

**ESL Pro Study Circle: Issue Brief**

**Preparing English Learners for Work and Career Pathways**

# Assignment #2

*Before reading the issue brief, respond to the questions below. During or after reading, add some additional information to your responses. Bring this completed assignment with you to the first study circle session and be prepared to share your thoughts.*

1. Read the definition a Career Pathway and fill the blanks with words that fit.

“A series of **(a) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** education and training strategies and support **(b) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** that enable individuals to secure industry-relevant **(c) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** and obtain **(d) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** in an occupational area and to advance to higher levels of future education and employment in that area.” (U.S. Departs of Education, Labor, and Health and Human Services, 2012)

1. Why is it important to bring contextualized instruction related to work and support for career pathways to adult education programs that serve English learners?
2. What are some program models you are aware of that are designed to strengthen the connection between adult education, skills training and employment?
3. Think about the role of administrators and program managers. What are some ways administrators and program managers can support contextualized instruction and career pathways in a local program?
4. What are some of the language skills learners need to be employed in jobs that can sustain families?
5. What questions, if any, have been raised for you after reading this issue brief?