

## SUMMER TEACHER TRAINING INSTITUTE

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

#### 1. Why must teachers attend a two-week Summer Teacher Training Institute to teach an Advanced Career course?

Advanced Career courses are built on giving students access to intellectually demanding assignments requiring productive struggle. New Advanced Career teachers will need to learn how to support students and provide a student-led, teacher-facilitated learning environment.

Advanced Career courses provide authentic workplace project- and problem-based learning. Traditional career/technical courses require students to complete projects on which they are assessed. Advanced Career courses also require teachers to assess student mastery of academic and technical skills embedded in the projects. Many teachers will need assistance in understanding how to assess these projects.

In Advanced Career courses, students are provided daily instruction for academic skills embedded in the projects. Many teachers may need to shore up their academic skills, and learn how to provide this instruction through a project-based strategy.

Experience gained from field-testing Advanced Career curricula and more than 25 years of SREB/High Schools That Work effort to improve career/technical education suggest it will take a full two weeks and more of professional development for teachers to make the shift to the teacher-facilitated, student-centered classroom.

#### 2. What is the nature of the two-week Summer Teacher Training Institute?

The goal of the Advanced Career Summer Teacher Training Institute is to prepare teachers to deliver with fidelity the Advanced Career curricula.

The Advanced Career Summer Teacher Training Institute will provide instruction for the following:

- technical content, including the technology and software students will encounter in the selected career area. It is important to recognize that most of the Advanced Career career areas are newly created career area pathways which have not existed previously in high schools.
- pedagogy of project- and problem-based learning centered on authentic workplace experiences. This includes facilitation of just-in-time instruction at the appropriate time when students are ready to apply the learning to the project. This will include participation in teach-back opportunities to practice teacher-facilitated, student-centered learning.
- mathematics embedded in the projects, including completing practice mathematics problems aligned to the Common Core State Standards or other rigorous standards that students are expected to master.

- science investigations, including how to guide students through inquiry-based learning and through the engineering design process used to solve technological problems. It also includes identifying those known science principles embedded in authentic work, and developing lessons that enable students to understand the lessons' importance in their career fields of study.
- literacy instruction for reading, writing, speaking and listening that career/technical students must master to be college- and career-ready. This will include formulating a research problem, researching known information, and preparing and presenting a written report.

The Advanced Career Summer Teacher Training Institute begins with an orientation webinar approximately two weeks prior to the two-week training. The orientation webinar focuses on the training agenda after which teachers are given an assignment they must complete prior to arrival at the Summer Teacher Training Institute.

### **3. What is the cost of the Advanced Career Summer Teacher Training Institute?**

For each teacher attending a two-week Summer Teacher Training Institute, there is a registration cost of approximately \$3,250. The registration includes costs associated with organizing and running the Institute. Additional costs not included in the registration are hotel accommodations, food and travel for the participating teacher. The costs also do not include teacher stipends for attendance. The participating school district is required to cover these additional costs.

### **4. What Advanced Career curricula will be ready for the Summer Teacher Training Institutes in summer 2013?**

- West Virginia: Energy and Power
- Kentucky: Informatics
- Arkansas: Innovations in Science and Technology
- Ohio Association of Career-Technical Superintendents: Health Informatics

Other curricula may be ready for implementation in fall 2013 with Summer Teacher Training Institutes held in summer 2013. Continue to watch the SREB/Advanced Career website — [sreb.org/AC](http://sreb.org/AC). Additional curricula are expected to be announced in January 2013.

### **5. Who should be selected to participate in the Advanced Career Summer Teacher Training Institute?**

States developing Advanced Career curricula will make recommendations for certification requirements. Ultimately, it will be the responsibility of the school or district wishing to implement the curriculum to check for highly qualified certification status required by the state.

Desired qualifications of participating teachers:

- Strong background in mathematics and science
- Willingness to embrace a new model for project-based learning

- Willingness to partner with academic teachers of mathematics, science and literacy to ensure academic achievement of career/technical students
- High expectations for all students with an understanding of the dual mission of career/technical education to prepare students for both college- and career-readiness
- Experience in the career field, if possible
- Must meet requirements for state certification

## **6. What is the Academic Support Seminar? Are there attendance requirements?**

For acceleration of achievement through project-based learning linked to college- and career-readiness to work, it will be important to provide academic support to Advanced Career classroom teachers. Schools wishing to implement Advanced Career curricula must agree to send a mathematics, science and literacy teacher to the two-day academic support seminar portion of the Summer Teacher Training Institute.

Academic teachers from mathematics, science and literacy disciplines are required to attend the Summer Teacher Training Institute for two days to become familiar with the expectations and content of the Advanced Career curriculum.

Academic and career/technical teachers learn specific frameworks for mathematics, science and literacy instruction specific to their school's Advanced Career curriculum, examine how these frameworks are implemented in the projects within the Advanced Career course, and then make plans for working together throughout the school year to ensure student mastery of academic and technical content.

## **7. What is the Administrator and Guidance Counselor Support Seminar? Is attendance required?**

For acceleration of academic and technical achievement through project-based learning linked to college- and career-readiness to work, it will be important to provide administrative support to Advanced Career classroom teachers. Schools wishing to implement Advanced Career curricula must agree to send the designated administrator to the two-day administrative support seminar portion of the Summer Teacher Training Institute, to ensure fidelity of curriculum implementation.

Administrators and guidance counselors from schools wishing to implement an Advanced Career curriculum are required to attend the two-day administrative support seminar. Administrators will learn the importance of developing a master schedule in an academy model to allow common planning time for the Advanced Career teacher and academic teachers from the Academic Support Seminar (See #6 above).

Guidance counselors and administrators learn and understand the Advanced Career career fields and learn about the postsecondary options for careers, certification and further education/training.

Administrators and guidance counselors will spend some time with the Advanced Career teacher learning the expectations of his or her school's curriculum.

## **8. What will participating Advanced Career teachers be expected to do prior to the Summer Teacher Training Institute?**

After completing registration requirements, the Advanced Career teacher is expected to attend an orientation webinar scheduled approximately two weeks prior to the beginning of the Summer Teacher Training Institute.

During the orientation webinar, the Advanced Career teacher will be given assignments to complete prior to attending the Summer Teacher Training Institute. Failure to complete assignments may prevent the participating teacher from gaining Advanced Career certification (See #9 below).

## **9. Must the participating Advanced Career teacher meet any additional requirements to become certified to teach Advanced Career curriculum?**

For a teacher to implement an Advanced Career curriculum, he or she must:

- Meet state requirements for highly qualified status.
- Attend the orientation webinar prior to the Summer Teacher Training Institute and complete pre-Institute assignments.
- Participate actively in the Summer Teacher Training Institute activities and professional development.
- Agree to work collaboratively with the academic support seminar teachers during the Summer Teacher Training Institute and throughout the school year to ensure student success in academic and technical content.
- Agree to implement Advanced Career curriculum with fidelity
- Pass the end-of-course exam students will take. If the participating teacher is not able to pass the end-of-course exam, he or she will be given provisional certification for one year with assignments for independent study. He or she must retake the end-of-course exam during the school year. If the teacher fails a second time, he or she will be required to repeat the Summer Teacher Training Institute for the same course before being allowed to teach the course a second year. Provisional certification will also require additional support from the school's administration, guidance counselor and academic teachers.