

Flash Edition

April 6, 2018

- [Webinar on Lowering the Cost of Course Materials With Free and Open Educational Resources](#)
- [A New Look for the Literacy Information and Communication System](#)
- [April Is National Financial Capability Month](#)

Webinar on Lowering the Cost of Course Materials With Free and Open Educational Resources

Date: Wednesday, April 11, 2018

Time: 3:30–4:30 p.m. EST

[Register Here!](#)

More on the Webinar

For community college students, the cost of course materials can be higher than the cost of tuition. For institutions trying to accelerate students' successful completion of degrees, certificates, and credentials, one straightforward strategy is to lower the cost of textbooks and materials. [SkillsCommons](#) provides an [Affordable Learning Solutions](#) (AL\$) portal designed to help institutions, programs, and individuals hold down these costs.. The portal is a free, online library for finding, adopting, and adapting career and technical training resources, including eTextbooks for general education courses. This webinar will show participants how to use the AL\$ portal, allowing them to leverage resources and strategies to design and implement their own Affordable Learning Solutions program, and improve their academic success.

This webinar is part of a webinar series showcasing strategies and resources developed by community colleges that are of interest to educational institutions engaged in career-focused education and training. Topics of upcoming webinars will include affordable learning solutions, sustaining innovation, and free resources for apprenticeship and work-based learning; previous topics (available as recordings) explored making industry experts into expert instructors to increase student success, and scaling career pathways in Wisconsin. For more information, please visit [Innovations Leading to Career Success Webinar Series](#).

The AL\$ portal and the many other resources available on [SkillsCommons](#) were produced by grantees of the [Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training \(TAACCCT\) program](#), a collaboration between the US Department of Labor and the US Department of Education.

Presenter

Gerry Hanley, assistant vice chancellor, Academic Technology Services, California State University; director, SkillsCommons

Moderator(s)

Cheryl Martin, program manager, U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration

Erin Berg, community college program specialist, U.S. Department of Education, Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education

[Back to Top](#)

A New Look for the Literacy Information and Communication System

Have you seen the Literacy Information and Communication System (LINCS) recently <https://lincs.ed.gov>? The new look provides a more unified navigation experience across the LINCS website and is also more mobile-friendly. The LINCS Community and Resource Collection functions are the same, but everything looks better! Check it out and [let us know what you think](#).

For those who are new to LINCS, it is a national leadership initiative of the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education (OCTAE) to expand evidence-based practice in the field of adult education.

LINCS demonstrates OCTAE's commitment to delivering high-quality, on-demand education opportunities to practitioners of adult education, so those practitioners can help adult learners successfully transition to postsecondary education and 21st-century jobs.

The LINCS Learning Portal will get an update later this year too, so check back for similar improvements.

[Back to Top](#)

April Is National Financial Capability Month

Over the month of April, the [Financial Literacy and Education Commission](#) is encouraging people to take action to improve their financial futures as part of [National Financial Capability Month](#). Each week will feature new tools and resources that individuals can use to take action in their financial lives. The secretary of education included financial literacy programs as one of her [supplemental priorities](#) for the Department's discretionary grant programs, and financial literacy is also an important component of adult education and the [LINCS Community of Practice](#).

As part of National Financial Capability Month, the U.S. Department of Labor, joined by representatives from the U.S. Department of Education and the Federal Trade Commission, is sponsoring a webinar for college seniors and recent entrants to the workforce on April 25 from 2-3pm to provide information and tools for creating your own financial plan and preparing you to make informed financial decisions. Find out more and register for the webinar [here](#).

[Back to Top](#)

OCTAE website: <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ovae/index.html>

email: octae.newsletter@ed.gov

To subscribe, please use the email address: https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USED/subscriber/new?topic_id=USED_2

OCTAE Connection does not endorse products, policies or practices described in its stories.

Remember to check out the OCTAE Blog: <https://sites.ed.gov/octae/>

Update your subscriptions, modify your password or email address, or stop subscriptions at any time on your [Subscriber Preferences Page](#). You will need to use your email address to log in. If you have questions or problems with the subscription service, please contact subscriberhelp.govdelivery.com.

This service is provided to you at no charge by [U.S. Department of Education](#).