



# NATIONAL SKILLS COALITION

Every worker. Every industry. A strong economy.

## Join NSC at COABE in Phoenix!

Will you be attending the Coalition on Adult Basic Education (COABE) conference in sunny Phoenix next week? If so, join NSC staff for several dynamic sessions. Workforce Data Quality Campaign Director Bryan Wilson, Upskilling Policy Analyst Michael Richardson, and Director of Upskilling Policy Amanda Bergson-Shilcock will each be leading a workshop during the conference.

Get the details below, and then choose your schedule on the conference app and prepare to see us at #COABE2018!

### Tuesday, March 27

11:00-12:15 p.m.

Expanding Local and State Investment in ESOL: How Adult Educators Can Nudge Policymakers to Action

Lead presenter: Amanda Bergson-Shilcock

Room: CC 106C

Has your city or state recently launched a “Welcoming” initiative or Office of Immigrant Affairs? Many of these nascent efforts have recognized that there is significant demand for English language classes among their constituents, but to date relatively few have expanded access to ESOL. Come learn how you can help your local public officials move from awareness to action on adult education. Get specific ideas for how city and state government can fund adult ESOL classes, adapt effective program models, and support adult education for immigrants while also recognizing the needs of US-born community members. You’ll go home with examples and information that you can use to prod policymakers into taking action on this important issue. Don’t be shy – bring your tough questions.

### Wednesday, March 28

8:00-9:15 a.m.

Creative Ways to Fund Adult Education: Advancing State and Federal Policies that Invest in Adult Learners

Lead presenter: Michael Richardson

Room: CC 102C

Many adult educators are familiar with the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). But did you know there are numerous other federal and state policies that invest in adult education? This lively session will showcase creative examples of how advocates around the country are drawing on resources such as Community Development Block Grants and Institutes of Museum and Library Sciences grants to support adult education programs and services. Learn about more than a half-dozen different federal investments that can support adult education in any state. Find out how advocates are using state-level policies to support adult learners even when facing tough budget climates or skeptical policymakers. Get policy tools and other resources you can take home to use in your own advocacy. Don’t miss this inventive and resourceful session.

### Wednesday, March 28

11:00-12:15 p.m.

Creating Effective Pathways for Adult Learners: What Adult Educators Need to Know About State Data Tools

Lead presenter: Bryan Wilson

Room: CC 101C

In recent years, many states have adopted longitudinal data systems that can trace participants’ progress from K-12 education through community college or state universities and into the workforce. Where does adult education fit into this picture? Find out in this engaging session that connects the dots between big-picture state policies, and the everyday work of adult education



**COABE**  
COALITION ON ADULT BASIC EDUCATION



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practitioners. Find out how states are using tools such as “pathway evaluators” and “supply and demand reports” to inform new policies. Learn how you can use these tools to advocate for adult learners and show the value of adult education. Make sure adult education has a seat at the decisionmaking table – bring your questions and your ideas!

#### **Additional Sessions**

NSC staff will also be participating in two other sessions spearheaded by partner organizations:

#### **Monday, March 26**

2:00-3:15 p.m.

Policy Issues Affecting Lifelong Learning

Lead Presenter: Deborah Kennedy, National Coalition for Literacy

Room: Encanto A

#### **Wednesday, March 28**

3:15-4:30 p.m.

Service-Sector Workers and the Need for Adult Education: Findings from PIAAC and the Implications for Educators

Lead Presenters: B. Jasmine Park and Katie Herz, American Institutes for Research

Room: CC 102A

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