

NRS 2024 Targeted Workshop Case Study 1

Case Study 1

Horizons Adult Education (HAE) recently finished the pilot of its manufacturing IET program. While planning the IET program, the English language acquisition (ELA) teacher made certain they used research-based practices designed to leverage the learners' first language. The team was intentional in ensuring it could support content in both English and Spanish to assist with vocabulary knowledge. The planning team also worked hard on partnering with organizations to be prepared to provide access to support services should students need them.

By the end of the pilot, five of the 12 students who began the program finished the 10-week term as planned. However, four of the students—native Tagalog speakers—needed additional language support and will continue the program with the next cohort, and two other students needed to stop out because financial issues prevented them from affording childcare and transportation. HAE's career pathway navigator is frustrated because appropriate services were available for these two students, but HAE was unaware of their challenges until they stopped attending the program. The program staff plan to reach out to the two students needing assistance to initiate transportation and childcare support services if they are willing to restart the IET program.

The IET planning and teaching teams are meeting next week to discuss a plan to support staff and students; they want to ensure they are better prepared before the next cohort starts.

1. What challenges did students experience that may have impacted their ability to persist in the IET program?

2. What steps can HAE staff add to the program planning and design process to mitigate some of the issues moving forward?

3. What data could HAE have used during the program planning and implementation process to understand the potential IET students in their area?

Adapted from the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education. (2023). ADVANCE IET advanced design camp case study.