

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Adult Education Programs Provide Economic Opportunity at Triton College

National Adult Education and Literacy Week is Sept. 18-24

River Grove, Ill. – National Adult Education and Literacy Week, Sept. 18-24, underscores the continued demand for programs and services for adult students who need to improve basic skills in reading, writing and math, and obtain a high school equivalency certificate. More than 36 million adults nationwide, including 1.2 million here in Illinois, lack basic literacy skills that limit their ability to advance in education and at work.

Triton College is one of 72 Illinois adult education providers who offer programs funded through the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB). These programs are designed to improve and expand the nation’s available pipeline of workers by assisting those who lack the educational requirements to achieve gainful employment in today’s increasingly high-tech, global job market.

“We don’t see completion of the Adult Education Program as the ultimate goal for our students,” said Jacqueline Lynch, Triton College’s dean of Adult Education. “We see adult ed as a stepping-stone to bigger and better things. We strive to provide instructional and student support services that work in tandem to ensure that students are supported as they identify and make progress towards their academic and career goals. We are honored that so many students choose Triton as their education partner each year.”

Adult education provides a path from low-income jobs and limited opportunities to middle-class wages and increased family sustainability. Full-time workers with a high school diploma earn almost \$10,000 more per year than those without a diploma.

The Adult Education Department at Triton offers a variety of programs to serve the needs of District 504 residents, including ESL, GED (in English and Spanish), Citizenship, Access to Literacy (basic literacy and numeracy), Digital Literacy, Career Awareness and Exploration, and Workplace ESL. Gear Up programs, e.g., Bridge to College, and Integrated Education and Training programs, prepare students for the world of work.

“Illinois community colleges are the driver for a trained workforce working with nearly 10,000 unique employers across the state. With nearly 90 percent of the fastest growing jobs in our state requiring education beyond a high school diploma, the Illinois Community College System is the

ideal place for getting on a path to a good paying career,” said ICCB Executive Director Brian Durham.

For more information about adult education programs and services at *Triton College* visit www.triton.edu. For information on adult education throughout Illinois, visit <https://yourpathyourfuture.org/>.

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