



March 4, 2022

To: Employment First Partners, including Case Management Entities, Providers and VR Counselors
From: Acacia McGuire Anderson, Statewide Employment First Coordinator
Re: Trainings available statewide

As providers, case management entities, Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) branches and others are onboarding more people due to loss of staff during the COVID-19 pandemic, we wanted to take an opportunity to ensure everyone is aware of the available training to help your team hit the ground running.

I want to highlight two new training series first. ODDS has a new free training opportunity for case management entities and VR counselors. The **State Employment Learning Network (SELN)** has made available 50 openings to attend their four-part training series about supported employment. **These interactive, on-demand courses are specifically for case managers, but may also** benefit VR counselors from Oregon VR or the Oregon Commission for the Blind (OCB).

The curriculum includes four modules on the following topics: Employment Foundations, Employment Pathways, The Employment Process, and Collaborating with Vocational Rehabilitation. This curriculum is approved for six continuing education credits (CECs) and is estimated to take 5-6 hours to complete. Services Coordinators, Personal Agents and Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors who are newly hired with less than 12 months experience will be prioritized.

For more details about this exciting training opportunity, please see the [SELN Training Brochure](#). For information on how to receive an ODDS enrollment link as referenced in the brochure, please review [transmittal IM-22-025](#).

There is also a **new training curriculum specifically targeted towards Services Coordinators, Personal Agents and VR Counselors**. It consists of 10 modules that introduces the various I/DD employment partners and services that support people to achieve their employment goals. The curriculum also emphasizes the

importance of communication and partnership among providers, the person and other team members, to ensure the best possible employment outcome. It has a lot of helpful information about I/DD services in Oregon and may be helpful for onboarding new VR Counselors and Case Managers. The name of the curriculum is **DD Employment Services and can be found in Workday Learning**. Be aware that you will need a Workday learner account to access this curriculum. If you don't yet have an account, visit [the Provider Workday Learning website](#) for assistance. If you have a WDL account and want to learn more about this training, visit [DD Employment Services](#) curriculum.

The third training series I want to highlight is the [32 on-demand training for employment professionals](#). On-demand means these can be taken anytime – on your own schedule. All 32 of these free, online, interactive trainings qualify as CECs for employment professionals.

All trainings can be found in the [current version in the Department-approved trainings](#). The list will continue to include trainings that are approved by the ODDS for CECs and will be updated by ODDS as trainings are approved.

Thank you for supporting employment services for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Acacia