

The Irish Journal of Adult and Community Education: *The Adult Learner*

Call for Articles - 2025 Edition

About the Journal

The Irish Journal of Adult and Community Education: The Adult Learner was founded in 1985. This valuable resource documents the growth and development of adult learning policy and practice. It provides a forum for critical reflection on the practices of teaching and learning, giving priority to subject matter that addresses disadvantage, social exclusion, equality, workplace learning, and the study of the teacher and learner relationship.

2025 Edition

AONTAS are delighted to announce that we are now accepting submissions for the 2025 special edition of *The Adult Learner: Challenging racism and creating a more inclusive society*.

In recent times, in Ireland and across the global north, there has been a sharp rise in large-scale immigration, as people have been displaced from their homelands due to conflicts, famine, drought, extreme poverty and oppression. The rapid transformation of our society has not been welcomed by all. The current dominant discourse on immigration attempts to lay the blame for social problems and economic hardship on the influx of newcomers. This special edition of *The Adult Learner* seeks to address the role adult learning can play in challenging this dominant discourse and contribute to creating a more equal, inclusive society. Papers which explore the following topics are particularly welcome:

- The role of adult learning in addressing racism and/or ethnic discrimination/prejudice
- Creating and/or enabling culturally diverse learning experiences
- Adult learning practices that support positive transformations to a more just and equal society
- The impact of government policies on widening access and participation in adult learning of under-represented ethnic groups
- The role of language in adult learning, to challenge or reinforce the dominant discourse on immigrants, refugees and asylum-seekers
- Case-studies that highlight ways in which adult learning can contribute to greater cultural competence, cultural diversity, social inclusion or empowerment of oppressed groups.

We welcome submissions from learners and first-time writers, as well as more experienced authors. The deadline for submitting an article is **Friday, 14th February 2025**, and we are here to help you develop your ideas right up until then.

To Submit a Paper

Journal submissions can take two forms. All articles must identify the type of submission being made and clearly link the submission to adult education and community education:

- **Type 1:** Papers which engage in critical debate and analysis of concepts, policies and theories and/or practices in the field. They may include findings from recent research and, where this is so, should include a brief outline of any research methodologies used; Papers which initiate dialogue between individuals, groups or sectors in the field of life-long learning are also welcome. **(Maximum word count: 8,000)**
- **Type 2:** Practice-based papers or other contributions including case studies which exchange ideas about what works in various programmes and contexts, which are innovative, and which share examples of good practice. These papers engage in analysis of practical aspects. **(Maximum word count: 3,000)**
- **Type 3:** Critical reviews on books or policies relating to adult and community education. **(Maximum 750 words)**

How Do I Submit an Article?

To submit an article, email journal@aontas.com with:

- The proposed article title
- The proposed article type (Type 1, Type 2 or Type 3)
- An author submission statement
- A signed copyright statement
- A short profile of yourself **(maximum 100 words)**.

You must also submit an article abstract as part of your article. The article abstract should be between 100 and 150 words. This should include:

- A short introductory overview
- The methodology you will use (where applicable)
- How your article relates to the theme
- Findings and outcomes from your article.

The deadline for submissions is **5pm on Friday, 14th February 2025**.

The Adult Learner Journal Style Guide

All papers submitted must strictly conform to *The Adult Learner* Journal Style Guide 2025. The updated Style Guide will soon be available on the AONTAS website, www.aontas.com. Please note the requirements for the submission of articles. All authors must adhere strictly to *The Adult Learner* Journal Style Guide 2025. If articles do not adhere to the Style Guide, they will be sent back to the author for amendment, or the article may be rejected.

Peer review policy

Please note only one submission will be accepted per author for the 2025 edition of *The Adult Learner* unless otherwise permitted by the Editorial Board and Editorial Office. All papers submitted undergo a reviewing process which involves at least two reviewers. Where contributions are accepted, this may be on condition that changes recommended by reviewers are taken into account. We recommend contributors consider the diversity of our readership and ask that articles be written with an international readership in mind. We are very grateful for all contributions submitted and will consider each on its merits and provide feedback.

Writers' Workshops

If you are a first-time author and are interested in contributing to the 2025 edition of *The Adult Learner*, please join us at our upcoming Writers' Workshops! These workshops are hosted by members of *The Adult Learner's* Editorial Board and Editorial Office. You can learn valuable tips and ideas about how to develop a great article.

The first Writers' Workshop will focus on developing articles and answer any questions about the Style Guide. The second Writer's Workshop will focus on finalising articles. If you are interested in attending one of these workshops, please contact the Editorial Office at journal@aontas.com.