**What’s New for Administrators?**

We are pleased to announce that the **Transition Technical Assistance Network** under Executive Order 13-04 is in full swing. (<http://www.oregon.gov/gov/docs/executive_orders/eo_13-04.pdf>)

Seven successful Educator Institute on Networking and Transition trainings were held statewide in June. Over 400 educators attended. Eight half-time Transition Network Facilitators have been hired and trained to provide Technical Assistance and support to school districts across Oregon for students with disabilities who are transition age. Exciting things are happening in the field of transition. Please see page 3 for more information about your regions.

The **Modified Diploma** denotes successful completion of required courses and specific achievement on state assessments. Oregon students who receive a Modified Diploma *are* ***now eligible to apply for federal financial aid*.** This extends to students who may have received a Modified Diploma after 2009. Whether it is prudent for an eligible student to seek federal financial aid is a determination that should be made on a case-by-case basis by a student and his or her family in consultation with a financial aid advisor. (Executive Numbered Memorandum 008-2013-14)

A *revised version* of the Special Education Teachers ESEA and IDEA **Highly Qualified Teachers Requirements** (May 21, 2014) has been posted. While this revised guidance does not depart significantly from the previous version, it restates requirements for special education teachers in grade 9-12 teaching exclusively students who are assessed using Oregon’s Extended Assessment (alternatives achievement standards) or special education teachers in grade 9-12 where all students in the classroom are students who are assessed using Oregon’s Extended Assessment (alternatives achievement standards). Will have to have elementary multiple subjects endorsement. For questions please contact Rae Ann Ray @ RaeAnn. Ray@ state.or.us or Janet Bubl @ janet.bubl@state.or.us. This link will give guidance for all special education teachers.

<http://www.ode.state.or.us/search/page/?id=229>

**Employment Related Transition Services (Temporary Rules adopted 8/21/14)**

In support of Executive Order 13-04, the State Board of Education adopted temporary rules associated with Employment Related Transition Services. Please make note of the changes below.

**Employment Related Transition Services**

**581-015-2000 Definitions**

*(33) “Sheltered Workshop” is a facility based service that congregates more than eight adults with disabilities, including intellectual or developmental disabilities. Sheltered workshops are operated by service provider entities. In general, a sheltered workshop employs only individuals with an intellectual or developmental disability or other disabilities except for service or support staff. However, assessments, instruction, and activities that typically occur in public schools and that are provided either directly or by contract by public school districts, by public charter school, by an Educational Service District, or the Oregon Department of Education, in a school setting, are not considered sheltered workshops,*

*The new Transition Network Facilitators will be contacting each district, during the month of September, to review the new OARs, and provide support to you and your programs*.

**Alternative Placements and Supplementary Aids and Services 581-015-2245**

*(3) Not include sheltered workshops as defined in OAR 581-015-2000(33) and OAR 407-025-0010(16)*

The **Summary of Academic Achievement and Functional Performance (SOP)** which offers districts the option of using the SOP as a tool to assist Vocational Rehabilitation, Developmental Disability Providers and secondary education institutions in determining eligibility for special education students is available on the TCN website: tcntransition.org

The SOP is required for students leaving with a Standard Diploma and students reaching maximum age. ODE **strongly recommends** that school districts also provide an SOP to students who are graduating with a Modified Diploma, Extended Diploma and/or alternative certificate.

All districts will be getting an **introductory letter from their Vocational Rehabilitation** Branch Manager which introduces the agency to the school district and sets up a meeting opportunity. A sample of that letter is included on page 39.

Congress recently passed, and the President signed into law, the [**Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) (Public Law: 113-128)**](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001YaXfO-nw_Ph8jUzhPICsr6KMAROHKxSiYDdELiRMBG2y5sKr9v550p_jPv4M3QbLWRUjvp-CUX-NneX9nZ-uvcnXIAN2YaRw_ir41rQclmum7ShSRpSvnaNnclNheGfuL9_PDXkZ5t-dIk5NvYFzxfp8c9VlwkFrFcXOGk3ov8u4ZmeUGSEWIcX3JIJ2bO0oOCs_RnyCnjrkRbYsvomHQkTLdAONMJIt32kuH0EQfwY=&c=rl8d-MRjQlFu-g5ZVaZ3X714Kmpjeugbn61cT6Vk1psV5C4QyegPEA==&ch=CWB-GYciWzr_eI3vF3rUdn7ZfgtY5d812jv0vFdIzHLVekYHwylUcA==)which governs our nation's publicly-funded workforce development system. The new law contains a lot of important changes to employment and training programs, particularly as it relates to youth services, career guidance and counseling, people with disabilities, and much more. Over the next two years, as the law is phased in, we will see more collaboration between agencies and a greater emphasis on supporting youth in transition to achieve employment outcomes after they leave high school. <http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/vr/Pages/index.aspx>

On July 1, 2014, Office of Developmental Disability Services (ODDS) implemented **new employment** service definitions for individuals eligible for DD services. The new definitions are designed to support Oregon’s Employment First Policy- Individual Integrated Employment is a first and priority option explored in the service planning for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. ODDS and local DD Services (CDDP’s and Brokerages) are excited to continue efforts to strengthen collaborative efforts with schools to support transition students toward achieving their employment goals, including being able to exit school with a job and supports in place to be successful in their job. To learn more about the new employment services and what your students might be eligible for, please contact your local CDDP or Brokerage contact. (See agency section of this booklet to find the contact information.)

NEW: An online **Secondary Transition Users Group** has been created to facilitate the sharing of information in the area of post-secondary transition. It is a collaborative work space for educators working with issues relating to secondary transition from school to adult life for students. This group offers an opportunity to connect with others around Oregon. This website, along with the Transition Community Network website, showcases a cooperative effort between Western Oregon University Teaching Research Institute and the Oregon Department of Education Office of Learning Student Services Unit.

Users Group: <http://teachingresearchinstitute.org/pages/show/secondary-transition-group?site=tims>

Transition Community Network:

<http://tcntransition.org/>