

### **An Introduction to the Study for Learners**

JBL Associates, Inc. and Abt Associates Inc. are conducting this study of adult education programs for the U.S. Department of Education. The purpose of the study is to gather information that will help improve the quality of reading instruction in adult education programs -- like the one you are currently attending. Your participation in this study will consist of an interview that will ask about how you came to enroll in this program, your school and work experience, and what you think about the reading class. In addition, it will include some reading tests. The interview and reading tests will take about two hours. The study is expected to involve the participation of 186 students.

Your participation in this study is completely voluntary. Your experiences in this program will not be affected by whether or not you decide to participate in the study. None of the information collected in this study will be included in your class record. Moreover, the information will be held in confidence and is protected under the Privacy Act. The information will be seen only by people who are authorized to work on this study.

Students who complete all of the reading tests will be reimbursed \$20 for their transportation costs. There are two rounds of testing and interviewing—one in winter 2009 and one in spring 2009, so students will be reimbursed \$20 for each completed round of data collection.

### **Strengthening Adult Reading Instructional Practices**