

What is the Standards in Action training?

Standards in Action (SIA) is a series of four, two day trainings designed to support the implementation of content standards in adult education classrooms. Indiana Adult Education will be using the SIA process to guide the implementation of OVAE's College and Career Readiness (CCR) Standards into practice.

The Standards in Action process involves the successive completion of four units including:

1. **Understanding the Standards We Teach**

In this training, standards are deconstructed, or “unpacked”, into their core components including skills, concepts and context. By doing this, the level of cognitive demand associated with each standard can be identified and understood. This step also involves creating sample instructional activities that effectively address the full demands of each standard. Once instructors achieve a greater understanding and ownership of the standards, this unit concludes with a preview of the next innovation, the Lead Standards Approach.

2. **Translating Standards into Curriculum: The Lead Standards Approach**

This training provides guidance on identifying areas of priority and emphasis through the selection of lead standards. Related standards can then be organized around these lead standards into coherent units of instruction which build upon natural connections between the standards and increase focus. During this training participants will look at how tightly the resources they use in their classrooms align with the CCR Standards. This training concludes with Lesson Studies where instructors apply what they've learned through four activities: creating a lesson that meets the goals of a lead standard; observing that lesson being taught; collectively evaluating the effectiveness of the lesson; and refining the lesson to achieve fuller alignment with the selected standards.

3. **Focus on Assignments: Working Together to Improve Teaching and Learning**

This training looks at aligning student assessment to the standards. This process includes an outcomes-based approach to verifying what students are being taught and what they have learned, remembered and incorporated into their knowledge and skills. Through close examination of student work, gaps between student performance and the rigor of the standards are identified, and assignments are then redesigned as necessary to address the demands of the standards and target even higher levels of cognitive demand.

4. **Observing Standards in Action**

This final training asks administrators and teachers to engage observation of all aspects of classroom instruction to monitor the consistency of instructional practices and their fidelity to the standards. Through these observations, administrators work with instructors to address staff apprehensions and identify professional development priorities. Where the need exists, participants can revisit earlier units of the SIA process can be revisited.

Note: Indiana will not implement this fourth innovation in our 2014-2015 Standards In Action trainings. This innovation will be incorporated into a holistic teacher effectiveness model in 2015.

What is required of Early Adopter Participants?

The SIA program will consist of 4, two-day training institutes, along with a series of webinars and postings to the online community of practice website. The institutes will occur in November, January, March and May (specific dates located in the calendar below) and will present strategies & processes participants will be expected to implement at their own programs. Participants can expect an additional 30-40 hours of implementation work in between each in-person institute.

Note: The amount of in-between work listed above is an estimate based on recommendations in the SIA guide. The actual amount of time will depend on what is accomplished at the institutes.

To participate, you must commit to attending the events listed in the training schedule below. Training cohorts will be limited to only 20 participants.

Standards in Action (SIA) 2014-2015 Training Schedule

Dates	Location	Content
October 17th, 2014	Webinar	Review schedule and expectations Outline contents for SIA Innovation #1 (ELA)
October: Pre-training Survey		
November 6th and 7th, 2014	TBD*	Innovation #1 (ELA): Unpacking the CCRS
December 12th, 2014	Webinar	Follow up on implementation Prepare for SIA Innovation #1 (Math)
January 29th and 30th, 2015	TBD*	Innovation #1 (Math): Unpacking the CCRS
February 27th, 2015	Webinar	Follow up on implementation Prepare for SIA Innovation #2
March 19th and 20th, 2015	TBD*	Innovation #2: Lead Standards & Lesson Studies
April 17th, 2015	Webinar	Follow up on implementation Prepare for SIA Innovation #3
May 14th and 15th, 2015	TBD*	Innovation #3: Student Work & Peer Observation
June 12th, 2015	Webinar	Follow up on implementation Decision points/next steps
June: Post-training Survey		

**Three Regional locations (North, South, Middle) will be identified based on the number of individuals applying from each of those areas. For example, if a single program wishes to send 6 or their 8 staff to the training, DWD will strongly consider holding the training in that community where possible.*

What are the benefits of participating in the SIA process?

Going through the four SIA innovations offers several benefits to teachers, administrators and adult education programs. These benefits include:

- Becoming active members of a learning community concerned with the implementation of standards using a process recognized nationally in Adult Education;
- Examining the CCR standards thoroughly and developing common language for communicating about the standards with colleagues and students;
- Learning a collaborative process for identifying curriculum, texts, assignments and other resources aligned to the standards;
- Contributing to a statewide warehouse of standards-based instructional resources designed to engage instructors and students with the most important ideas, questions and skills related to the standards;
- Taking time for close reflection of standards-based instructional practices through observation, conversations and examination of student work;
- Creating partnerships between administrators and instructors to jointly identify professional development priorities and program improvement strategies;
- Being among the first to complete a future PD requirement. (Note; DWD anticipates requiring this training of all staff who teach 9+ hours weekly in PY15;
- Receiving professional growth points (PGPs) for time spent on training activities.

Who can apply?

DWD is seeking adult education teachers, curriculum designers, and administrators who are ready to dig deep into the College and Career Readiness (CCR) Standards. Participants will extensively explore standards-based preparation and instructional practices, making connections between the SIA innovations and the needs of their local Indiana Adult Education programs. In addition, participants will help to contribute to a growing online warehouse of College and Career Readiness resources for adult educators.

The activities to be done during and in-between the trainings require participants to work with a partner, and participants are strongly encouraged to apply with a partner from either their local program or another program in their region. Participants not applying with a partner will be assigned prior to the first in-person training.

What is the application process?

Applications must be submitted online here: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SIA_2014-2015

The online application must be completed in its entirety. (SurveyMonkey will not save responses which applicants can return to at a later time). Applicants should allow themselves approximately 45 minutes to complete the application.

Prior to completing the application, teachers and their administrators should review and discuss the application in full. Please note that there are separate questions for teacher and administrator applicants. Applicants should answer those questions most directly concerned with their role in adult education.

All applications are due by 5:00 pm (EDT) on Wednesday, October 8th, 2014. Any questions regarding the Standards in Action (SIA) 2014-2015 training should be sent to Amanda Brewer at abrewer1@dwd.in.gov.