Finding statistics and materials can be complex and time consuming. This Practice Application Brief includes a variety of resources designed to help you find the information you need. Many resources were recommended by subscribers to the ERICACVE and CAREERTECH discussion groups. Several resources were suggested by more than one person—notably the websites of the ERIC Clearinghouse on Adult, Career, and Vocational Education (http://ericacve.org) and the National Dissemination Center for Career and Technical Education (http://www.nccte.org). Both sites are rich in full-text publications and links to other resources. ERIC/ACVE includes links to full-text sites (http://ericacve.org/fulltextresource.asp) that include proceedings, teaching guides, newsletters, journals, lesson plans, directories, and glossaries.

Networking is an excellent way to find information and materials. Talking to colleagues about their successes and failures in finding materials can provide valuable leads. Discussion groups such as CAREERTECH (careertech@lists.acs.ohio-state.edu) are also helpful. A Google search (http://www.google.com) using the term "instructional materials" will lead you to publishers and laboratories that produce or loan materials. By adding a subject (such as "adult literacy" or "occupational therapy"), you can narrow the choices. Be sure to enclose phrases in quotation marks, or else words will be searched individually. For example, the term adult literacy will search the terms adult OR literacy and identify many irrelevant sites. Use of quotation marks ("adult literacy") ensures that you will search the whole phrase. The list of resources that follows is by no means exhaustive. Rather, it is intended as a starting point in the search for resources. It includes commercial publishers, curriculum developers, and state and national resource centers.

**Adult Education**

- **Community Partnerships for Adult Learning (C-Pal)** provides a broad selection of adult education resources including how-to’s, research, and websites sorted by topic and potential user: http://www.c-pal.net/
- **National Institute of Adult Continuing Education (NIACE)** includes information about projects and research, conferences, policy development, and information services: http://www.niace.org.uk/
- **The University of Central Florida** links to resources related to adult and career technical education: http://reach.ucf.edu/~voced/mainresources.htm#_Adult_Education

**Adult Literacy**

- **The Canadian Language and Literacy Research Network** has technical information and research materials: http://www.clrlnet.ca/
- **The National Institute for Literacy Workforce Education Special Collection** demonstrates the value of work force learning, fosters and promotes the development of high-quality work force education programs, provides guidelines for planning and supporting these programs, and supports ongoing communication and collaboration among stakeholders: http://worklink.coe.utk.edu/

**Career Education**

- **American School Counselor Association** provides professional development, publications and resources, research, and advocacy: http://www.schoolcounselor.org/
- **At Career OneStop** you can find jobs, identify job-ready workers, locate public employment services in your area, explore alternative career paths, locate salary data, and get resume writing tips and job interview strategies: http://www.careeronestop.org/

**Career and Technical Education**

- **The Association for Career and Technical Education** offers information about legislation, conferences, and state and regional activities: http://www.acteonline.org
- **The Illinois Office of Educational Services** provides research and information services, software support training, professional development opportunities, and other services: http://www.ioes.org
- **The National Dissemination Center for Career and Technical Education** provides access to CAREERTECH as well as full text of a variety of publications, webcasts, chatrooms, and an online newsletter: http://www.nccte.org
- **Seattle Public Schools Information Career Technology Pathway** includes course descriptions, curriculum charts, and information about partnerships: http://www.seattleschools.org/area/itpathway/index.xml

**Training**

- **American Society for Training and Development** offers a variety of services related to training: http://www.astd.com/index_IE.html
- **Don Clark’s Big Dog’s Bowl of Biscuits** includes information about training, leadership, and performance and links to many other resources: http://www.nwlink.com/~donclark/
- **TRDEV** is a discussion group where training and development issues are discussed in a professional, noncommercial, collegial forum: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/trdev/

**Curriculum Developers**

- **Curriculum and Instructional Materials Center** produces workplace skills, agricultural education, business education, career information, school-to-work, technology education, family and consumer sciences, and health occupations: http://www.okcareertech.org/cime/index.htm
- **Curriculum Publications Clearinghouse** offers materials in applied technology, agriculture, business, marketing and management, health, family and consumer sciences, tech prep, workplace skills and career development, administration and supervision, and special needs: http://www.wiu.edu/users/micpc/
Resource Centers/Organizations

- The ERIC database is a good source of information about instructional materials. A search will lead you to curricula, project descriptions, lesson plans, classroom activities, task lists, and other resources. http://ericir.syr.edu/eric
- The Southern Regional Educational Board provides information on projects such as High Schools That Work: http://www.sreb.org/

Statistics

The National Center for Education Statistics is the best place for statistics related to education. There are many others in addition to the reports listed here. The site (http://www.nces.ed.gov) is fully searchable.
- The Digest of Education Statistics has information on enrollment, teacher salaries, demographics, expenditures, assessment, and dropouts related to all educational levels of public and private schools: http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2002/digest2001/
- FedStats includes statistics from over 100 federal agencies: http://www.fedstats.gov/
- A Profile of Participation in Distance Education: 1999-2000 depicts undergraduate and graduate students’ participation in distance education; discusses student demographic characteristics associated with distance education participation; and looks at types of distance education technology and students’ satisfaction with their distance education courses compared to their regular courses. http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=200315
- Vocational Education in the United States discusses vocational education at secondary and postsecondary levels and whether it is growing, shrinking, or holding constant over time; examines high school transcripts and presents findings about the academic preparation of high school students who participate in vocational education, relevant school reform efforts, and transitions after high school; and describes economic and labor market trends and their implications for vocational programs and changing workplace practices and employer perspectives on worker skills and proficiency. http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2000029

Journals

ERIC/ACVE provides information on journals that are indexed by the Clearinghouse. Some are available at least partially in full text at no cost; others are available in full text by subscription or to members: http://cete.org/acve/journals.asp

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