Why do community colleges matter?

- Students make a life choice to be there.
- Equity is the operating principal.
- And faculty care.

How can we support them?

- By opening the door to academic literacy in every course.

---

Reading Apprenticeship and Community Colleges
A Partnership for Success

Research-based, strengths-based, and built for 21st century success

Reading Apprenticeship is a research-based and accessible framework that helps community college faculty boost students’ literacy competencies—discipline by discipline. It builds on strengths faculty and students already have. Instructors learn to leverage their expertise as readers in their subject areas, building students’ confidence to engage complex texts and achieve their goals.

Reading Apprenticeship is designed to promote an integrated focus on improving students’ academic strengths and dispositions. Students build knowledge, problem-solving capacities, collaborative skills, persistence, and confidence in themselves as learners—a blend of competencies that researchers have identified as central to 21st century workplace and higher education success.

Applications in transfer, developmental, and career-technical courses

Community college teachers across the country are seeing the power of Reading Apprenticeship for their students, at all levels.

Transfer-level students make the deep disciplinary connections that lead to sustained academic learning. Developmental students are supported to integrate and accelerate their literacy and disciplinary learning. And career-technical students learn how to understand technical, job-related materials that contribute to workplace confidence and competence.

Who’s Got It?

25 STATES
170+ COLLEGES
1000+ FACULTY

CONTINUED
Faculty engagement that builds student success

Among an enterprising group of community colleges, four campuses selected as Achieving the Dream “Leader Colleges” use Reading Apprenticeship as a key student success strategy. On these campuses and others where Reading Apprenticeship takes root, faculty have had the opportunity to experience how Reading Apprenticeship helps their students. Word spreads.

Typically, a few faculty members participate in Reading Apprenticeship professional development, like what they learn, try it out, and are inspired to create campus faculty inquiry groups and offer introductory workshops. Options for additional faculty professional development can range from a three-day STEM Institute or six-week online course to participation in Reading Apprenticeship leadership and coaching courses.

At Renton Technical College, for example, an Achieving the Dream “Leader College,” the administration has institutionalized Reading Apprenticeship, and almost 100 faculty have participated in Reading Apprenticeship professional development—a third of them in the six-week online course.

---

Options for Faculty

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>101 ONLINE</strong></td>
<td>6-week, 30-hour introduction to Reading Apprenticeship with “make it real” practice and feedback</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>STEM INSTITUTE</strong></td>
<td>3-day face-to-face introduction to Reading Apprenticeship with STEM applications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CAMPUS COACH ONLINE</strong></td>
<td>10-module course to deepen practice and gain leadership experience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE</strong></td>
<td>face-to-face and online community of practice for faculty taking campus leadership roles in Reading Apprenticeship</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

Student Outcome Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>90%</strong></td>
<td>student retention in a study of 25 classes where teachers used Reading Apprenticeship (vs. 60% retention in comparison classes)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>11%</strong></td>
<td>campus-wide persistence boost even with only some teachers using Reading Apprenticeship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3</strong></td>
<td>randomized controlled studies of Reading Apprenticeship at the high school level have found significant student gains in reading, content knowledge, and learning attitudes and behaviors</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

WestEd.org/ReadingApprenticeship

**CONTACT:** Ruth Schoenbach | WestEd, 300 Lakeside Dr., Oakland, CA 94612 | rschoen@WestEd.org | 510.302.4255