
Broadband and Civic Empowerment Curriculum

Session 1: Education, Workforce & Business Development Resources

Prepared by

- University of Illinois - Community Data Clinic
- Cunningham Township Supervisor's Office
- Project Success of Vermilion County, Inc.

Overview

1. Review of Goal and Objectives
2. Check-in from previous meeting
3. Review Resources
 - a. Computer Literacy
 - b. Workforce Development
 - c. Educational Programs
 - d. Additional Resources
 - Business Development
 - Financial Management
4. Announcements for next meeting

Goal & Objectives of Study

Engage households to better understand the barriers that prevent them from maintaining safe and reliable forms of digital connection.

Address structural inequalities related to technology that cannot be resolved simply by growing the state's broadband infrastructure.

Create a Tech Buddies Program to support households' continued connectivity needs in the months following their receipt of hardware.



Session Outline

Topic	Purpose	Questions
Education Resources & Business Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide to participants a compiled list of local resources for adult education, workforce development, and small business development• Understand how participants find resources for their education needs	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Are you interested in some educational or training topic (based on intake form)?2. When searching for educational or training resources, who do you go to?3. How do you get the information?

Computer Literacy Resources

1. Parkland College -Technology Center

- Offers 1-credit-hour courses in computer basics and/or with certified Microsoft Office software training.
- Offers VERY flexible schedules with on-campus classes, online classes, and open lab (M-Th) with instructors for tutoring.
- Contact info:
 - 217-351-2506
 - Address: 2400 West Bradley Avenue Champaign, IL 61821.
 - Email: lmcpike@parkland.edu
 - Website:
<https://www.parkland.edu/Main/Academics/Departments/Business-Computer-Science-Technologies/Explore/Computer-Technology-Center>



Computer Literacy Resources

2. YWCA Strive Program

- Free computer literacy course for women (10-week program).
- Education in the use of computers and internet tools, as well as training on workplace skills for women.
- Contact info:
 - Phone number: 217-344-0721. Address: 2403 W Springfield Ave P1, Champaign, IL 61821
 - Email: info@ywcauofi.org
 - Website: <https://www.ywcachampaigncounty.org/strive>

eliminating racism
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Champaign County



Computer Coding Resources/Links

1. [TechReady Illinois - Jumpstart and advance your tech career \(uillinois.edu\)](https://uillinois.edu)
2. [Illinois Computing Accelerator for Non-Specialists \(iCAN\) | Computer Science | UIUC](#)
3. [Google IT Automation with Python Professional Certificate | Coursera](#)
4. [Code Next - Google](#)
5. [Learn to Code - for Free | Codecademy](#)
6. [11 Free Online Coding Classes \[2023 Beginner Guide\] \(springboard.com\)](#)



Workforce Development Resources

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Workforce Development Resources

1. Parkland College SWFT

- Free, short-term training program that includes academic and career services.
- Applicants are paid/receive stipend to attend all classes; \$1,600 a semester, or \$150 for Forklift Program. Completing all coursework and an exit interview, enables earning an added \$500.
- Can also receive provide financial assistance to purchase technology, hotspot, assistance for childcare, transportation.
- Courses in Automotive repair (2 semesters), CDL truck driving (4 weeks, 40 hours a week), CNA - nurse assistant (1 semester), EMT (1 semester), Entrepreneurs Basics (2 semesters), Forklift warehouse training (5 days), IT Prep (2 semesters) .

Contact info:

- 217-353-2150
- Address: 2400 West Bradley Avenue
Champaign, IL 61821
- Email: swft@parkland.edu
- Website:
<https://www.parkland.edu/Main/Academics/Departments/SWFT>

Workforce Development Resources

2. Parkland College -Career Center

- Helps explore interests, skills, and values to select college majors and career goals, resume writing, interviewing skills, and other job search strategies.
- **Free and available to everyone. Can schedule appointments and/or attend events.**
- Contact info:
 - Phone Number: 217-351-2219
 - Address: 2400 West Bradley Avenue
Champaign, IL 61821
 - Email: careerservices@parkland.edu
 - Website:
<https://www.parkland.edu/Main/About-Parkland/Department-Office-Directory/Counseling-Services/Career-Services>

CAREER SERVICES



Workforce Development Resources

3. First Followers Reentry Program

- Reentry to work program for formerly incarcerated individuals.
- Offers peer mentoring, assistance with employment searches, workforce development for emerging adults, advocacy for individuals with felony convictions, service referrals, family reunification.
- Contact info:
 - Phone Number: 217-607-1131
 - Address: 14 Cottage Court Champaign IL, 61820
 - Email: firstfollowerscu@gmail.com
 - Website: <https://www.firstfollowersreentry.com/>



Workforce Development Resources

4. RPC Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA):

- Supports varied trainings in IT, manufacturing, office and administration, and accounting.
- Other options include GED, CDL (truck driver licensing), culinary programs, vet tech, and career assistance.
- Contact info:
 - Phone Number: 217-328-3313
 - Address: 1776 E Washington St, Urbana, IL 61802
 - Email: Info@ccrpc.org
 - Website:
https://ccrpc.org/divisions/workforce_development/index.php



Workforce Development Resources

5. Illinois Worknet Apprenticeships

- Paid work experience, classroom instruction, and nationally recognized credential. Website showcases programs and initiatives.
- Contact info: <https://www.illinoisworknet.com/ApprenticeshipIL/Pages/Apprentices.aspx>

The screenshot displays two main sections of the website. The left section is titled "Find an Apprenticeship Program" and features a photograph of a chef in a kitchen. Below the image is a blue button labeled "Find a Program". The right section is titled "Illinois Apprenticeship Initiatives" and features a photograph of a scientist in a lab coat and mask working in a laboratory. Below the image is a blue button labeled "Learn About Initiatives".

Educational Resources

1. Adult Education & Workforce Development:

- Many program options include business/management/administration, health science, industrial technology (CAD, electronics, automation, welding, etc.), information technology, transportation/distribution/logistics.
- There is ESL (English as a second language), HSE (high school equivalency), basic skills classes.
- Classes are free. No high school diploma required.
- Contact info:
 - Phone number: 217-351-2580.
 - Address: 2400 West Bradley Avenue Champaign, IL 61821.
 - Email: adulthoodeducation@parkand.edu
 - Website: <https://www.parkland.edu/Main/Academics/Departments/Adult-Education>

2. Urbana Adult Ed/USD 116 Adult Ed:

- Programs include gaining a high school diploma, certified nursing assistant (CNA), pre-CNA, and English as a Second Language (ESL).
- Tuition waiver may be available. Up to \$250 in fees for CNA.
- Must be 16 years or older. Varying hours of completion. Very flexible schedules.
- Contact info:
 - Phone number: 217-384-3530.
 - Address: 211 N. Race Street, Urbana, IL 61802.
 - Email: sscherer@usd116.org.
 - Website: <https://urbanaadulthoodeducation.org/>.

Educational Resources

3. UI Odyssey Project:

- Free UIUC course in the humanities to income-eligible adults. Yearlong program, fall and spring, w/ classes in literature, philosophy, art history, and U.S. history.
- Can earn up to eight transferable college credits. Associated fees taken care of. Great for those interested in college preparation or considering a college degree.
- 18 years or old, cannot have a bachelor's degree already.
- Contact info:
 - Phone number: 217-300-3888.
 - Address: Levis Faculty Center, Suite 400, 919 West Illinois Street, MC-057, Urbana, IL 61801.
 - Email: odysseyproject@illinois.edu.
 - Website: <https://hri.illinois.edu/odyssey>

4. READ Program:

- Free tutoring for adults, over 16 years old, not enrolled in high school. Reading, math, and English concentrations. Also English as a Second Language Support.
- District 505 eligibility. Goals to participate for 40 tutoring hours, prefer to meet once a week, but no requirements.
- Contact info:
 - Phone number: 217-351-2580.
 - Address: 2400 West Bradley Avenue Champaign, IL 61821.
 - Email: projectread@parkland.edu.
 - Website: <https://www.parkland.edu/Main/Academics/Departments/Adult-Education/Project-READ-Free-Tutoring>.

Educational Resources

5. Parkland Pathway to Illinois:

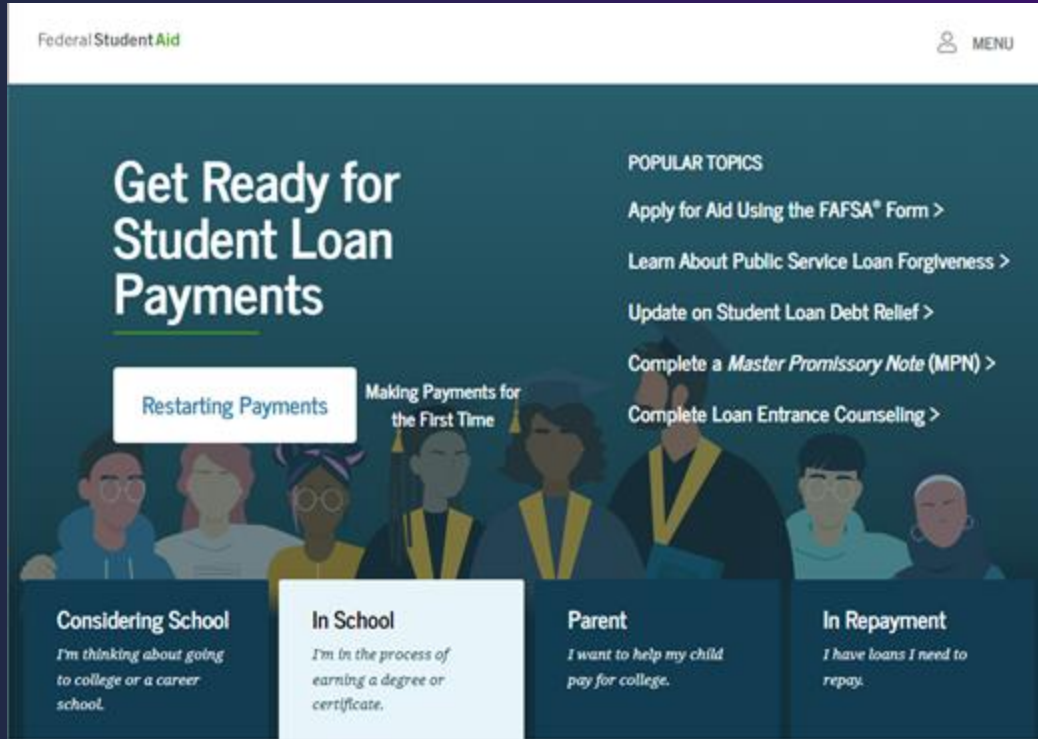
- Dual enrollment with Parkland and UIUC, limited to certain degree programs. Start at Parkland and eventually take UIUC classes. Must apply to both schools to be in the program.
- High school and GED recipients only. Fees may be applicable.
- Contact info for Parkland:
 - Phone number: 217-351-2482.
 - Address: 2400 West Bradley Avenue
Champaign, IL 61821.
 - Email: Admissions@parkland.edu.
 - Website:
<https://www.parkland.edu/Main/About-Parkland/Department-Office-Directory/Admissions-Records/Pathway-to->
- Contact info for UIUC:
 - Phone number: 217-333-0302.
 - Address: 901 West Illinois Street, Urbana, IL 61801.
 - Email: admissions@illinois.edu.
 - Website:
<https://www.admissions.illinois.edu/Apply/Pathways/parkland-about>.

Educational Resources

6. Lincoln's Challenge Academy:

- The Academy combines classroom instruction, service to community, life skills, job skills, computer literacy, physical training, and challenging individual and team activities into one unique experience.
- Candidate must be 16-18 years of age to qualify for residence. Accept 15 year olds, but they are limited to our Credit Recovery path.
- Have Residential Phase and Post-Residential Phase.
- Contact info:
 - Contact: 1-800-851-2166
 - Website: [The Academy – Lincoln's ChalleNGe Academy \(lincolnschallenge.org\)](https://www.lincolnschallenge.org)
- Classes typically run from July-December & January-June.
- Tuition: There is NO cost to attend the academy. Uniforms, meals, and linens are provided. Cadets only have to bring personal hygiene items and a pair of running shoes.
- For Illinois Residents only.
- NOW ACCEPTING FOR JUL 8th, 2024 CLASS!
- Registration:
 - [Application Page – Lincoln's ChalleNGe Academy \(lincolnschallenge.org\)](https://www.lincolnschallenge.org).

Federal Student Aid - <https://studentaid.gov>



- **Federal Student Aid Website.**
- **Has helpful information for students as well as parents.**
- **Demonstrates how to apply for financial aid.**
- **Also keeps track of how many loans you have taken out and creating a loan payment program.**

Changes to the FAFSA in 2024

1. The FAFSA Will Be Much Shorter

- ❖ < 50 Questions (in 2024)
- ❖ Previously had over 100 questions

1. New Release Date (Dec 31)



3. EFC (Expected Family Contribution) changing to SAI (Student Aid Index).



4. Financial Need is Calculated Differently

- ❖ Cost of Attendance (COA) – Student Aid Index (SAI) – Other Financial Assistance (OFA) = Financial need

Changes to the FAFSA in 2024

5. No Financial Consequences for Contributions Made by Others



6. Need a FSA ID To Complete the FAFSA

- ❖ Anyone required to fill out part of student's FAFSA including parent, spouse, need FSA ID and password.

7. Discount Eliminated for Multiple Children in College



Educational Resources (Vermilion County)

6. Federal TRIO Programs:

- Progress through the academic pipeline from middle school to postbaccalaureate programs.
- Help first-generation students and students with limited financial resources.
- Eligible individuals from the cities of Champaign, Decatur, and Urbana.
- Contact info:
 - Phone number: (217) 333-0054.
 - Address: 610 East John Street Champaign, IL 61820.
 - Email: omsa@illinois.edu.
 - Website: <https://omsa.illinois.edu/trio>

4 programs to choose:

TRIO Talent Search: Help participants graduate from high school, enroll in college the fall after graduating high school or completing an equivalent program (e.g., GED), and complete their postsecondary education.

TRIO Upward Bound: Career and major exploration, college visits, academic support in high school

TRIO Student Support Services: Encourage students to pursue academic excellence, persist in their collegiate studies and earn their degrees

TRIO McNair Scholars: Prepare participants to be the next generation of scientists, researchers, and professors through rigorous graduate school preparation, academic development, and research training.

Resources (Vermilion County)

1. DACC Adult Education

- <https://www.dacc.edu/depts/adulted>
- Hours may vary for each site

2. DACC GED

- These classes are free to attend at any DACC extension.
- (217) 443-8782 - Hours 8am- 5pm
- Must register at Adult Education office at DACC in Prairie Hall
- Test has a cost of \$120 in total and can be taken online
- <https://www.dacc.edu/depts/adulted/General-Educational-Development>

3. American Job Center (Also known as Vermilion County Works)- many organizations housed in one place (WOIA)

- Offers (in conjunction with DACC)
 - CNA and CMA classes
 - GED and HiSET classes (FREE)
 - Resources for obtaining grants and funding for education
- Offers (through First Institute Training and Management
 - CMA courses for ages 16-26
- Offers CDL training
- Offers work experience, transitional employment, youth program services, support services (AKA financial assistance),
- When you go to the office, you are offered a list of what AJC offers and then redirected to someone who will help you move toward that goal
- 407 N. Franklin, Ste B, Danville, IL, 60942
- (217) 442-0296 ext. 101 (ask for Jeremy) – Open Monday - Friday, 8:30am to 5:00pm

Resources (Vermilion County)

3. DACC TRIO Program:

- Progress through the academic pipeline from middle school to postbaccalaureate programs.
- Help first-generation students and students with limited financial resources.
- Students may be eligible to participate in TRIO if they are currently enrolled at DACC.
- Contact info:
 - Phone number: 217-443-8898.
 - Address: Student Success Center, Cannon Hall Room 113, 2000 E Main St, Danville, IL 61832
 - Email: trio@dacc.edu
 - Website: <https://dacc.edu/ssc/trio>

Business Development Resources

1. Small Business Development |University of Illinois Extension

Small Business Education Videos

- [Attracting and Welcoming Customers](#)
- [Writing Your Business Plan](#)
- [Starting a Specialty Foods Business](#)
- [Welcome Mat Out for Business Start Ups](#)
- [What Direction is Your Business Heading?](#)
- [Small Business Development in Illinois](#)

Website: <https://extension.illinois.edu/economic-development/small-business-development>

2. Illinois Small Business Development Center at Champaign County

The Illinois Small Business Development Center (SBDC) at Champaign County EDC is part of America's Small Business Development Center Network, the most comprehensive small business assistance network in the United States.

The goal of the network is to help new entrepreneurs achieve their goals, and assist existing businesses in staying successful in the complex marketplace locally, regionally, and globally.

Website: <https://www.cusbdc.org/>

Phone: 217-378-8535

Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM

Address: 1817 South Neil Street, Suite 100 – Champaign, IL 61820

Sign up for program:

<https://ilsbdc.ecenterdirect.com/signup>

Financial Management Resources:

Consumer Economics - University of Illinois Extension

Programs & Services

1. Money Mentors Program

A network of trained volunteers who work one-on-one with individuals who request help with personal money management. Money Mentors are available to meet with participants online or by phone.

Website: <https://extension.illinois.edu/cfiv/money-mentors>

2. Financial Wellness for College Students

Aims to help college students learn to manage their money effectively and make wise financial decisions. All services are FREE. Students can chat with peer educators (by phone, email or video) to ask questions about personal finances and money management resources.

Website: <https://extension.illinois.edu/cfiv/financial-wellness-college-students>

3. Financial Planning for Young Adults Coursera Course

Course is designed to provide an introduction to basic financial planning concepts for young adults. The FPYA course is organized across eight separate modules within a 4-week window. Topics covered include financial goal setting, saving and investing, budgeting, financial risk, borrowing and credit.

Website: <https://www.coursera.org/learn/financial-planning#about>

4. Podcast- Stream Family Financial Feuds

Website: <https://soundcloud.com/familyfinancialfeuds>

Acknowledgements

Community Organizations

Danielle Chynoweth and Jessica Black
Cunningham Township Supervisor's Office

Kimberly David and Melissa Key
Project Success of Vermilion County, Inc.

Thank you!