



Office of Enhancing Student Opportunities Information Updates

Spring 2021, Edition #3

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Events, Deadlines & Updates:

Save the Date! 2021 ODE/COSA Special Education Fall Conference

What: Professional development for special education administrators, teachers and school staff interested in special education topics as they relate to school success.

When: Pre-conference Institutes: Wednesday, 10/6/2021

General Sessions:

Thursday – Friday, 10/7/2021 – 10/8/2021

Save the Date! 2021 Early Childhood Summer Institute

What: Early Learning courses in June, July and August to providers serving children birth to five and their families.

When: Virtual courses will be announced this spring.

New Special Education Directors Support Reminder

What: OESO is committed to reducing the turnover rate of special education directors in Oregon. OESO leadership identified an education specialist ([Brad Lenhardt](#)) to co-partner with OESO county contacts as well as the COSA New Special Education Directors Academy leadership in support of this effort.

Questions: [Brad Lenhardt](#) or 503-947-0607

Oregon Statewide Transition Conference (OSTC)

What: This virtual event will transform the annual conference from an in-person gathering to an online interactive experience while keeping the aspects loved about this great event. This year will be different than past years, with synchronous (live) sessions and asynchronous (pre-recorded to view whenever) sessions. Check out [A Guide to OSTC 2021](#) for conference details.

When: 3/31/2021 – 4/2/2021 & 4/5/2021 – 4/7/2021 (break over the weekend)

How: Register [here](#).

New OESO Legal Specialist

What: The Office of Enhancing Student Opportunities is excited to announce that W. Michael ("Mike") Franklin, J.D., has been selected to serve as the Department's Special Education Legal Specialist. Mike was previously hired at the Department as a Secondary Transition Specialist, and was working as an acting Special Education Legal Specialist. He brings a wealth of experience to this position, including having previously served as the Department's Special Education Legal Specialist. Mike is a veteran of the United States Army, has been a practicing attorney (primarily for matters related to family law), has served as a teacher and school-based

administrator (assistant principal and principal), and has served as a district-based administrator (special education director). Mike is committed to state service and notes "appreciation and respect for the opportunity . . . and the responsibility that goes with it." Congratulations, Mike!

Part B & Part C IDEA Applications

What: Annually, states apply to the U.S. Department of Education for funding under IDEA, Part B and Part C. Together, these federal awards help support statewide programs and services for children with disabilities from birth to age 21. Of the two, IDEA Part C is the more unique, specifically addressing Early Intervention (EI) services, provided for infants, toddlers, and their families through a variety of collaborative service arrangements. Part C services are distinctly different than those of the Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) and school age programs funded by Part B. To be eligible for IDEA funding States must meet a variety of criteria, including making these Applications widely available to colleagues and the general public for review and comment.

Where: Oregon's IDEA Part C Application, with timelines for review and comment, is posted [here](#).

The Part B Application will be posted at the following [link](#) by March 19, 2021.

In addition, as required by the U.S. Department of Education, ODE anticipates holding virtual public hearings on these applications prior to submission. Dates will be posted at the links above.

We invite you to review and comment, and ask your help in distributing this information to your colleagues, parents, and your communities.

Questions: [Rae Ann Ray](#) or 503-947-5722

COVID-19 Resources

What: [This page](#) contains the most recent information available on how the 2019 Novel Coronavirus is affecting schools in Oregon. Information includes resources for school leaders, parents and families.

COVID-19 Resources for Special Education

What: [This page](#) contains the most recent information available on how the 2019 Novel Coronavirus is affecting students experiencing disabilities in Oregon. Information includes resources for school leaders, parents, caregivers and families.