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| BusinessesGo Green for Literacy! |

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| **▪Advocate for federal funding for adult education ▪Make a donation** |  | **Hire grads from adult Ed. Programs** |

**Adult Ed: Good for Business!**

***Do you struggle to find skilled, reliable workers? Do your employees need upskilling in reading and math skills? Maryland Adult Ed programs can help.***

***ROI of Adult Education***

Working with adult education providers and accessing federal tax and federal-share incentives, such as incumbent worker training, on-the-job training, and apprenticeships are effective investments that businesses can make to improve the foundation and technical skills of their workforce. Check [www.dllr.state.md.us/employment/mbw.shtml](http://www.dllr.state.md.us/employment/mbw.shtml) for details.

In *your* community, adult education providers can help you with classes for your workers or with a pool of motivated candidates with strong work ethics.

***FYI About Adult Education***

Maryland has 26 federal/state-funded programs. Yet, with funding constraints, they can only serve about **10%** of those who need adult education to build basic skills, learn English, or earn their high school diplomas!

▪From 2002-2015 federal funding for adult ed. was reduced by 20%.

▪1/2 Million Maryland adults lack a high school diploma. Manyare working hard to earn their GED® credential but need a chance!

***How your businesses can make a difference!***

▪**Reach out** to your local adult education provider today to find out how you can acquire talent and put Maryland adults to work!

▪**Establish partnerships** with adult education providers - have a say in how students are trained and shape your workforce.

**▪Engage adult learners** - ask an adult learner to speak at your next business meeting about how increasing their academic skills increased their value as an employee. Invite adult learners to job shadow or intern.

* **▪Start a donation program -** invest directly in the training of your workforce. This type of investment increases employee retention.

▪**Advocate** for funding for adult education – talk to government officials and increase Maryland's base of skilled workers through adult education and training.

**MAACCE**,a professional membership organization of adult learning professionals, asks Marylanders to wear green wristbands and green clothing as part of highlighting the need to support adult literacy education.

Visit [www.MAACCEmd.org](http://www.MAACCEmd.org)

to view an adult learner sharing how his company’s adult ed. program motivated him in his work!

***National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week (AEFL)***

AEFL Week (September 24-30) is an annual effort to increase the public’s understanding of the need to support adult literacy, increase federal funding and leverage local funds.