

Elza Hess
CATESOL
Pittsburg (CA) Adult Education Center
Pittsburg, CA 94565
elzhess@yahoo.com