

# ADULT EDUCATION is an economic catalyst

## The Challenge...

Low-skilled adults are:

**2X** more likely to be unemployed

**3X** as likely to be in poverty

**4X** as likely to be in poor health

**8X** as likely to be incarcerated

**36**  
million adults in the U.S. have limited English or reading skills and more than 60 million can't perform simple math.

**92%** of business leaders think that U.S. workers lack necessary skills.

**65%** of all jobs will require some level of postsecondary education or training. Nearly half of the U.S. workforce has only a high school education or less (and/or low English proficiency).

Low education and skill levels of adults are barriers to economic growth and improving the health and well-being of our families and communities.

## The Solution...

Investing in adult education can help close our skills gap and increase college-going rates, leading to the filling of jobs and the breaking of generational poverty.



### We are

the adult education system of nearly 55,000 leaders, administrators, and educators preparing adults to succeed in a global culture and economy by delivering a world-class education.

### We champion

increased access and investment in adult education, leading to higher quality instruction and greater student outcomes. We employ innovative and effective strategies to reach more adults who struggle with literacy, numeracy, and problem solving.

### We lead

a results-driven adult education system that provides:

- Academic instruction aligned to college and career-readiness standards

### We equip

adult educators with:

- High-quality professional development
- Innovative instructional strategies
- Research-based models
- Leadership development

educate &  
**elevate**

ADULT EDUCATION  
An Investment in America's Future

[www.educateandelevate.org](http://www.educateandelevate.org)

**COABE**  
COALITION ON ADULT BASIC EDUCATION



National Council of State  
Directors of Adult Education