

Aug. 3, 2018

To: Employment First stakeholders

From: Acacia McGuire Anderson, Statewide Employment First Coordinator

Re: Employment First: HCBS Reminder and Resources

(Please forward to your local partners & stakeholders)

[Like Us](#) on Facebook!

As we approach the Sept. 1, 2018 deadline for providers in Oregon to comply with new Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) regulations, I wanted to send a message with some updates and resources.

As a reminder, all employment and day service settings in Oregon need to be fully compliant with the new settings requirements for ODDS and Medicaid-funded HCBS by Sept. 1, 2018.

The HCBS training has been updated to clarify requirements for employment path and day service settings, and what has been communicated to providers as part of their HCBS transformation plans and improvement plans. The training is a video available at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2YtG_-mjHkA&feature=youtu.be

There is a variety of resources and information, including a fact sheet on the difference between Employment Path Facility and Sheltered Workshop Settings and a powerpoint on Employment Path Community, on the Employment First I/DD Policy page under “HCBS” and “Employment Path:”

<https://www.oregon.gov/DHS/EMPLOYMENT/EMPLOYMENT-FIRST/Pages/policy.aspx>.

Please take some time to look through these resources.

Providers with Sheltered Work settings were able to apply for an exception that would give them additional time to come into full compliance. See more information in the ODDS worker’s guide:

https://www.oregon.gov/DHS/SENIORS-DISABILITIES/HCBS/ODDS/HCBS_SW%20Request%20for%20Additional%20Time_Worker%20Guide.pdf

Providers that have been granted additional time to come into full compliance have been notified. ODDS regional employment specialists will visit sheltered work settings without a variance from September through December 2018. A [list of](#)

[sheltered workshop settings](#) as of July 25, 2018 is published on the I/DD Policy page.

If a variance has not been granted and a setting is not in full compliance, then by January 15, 2019, ODDS will issue 60 days written notice regarding termination of service setting for the individuals who use services within the non-compliant setting. Termination of services will be effective March 15, 2019.

For those providers that did receive a variance, ODDS will continue to check-in regularly. Case management entities and Vocational Rehabilitation staff will provide support as providers work on transformation plans. A [list of sheltered workshop settings with an approved variance](#) for additional time is now posted on the I/DD Policy page. Additional training, fact sheets, and other guidance will be available shortly. Future guidance will cover opportunities for collaboration between providers, case managers, Vocational Rehabilitation (VR), and other community partners, during this additional transformation time for sheltered work settings.

As always, I want to thank everyone for their work as we strive to support people to live and work as independently as possible in their communities.

~ Acacia