Position Paper Guidelines


Position Papers should address issues of public and social importance related to adult education. Position Papers are statements on issues of social and professional importance written with the general public as the audience. They may represent a response to emerging adult education related issues or commentary and/or future-focused shaping of adult education related issues and policies.

All paper must include:
- clearly-stated purpose and rationale
- the issue’s importance to the field as a whole
- the issue’s importance to the general public
- Where relevant, a brief summary of related representative research findings

Be accompanied by:
- a statement regarding the desired impact on public opinion or policy
- the names of the initiators of the Position Statement
- Recommendations for distribution and/or leverage in order to ensure maximum constructive impact on public opinion (i.e. recommendations regarding seeking support from other organizations)

Position Papers must refrain from any commentary constituting political activity, including commentary on any candidate for public office, as such organizational commentary can jeopardize AAACE’s tax exempt status.

Position Papers should, wherever possible, refrain from discourse which may be considered lobbying. This includes advocacy for adoption or rejection of legislation or urging AAACE members or others to take action to support or defeat legislation. Discourse supporting or denouncing legislation (with no direct call to action — whether by legislature or members/public) does not constitute lobbying. All Position Papers with discourse which may be considered lobbying are subject to Board of Directors approval with respect to monitoring for volume of activities as compared to overall AAACE operations.