ODP Announcement
College of Employment Services
ACRE *Update*
Unlimited Seats Available

ODP Communication Number 090-18

The mission of the Office of Developmental Programs is to support Pennsylvanians with developmental disabilities to achieve greater independence, choice and opportunity in their lives.

AUDIENCE: All interested parties and providers of the following employment services under the Office of Developmental Programs (ODP) Intellectual Disability and/or Autism (ID/A) waivers, including the Consolidated, Person/Family Directed Support (P/FDS), and Community Living Waivers; as well as Base-Funded services:

- Supported Employment – Support Service Professionals under the Agency with Choice (AWC) Financial Management Service (FMS) and Vendor Fiscal /Employer Agent (VF/EA) FMS Models; Individual Providers, and Agency Staff
- Small Group Employment – Agency Staff
- Community Participation Support – Prevocational Services Component – Program Specialists and Supervisors of Direct Support Professionals

PURPOSE: To announce the availability of unlimited seats for the College of Employment Services (CES) Online Association of Community Rehabilitation Educations (ACRE) Basic Employment Certification Course.

DISCUSSION: With the signature of Governor Tom Wolf, Pennsylvania is now an Employment First State by law effective June 19, 2018. Competitive-integrated employment is now the first consideration and preferred outcome of all publicly funded education, employment, training, long-term supports and service programs for working-age Pennsylvanians with a disability.

Because both the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) and Office of

Developmental Programs (ODP) support this objective, in April of 2018 they jointly made available the CES ACRE Basic Employment Certification Course to support the attainment of the ACRE Basic Certificate of Achievement.

Priority Number 5 from the recommendations in Governor Wolf's summary of the Employment First Executive Order was to *Assist Adults with a Disability in Getting and Keeping a Job*. Through the attainment of the ACRE Basic Certificate of Achievement by their service providers, the offices of OVR and ODP demonstrate support of this recommendation. More background and detail are available concerning this initiative in ODP ANN 041-18 College of Employment Services.

This CES ACRE course consists of two parts: 11 self-directed online modules and a CES ACRE Supplement. **To obtain the complete ACRE Basic Certificate of Achievement, participants must complete both Part 1 and Part 2 of the CES Certified Training.** There is a discounted cost to complete the supplement portion at $170.00 until December 31, 2018. Effective January 1, 2019 this cost will increase to $225.00 per learner. Please refer to ODP ANN 046-18 College of Employment Services ACRE Supplement Update for more information.

Part 1: CES ACRE-Certified Course 11 self-directed modules:

1. Foundations of Employment Services
2. Funding
3. Principles of Career Development
4. Networking
5. Using Work Incentives Toward Self-Sufficiency
6. Strategies for Job Development 1
7. Strategies for Job Development 2
8. Business Perspectives
9. Job Creation
10. Performance Coaching 1
11. Performance Coaching 2

Part 2: CES ACRE Supplement

This portion of the curriculum consists of four instructor-led webinars, discussion forums, case studies, and field assignments that are reviewed and approved by an instructor from the Institute for Community Inclusion (ICI).

For individuals who self-direct their employment services through a Participant-Directed Service model, their Support Service Professionals (SSPs) may access CES Part 1 at no charge just as they have accessed the College of Direct Support (CDS) at no charge. These costs *may not* be assigned to *Participant-Directed Goods and Services* to cover the cost of the Support Service Professional's time spent completing Parts 1 and 2 of this program *or* to cover the cost ($170 or $225) of Part 2.

Individual Providers and Provider Agencies are no longer limited to requesting CES

access for 15 individual learners. It is advisable for organizations to use the following process if they are interested in obtaining access to CES for their staff.

1. Decide which individuals your organization wishes to enroll in the CES training. Please be aware that participation in the training must be for individuals required to possess the ACRE Certificate of Achievement. Individuals must complete all the requirements of Parts 1 and Parts 2 in order to obtain the ACRE Basic Certificate of Achievement.

2. Obtain administrative rights for the number of learners for which your organizations is interested in providing CES training.

    a. If your organization is **currently providing training to specific learners through CDS, and these <u>same </u>learners need CES training**, you do not need to obtain additional administrative rights.

    b. If your organization is new to CES, your organization will need to contact the Elsevier organization to purchase administrative rights based on the number of CES learners your organization wishes to train.

    c. If your organization is interested in **both** CDS and CES, your organization will need to contact the Elsevier organization to purchase administrative rights based on the number of learners your organization wishes to train.

<u>CDS & CES Administrative Rights Price Structure Annually</u>:

Under 60 Learners	$500
60 to 119 Learners	$950
120 to 199 Learners	$195
200 and up	$295

Note: Access to CDS is free of charge for individuals who receive supports from the Office of Developmental Programs (ODP), any individuals they employ directly, Administrative Entities and Supports Coordination organizations, family members and caregivers.

Seats for CES are only available for providers required to have the ACRE certification.

Please use the following contact information for the Elsevier organization for any questions you have concerning the cost of the administrative rights you are interested in purchasing to support the learners at your organization.

Leigh Evans
Account Specialist
Elsevier Clinical
Solutions (404)
799-4009
Le.Evans@elsevier.com

The Institute on Disabilities (IOD) at Temple University will be the point of contact for all CES learners for enrollment, system user training, and/or technical assistance needed with the utilization of CES.

Thea Phim PACES@temple.edu **(833) 877-8901**

The Institute for Community Inclusion (ICI) will be the point of contact for CES learners interested in using Part 2: CES ACRE Supplement to achieve the ACRE Basic Certificate of Achievement. Please contact the ICI via the following link.

https://www.communityinclusion.org/cesacre/

INQUIRIES
If you have any questions regarding this Announcement, please email RA-PWODP_OUTREACH@pa.gov

The College of Employment Services in Pennsylvania is now administered by the Institute on Disabilities at Temple University. It is funded through Pennsylvania's Office of Developmental Programs, Department of Human Services