

## 5. Curriculum Resources

The following is a list of assorted curricula for health. All Virginia examples have been created with partial funding from Virginia state English Literacy/Civics grants.

### **Arlington Education and Employment Program (REEP) EL/Civics Online Curriculum. Health Units**

**Approach: Life Skills**

**URL: <http://www.arlington.k12.va.us/departments/adulted/REEP/>**

REEP's health curriculum is part of a larger life skills-based curriculum which focuses on student voice and integration of technology. Some health topics presented include anatomy, reporting symptoms, filling out medical forms, accessing local health care, reporting emergencies to 911, responding to medical instructions, asking and answering questions, making healthy choices, practicing preventive care, and reading and understanding medicine labels. Other curriculum content includes units on personal identification, government, transportation, jobs, consumerism, housing, community, legal information, time and weather, and holidays. Individual classes conduct needs assessments to select which units and topics they will focus on in a term. The curriculum offers detailed information on assessment, goals, lifeskills performance objectives, and language skill integration. For each of the 9 instructional levels, there is a chart of lifeskills performance objectives with corresponding language samples, grammar and instructional resources.

### **Charlottesville Public Schools ESL Health Curriculum**, by Leslie Furlong,

**Approach: Participatory**

**URL: <http://www.charlottesville-esl.org>**

The Charlottesville ESL Health Curriculum focuses broadly on developing civics awareness and participation regarding health, illness, and health care in the Charlottesville ESL community. It is committed to being a student-generated curriculum. Students are encouraged to develop competency navigating the U.S. health care system in the broadest sense possible. They look at holistic definitions of health, disease, and illness, as well as the importance of lifestyle choices, prevention, and early detection. They build life skills in accomplishing tasks such as making appointments, describing symptoms, filling out forms, and locating and understanding the different functions of health

care facilities in the local community. Students also learn about their civil rights and responsibilities.

**Fairfax County EL/Civics Curriculum: Low Beginning-Low Intermediate ESOL, High Intermediate and Advanced ESOL/Adult High School, and Family Literacy. Health Modules.**

**Approach: Content-based, problem-solving**

**High Intermediate and Advanced curriculum URL:**

**<http://www.aelweb.vcu.edu/publications/ELCivics/index.htm>**

**Low Beginner Health Curriculum**

**<http://www.aelweb.vcu.edu/publications/healthlit/sections/d/lbhealth.pdf>**

**Low Beginner Health Curriculum Landscape Handouts**

**<http://www.aelweb.vcu.edu/publications/healthlit/sections/d/lbhandouts.pdf>**

**High Beginner Health Curriculum**

**<http://www.aelweb.vcu.edu/publications/healthlit/sections/d/hbhealth.pdf>**

**High Beginner Health Curriculum Landscape Handouts**

**<http://www.aelweb.vcu.edu/publications/healthlit/sections/d/hbhandouts.pdf>**

**Low Intermediate Health Curriculum**

**<http://www.aelweb.vcu.edu/publications/healthlit/sections/d/lihealth.pdf>**

**Family Literacy Health Curriculum**

**<http://www.aelweb.vcu.edu/publications/healthlit/sections/d/familylit.pdf>**

The Fairfax curriculum aims to help learners develop language skills while empowering themselves to better maintain their health and access community health care resources. The curriculum espouses learner self-expression, peer interaction, community awareness and participation, personal research, and problem-solving. It engages the adult learner in personal, meaningful English literacy instruction using a non-traditional methodology. Lessons are scripted to guide less-experienced teachers, but may easily be adapted to better meet the needs of a particular group of learners. Health topics presented in the curricula are not those usually covered in traditional health texts. They are topics which have been observed by teachers to be essential for adult learners and their families to function effectively in the U.S. health care system. Technology components are present in lessons at all curriculum levels, but most lessons can be adapted to work without computers. Suggestions for learner projects are included.

**Loudoun Literacy Council Health Curriculum** by Tina Dickerson.

**Approach: Life Skills**

**<http://www.aelweb.vcu.edu/publications/healthlit/sections/d/loudoun.pdf>**

A community-based model for a volunteer program. The Loudoun curriculum is a 3-module, health-centered framework for volunteer-led basic literacy and ESOL instruction. It focuses on community health care resources, dental health, and medication safety. Accompanying the outlines in the curriculum kit are visuals (made from digital photos) and brochures provided by various health care organizations.

***Massachusetts Adult Basic Education Curriculum Framework for Health.***

**Approach: Participatory**

**URL: <http://www.doe.mass.edu/acls/frameworks/health.pdf>**

An inquiry-based approach framework for ABE and ESL programs from the Massachusetts system, which has been a pioneer in participatory health education. May be particularly useful in generating ideas for GED as Project lessons.