



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Chesapeake College JOINS 'MOVING AHEAD WITH ADULT ED' CAMPAIGN TO GET ADULTS BACK TO SCHOOL AND WORK

Reskilling, Upskilling Will Help Move Adults Into Family-Sustaining Jobs for Economic Recovery from Pandemic

Wye Mills, MD – With reskilling and upskilling programs in place, adult education is an economic catalyst to help low-skilled adults and their communities recover from the financial impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Our programs provide numerous options for participation, including working from home or receiving in-person instruction.

Chesapeake College joins more than 65,000 adult educators in "Moving Ahead with Adult Ed," a new national campaign to enroll adult learners into programs that equip them with skills that lead to high school equivalency and jobs that pay a family-sustaining wage. Millions of Americans are out of work or underemployed and need to reskill or upskill to re-enter the workforce or pursue their education. The pandemic has exacerbated the need for services.

An international study indicated approximately 43 million working-age Americans lack the skills needed for many of the nation's fastest-growing and highest-paying jobs. According to the U.S. Census, there are over 22 million adults in the U.S. without a high school diploma.

Campaign partners Coalition on Adult Basic Education and the National Association of State Directors of Adult Education also estimate that for every dollar invested in adult education, a community receives \$60 back in increased income, property taxes and savings on public assistance and legal-system expenses.

The #MovingAheadWithAdultEd campaign focuses on re-engaging the millions of Americans who are in need of additional skills to compete in the workforce to recover financially from the pandemic. In addition to providing industry skills training, adult education programs teach literacy, numeracy and digital literacy, as well as offer high school equivalency classes.

The Chesapeake College adult education program is currently providing free online instruction. The next session begins April 5, 2021. For more information, email GED@chesapeake.edu or ESL@chesapeake.edu.