**Adult Basic Education Pathways to Strengthen Basic Skills in Industrial Technology**

The Industrial Technology (formerly Industrial/Facilities Maintenance) program at Amarillo College was a long-standing training program with many years of history when the Round Two TAACCCT grant was implemented. To accelerate progress and ensure that all students, regardless of basic math and English skills proficiency, were given every opportunity to master course competencies, the TAACCCT grant project implemented the following interventions for the Industrial Technology courses that were considered the most challenging (Refrigeration Principles and Motor Controls):

1. Hired one part-time Adult Basic Education (ABE) supplemental instructor to (a) observe classes in selected courses; (b) study the manual and student handouts; (c) create contextualized learning materials to help students study and learn the technical vocabulary, related math skills, and basic concepts required to master course competencies; and (d) provide one-on-one tutoring as needed, both during and after class.
2. Started using the Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE) during the first week of class to obtain a quick diagnostic of individual students’ levels of math and English skills. This helped both the ABE supplemental instructor and the regular classroom instructor to identify students with lower basic skills, which helped them channel extra study assistance to these students.
3. Provided an additional resource to students in the classroom when students were studying. If students were reluctant to ask the Industrial Technology instructor for help, they might feel more comfortable asking the ABE supplemental instructor.
4. Offered one-on-one tutoring to students outside of class, based on student need.

By the time the TAACCCT grant funds for student support ended in 2016, Industrial Technology students were being referred to the Access Learning Center on campus if tutoring was needed, as most students in this program did not routinely need tutoring by the time they were in the second or third semester of training. The pre-TABE instrument is now administered to all students enrolled in credit-bearing training programs on the technical campus during the first week of the first semester, and the post-TABE is administered at the end of the first 8-week block of classes.