



January 10, 2018

To: All ODDS Staff and Stakeholders

From: Lilia Teninty, Director, Office of Developmental Disabilities Services

As we move into 2018 I want everyone to be aware and informed of changes made to Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR), regarding ODDS and Medicaid-funded employment services (chapter 411, division 345). ODDS began meeting with stakeholders to discuss the proposed changes in early 2017 and throughout the year worked to incorporate all the written and verbal feedback received. It is anticipated that the resulting changes will make the delivery of ODDS employment services more effective and efficient.

The changes were effective January 1, 2018 and are published online at: <https://secure.sos.state.or.us/oard/displayDivisionRules.action?selectedDivision=1812>

Some of the most significant changes include:

- Amends training requirements for employment professionals. The rule now specifies that 12 hours of training must be completed annually. The rule changes also clarify the existing requirement that, within the first year of providing employment services, employment professionals must complete an ODDS-approved course to demonstrate competency.
- Updates and aligns requirements across provider types to ensure uniform standards.
- Clarifies the rule for supported self-employment and further aligns with the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act and Vocational Rehabilitation. A workgroup recently started to look at changes to the supported self-employment policy.

A summary of other employment changes to the OAR includes:

- Requirements around the use and reporting of a safeguarding intervention, safeguarding equipment, and emergency physical restraint.
- Requires agreement and an individually-based limitation if an individual's right to freedom from coercion or restraint is limited.
- Ensures alignment with Executive Order 15-01, OAR chapter 407, division 025 for integrated employment services to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and Oregon's Employment First policy.
- Aligns with the terms of the Lane v. Brown settlement agreement.

Any questions regarding the employment rule changes can be sent to Allison Enriquez, Allison.enriquez@state.or.us

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lilia".

Lilia Teninty
Director
Office of Developmental Disabilities Services

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