

Developmental Disabilities Services

Lilia Teninty

Authorized signature

Number: APD-IM-16-071

Issue date: 8/19/2016

Topic: Developmental Disabilities

Subject: OELN Training Series ACRE Certified

Applies to (check all that apply):

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> All DHS employees | <input type="checkbox"/> County Mental Health Directors |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Area Agencies on Aging | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aging and People with Disabilities | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Office of Developmental Disabilities Services(ODDS) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Self Sufficiency Programs | <input type="checkbox"/> ODDS Children's Intensive In Home Services |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County DD Program Managers | <input type="checkbox"/> Stabilization and Crisis Unit (SACU) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ODDS Children's Residential Services | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>please specify</i>): Employment Service Providers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Child Welfare Programs | |

Message:

The Association of Community Rehabilitation Educators (ACRE) is a national organization for trainers and educators who work in the field of employment for people with disabilities. ACRE helps to promote competency-based training in the field of supported employment by evaluating curricula submitted for review against nationally recognized competencies. Curricula may be submitted for review to be certified by the ACRE board. Last year, the Washington Initiative for Supported Employment (WISE), submitted the OELN Series for ACRE certification and DHS is pleased to announce that this series will now offer an ACRE Basic Credential to participants who complete the series.

The Oregon Employment Learning Network (OELN) provides participants with core supported employment professional training. These trainings help employment professionals meet Oregon's employment professional core competencies. Four core training workshops are offered in different areas and times throughout the state. Each training session is a two-day seminar that offers a total of 8 training days (48 total hours) of in-class, face-to-face training content. The four seminars that make up the OELN are:

- Introduction to History of Supported Employment, Discovery, and Employment Planning

- Job Development and Marketing
- Systematic Instruction and Follow Along
- Social Security and Work Incentives

DHS is pleased to announce that the ACRE Credential will be available to all participants who complete the entire OELN series beginning with courses taken after July 1, 2016.

In the interest of honoring the Employment Professionals who may have completed this series, or had begun the series previously, ODDS will honor the completion of the series between the dates of September 1, 2013 - June 30, 2016 as a substantial equivalent to obtaining the ACRE credential and will issue a DHS certificate to those participants.

We have obtained a list of participants who attended all four of the OELN courses during this time period and anticipate distribution of DHS certificates to begin by August 19, 2016. Please allow time for certificate distribution. If a certificate has not been received by September 30, 2016, and you believe this to be in error, please contact Jenny Crook at jenny@gowise.org.

FAQ:

Q: Does this mean that individuals who have previously completed this training will be "grandfathered" in?

A: Individuals who previously completed this training will not be eligible for the ACRE Certification unless they retake the series of courses after July 1, 2016; however, as stated above - DHS will honor the completion of the series as a "substantial equivalent" to required credentialing as outlined in OAR 411-345-0030 (2) (d) and pursuant to Training and Credentialing Requirement guidance issued in transmittal AR 15-004.

Q: Do Employment Professionals need to contact ODDS to get their certificate if they have completed the OELN series?

A: No. WISE has maintained records of individuals who have completed the series and will issue certificates to those individuals who meet the criteria (completion of all four courses during the timeframe September 2013-June 2016). If a provider has not received their certificate by September 30, 2016, please contact Jenny Crook at jenny@gowise.org.

Q: What if some training was done through a different provider that was on the approved list will a certificate still be issued?

A: No. The certificate is being issued to participants in the OELN training because this curricula has been credentialed by the ACRE Board. Unfortunately, the credential was not granted until mid-year 2016 by the ACRE board; however, DHS knows that the

curriculum has not been substantially modified in the timeframe September 2013-June 2016, and therefore has made the decision to honor participants who have attended all four courses in that timeframe.

Q: Will this mean that providers will no longer need to take the certification test?

A: The certification test hosted by WISE for Oregon Employment Professionals results in an Association of People Supporting Employment First (APSE) Certified Employment Support Professional (CESP) credential. This exam is an equivalent credential of the ACRE Certificate. Holding either of these credentials would satisfy the credentialing and core competency standards outlined in transmittal AR 15-004.

If you have any questions about this information, contact:

Contact(s):	Stephanie Roncal		
Phone:	503-945-5759	Fax:	503-373-7274
Email:	stephanie.roncal@state.or.us		

OBSOLETE