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*Essential Distance Education Series*
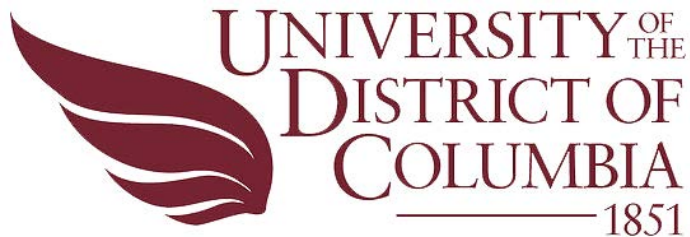*May 5, 2020*

*Webinar #1 - Ready, Set, Go!*

IDEAL CONSORTIUM

# *Welcome to the Webinar*



**J. Michelle Johnson, State Director, Adult and Family Education, OSSE**



**Dr. Heather Bruce, Adult Education Program Coordinator, University of the District of Columbia**

# *Welcome to the Webinar*

## Jen Vanek, PhD

Director of Digital Learning and
Research
EdTech Center@World Education

**IDEAL CONSORTIUM**

# *Agenda*

- Who's here? What is one question you hope to have answered
- Tips for getting started
- Questions & Discussion
- More resources for you

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# IDEAL CONSORTIUM

## MAKING QUALITY DISTANCE AND BLENDED LEARNING[...] ADULT LEARNERS

The IDEAL Consortium helps member states establish quality innovative distance and blended learning[...] development, providing technical support, and facilitating a network of education leaders from across t[...] learners have access to quality learning opportunities beyond the classroom.

### IDEAL Consortium Member States 2018-19

Current Member S[...]
Former Member S[...]
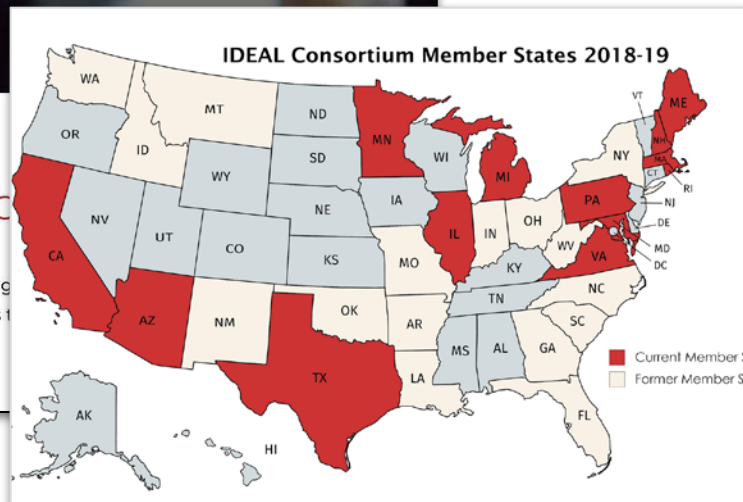
# Who's here?

- Teacher

- Researcher

- State ABE staff

- Teacher educator

- Program administrator

- Technologist specialist

# Ensuring quality:

# An intentional process

**Reflect** – understand the needs of your learners and the resources you have available to you.

**Investigate** – make sure you know state policy that will guide implementation and reporting; understand what your capacity is to implement programming; know where to find support

**Experiment** – constantly examine implementation; try new new things with a targeted group of learners and start gathering and evaluating resources; use that info to expand use of new approach or resources

# What is distance education?

**Technical Assistance Guide for Performance Accountability under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act**

*National Reporting System for Adult Education*

DECEMBER 2017

Division of Adult Education and Literacy
Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education
U.S. Department of Education
Contract No. ED-VAE-15-O-5027

Distance Education — Formal learning activity where students and instructors are separated by geography, time, or both for the majority of the instructional period. Distance learning materials are delivered through a variety of media, including but not limited to, print, audio recording, videotape, broadcasts, computer software, Web-based programs, and other online technology. Teachers support distance learners through communication by mail, telephone, e-mail, or online technologies and software.

https://nrsweb.org/sites/default/files/NRS-TA-January-2018-508.pdf

# Blended learning – basic definition

1. **Blended learning -** Tight integration of an online curriculum and/or resources into a broader curriculum.

- Instructors link in-class content and online content
- Instructors monitor student progress online and use info to identify learning needs; adjust in-class instruction

2. **Hybrid learning** – Online resources used "as a core instructional activity"; assigned in addition to instructor-led, in-class instruction

- Online work NOT connected to in-class lessons and does not directly influence what instructors do in the classroom.

Murphy, R., Bienkowski, M., Bhanot, R., Wang, S., Wetzel, T., House, A., … Van Brunt, J. (2017). *Evaluating digital learning for adult basic literacy and numeracy.* Menlow Park.

**New ways to think about blended and hybrid learning**

# Hybrid learning

"...combine the use of the product as a core instructional activity in combination with instructor-led instruction during regular class time... the students' work in the product, although required, is not necessarily connected to instructor-led lessons and does not directly influence what instructors do in the classroom.

Online activities are not coordinated with the face-to-face instruction. Instructors do not regularly review product dashboards, nor do they use their direct instruction time to cover topics that were revealed as potentially problematic for students based on their performance in the product."



https://www.sri.com/sites/default/files/publications/evaluating-digital-learning_1.pdf
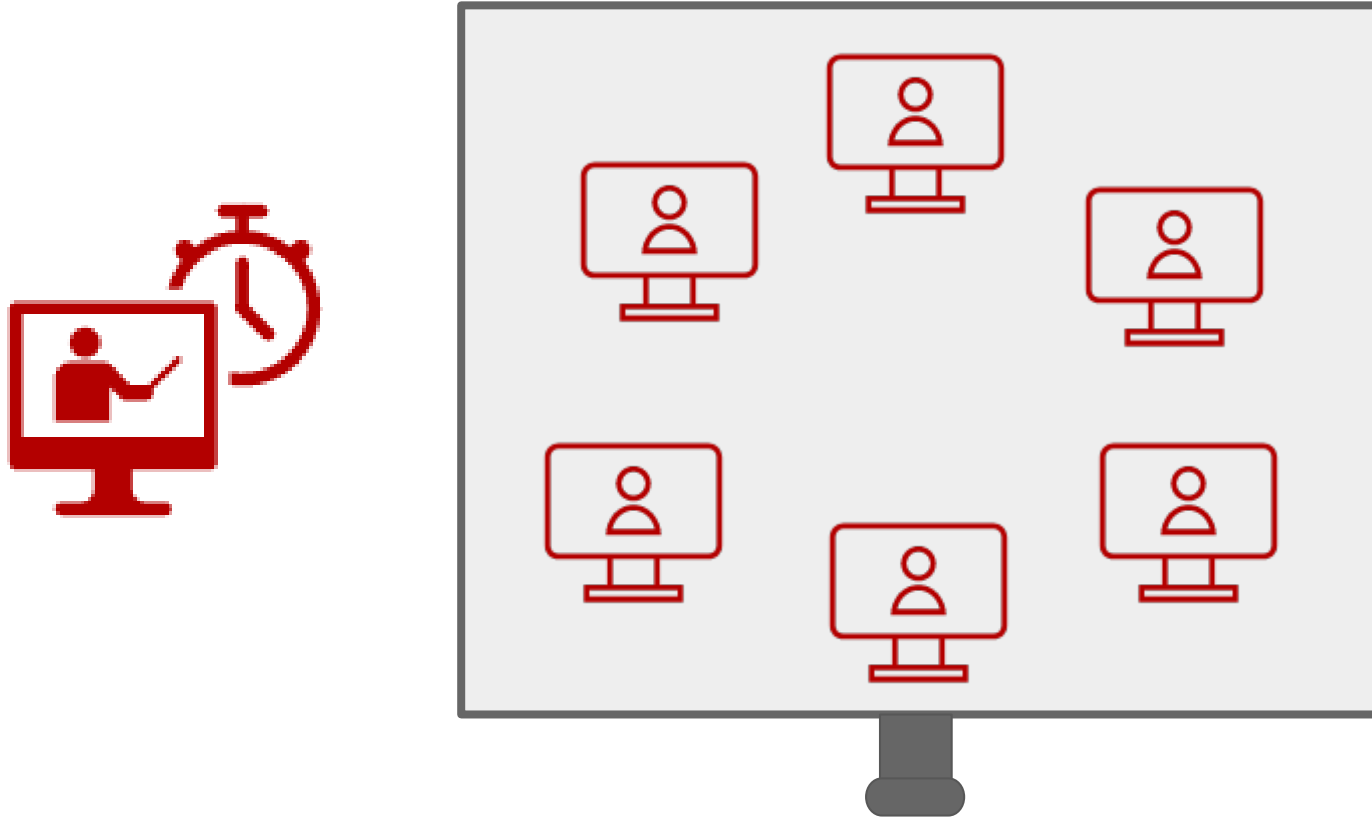
# Blended learning

"... tight integration of the product into a broader curriculum and instructional program … instructors had planfully integrated product use with face-to-face instruction, so the whole program of study was partly online and partly face to face. Instructors attempted to link the content in their lectures to the content that students were assigned in the product, or they closely monitored student progress in the product and modified instruction in the classroom accordingly and/or used students' performance in the product to identify those in need of individual attention."

https://www.sri.com/sites/default/files/publications/evaluating-digital-learning_1.pdf

# Chat or unmute to ask questions

# An Example: Virtual Learning Circles

## STORY

## VOICE

## ACTION



In each weekly conversation group, participants:

- Watch an episode of We Speak NYC

- Talk about what happens in the story

- Rehearse for real life English

- Learn about free NYC resources

- Share their experiences and expertise

- Act on ways to use information and skills

LITERACY PARTNERS

# We Speak NYC: Website and Materials

All videos, class materials, and educator resources are available at
**nyc.gov/LearnEnglish**

- All the materials are online, accessible for educators and students

- Basic, flexible lesson plan is easy to adapt for remote learning

- Required tools:

  - video conferencing app

  - text/chat app

  - slides (or documents) app

**LITERACY PARTNERS**

# Chat or unmute to ask questions

- What issue are you hoping to address with distance education?

- Which of these models is a good fit or goal for your programming: straight distance (no synchronous) blended, hybrid or learning circles?

# Read the blog post

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# Tips for Distance Learning

**Ready, Set, Go: Steps to Rapidly Start Distance Learning**

Setting up distance education usually takes planning and some pilot testing with selected students. You might be in a situation right now that makes that impossible. This guidance will help you get something going quickly. Do what you can - even if it's not everything listed below.

1.  **Make a communication plan.**
    Collect all relevant contact information for your learners (e.g., cell phone numbers, email, home addresses) so you know how you will keep in contact with them. Possible communication channels might be phone calls, videoconferences, texting, apps (such as What's App or Remind), or email.  Ask what works best for learners and teachers.

2.  **Make a list of your program's technology resources (hardware and software) and determine your learners' ability to access online tools.**
    What technology access do your teachers and students have (e.g., licenses to online products, web-based teacher-created curricula, devices, Internet)?  Make a list of these assets and plan how you will communicate them to learners and staff.  Consider steps you might take to prevent access-equity gaps from getting wider. What resources can you refer your learners to -- things that leverage the access they have, like mobile phones? If you know that there is no access, you may consider packets with some essential learning materials.

# Resources



**Webinar #8 May 8, 2020**
Kentucky Skills U will share their innovative approach to providing resources and professional learning to help their teachers deliver quality distance education.

Tamara Thompson from Mockingbird Education will share strategies she has found useful for supporting learner engagement in synchronous online instruction. As always, following the lightning talks, we'll break into two discussions and you can choose which topic you'd like to further explore.

**bit.ly/tipsforDL**

# Professional Development Opportunities and Resources for Distance Learning

- Burlington English Free Webinars - https://www.burlingtonenglish.com/

- LINCS Community, Courses and Resources for Adult Education - https://lincs.ed.gov/

- ProLiteracy - Continuing Instruction from a Distance - https://www.proliteracy.org/health

- The Change Agent Free Webinars - https://changeagent.nelrc.org/in-the-classroom/webinars/

# *Reach out if you have questions*

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