

Appendix A

For recruitment

CONTENTS:

- Study Circle flyer

Study Circle on

Performance

Accountability

in Adult Basic

Education

Interested in discussing performance accountability in the context of ABE, ESOL and GED settings? Now's the time as states and programs continue to make decisions regarding the 1998 Workforce Investment Act!

The National Center for the Study of Adult Learning and Literacy (NCSALL) is sponsoring a Study Circle to engage ABE, ESOL and GED practitioners in discussing theories and concepts related to performance accountability. This topic is particularly relevant as states and programs continue to make plans and policy decisions regarding the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) that has governed federal adult basic education spending since July 1, 1999.

In this study circle, a group of adult education practitioners will read the paper *Contested Ground: Performance Accountability in Adult Basic Education* and information on the WIA. We will meet to discuss the readings and their implications for our programs.

- Read and discuss articles on performance accountability, including NCSALL's current research on the topic.
- Consider strategies for learning more about the issue from the learners with whom you work.
- Discuss what the theories and practices mean for our own classrooms and programs.
- Provide feedback and practical suggestions to NCSALL.

The study circle is organized into three sessions of approximately 3 hours each. Practitioners will be asked to read 2-4 articles before each session for discussion during the study circle. There is space for up to 8 practitioners to participate. We ask that you attend all three sessions.

- In the first session, we will discuss portions of *Contested Ground*, which examines performance accountability in adult basic education. We will explore what kind of system would meet the needs of everyone involved in this field.
- In the second session, we will read information about *New Literacy Studies* and the WIA and we will discuss the capacity of adult basic education programs to measure their performance.
- In the final session, we will discuss the recommendations in *Contested Ground* and discuss their relevance for our own work. We will develop a final product, such as a recommendation for our local or state system of accountability.

This is a staff development activity. CEUs or PDPs may be available.

The dates and locations of the three study circle sessions are:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

If you would like to join the study circle, please complete this form and send it to: YOUR NAME, NCSALL Practitioner Learner, YOUR ADDRESS by DEADLINE. I can also be reached at YOUR PHONE NUMBER and YOUR E-MAIL.

Name: _____ Position: _____
Home address: _____ Home phone: _____
Work phone: _____ E-mail: _____