

## What's New in 2015-2016

**The 2015-2016 Transition Booklet** contains informational materials for *educators*, along with sections for educators to use when working with other *community partners*, and information to share with *students and families*. This booklet is designed to provide the basics around various transition topics to help educators when designing transition plans with students and their families as they navigate the transition pathway from school-based services into adult services.

Additional resources and examples are available online ([www.tcntransition.org](http://www.tcntransition.org)) and ODE (<http://www.ode.state.or.us/search/results/?id=266>)

**Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act** (WIOA) This act defines a much larger role for the Department of Rehabilitation to play in partnership with schools to improve transition. WIOA defines and requires provision of Pre-Employment Transition Services (PETS). These services are job exploration counseling, work-based learning opportunities, counseling on post-secondary educational opportunities, workplace readiness training, and instruction in self-advocacy. State and local VR offices will work with schools and the local workforce development system to coordinate pre-employment services and activities for all transition-age students.

**ODDS Employment Services for Transition Age Individuals** Transmittal by the Oregon Developmental Disabilities Service (APD-PT-15-011) is now available [www.dhs.state.or.us/policy/spd/transmit/pt/2015/pt15011.pdf](http://www.dhs.state.or.us/policy/spd/transmit/pt/2015/pt15011.pdf). For guidance on what this means for educators, please see page 68.

**A Glossary Tool** for Families, Providers, and Multi-Agency Employment Teams has been developed. Terms that can have similar or diverse meanings depending on the agency represented are explained. It is a living document and will change as educators, case workers, counselors and families use it.

[www.oregon.gov/dhs/spd/Documents/Cross%20Agency%20Employment%20Glossary%20Tool.pdf](http://www.oregon.gov/dhs/spd/Documents/Cross%20Agency%20Employment%20Glossary%20Tool.pdf)

**NEW Mandatory Requirement in 2015-2016, the Post-School Outcomes** (PSO) follow up interviews are required to be completed with **ALL** special education leavers, ages 14-21. In the past, districts with more than 15 leavers interviewed a sample of their leavers. The SPR&I funds are available to help with this change to the PSO collection.

**Transition Network Facilitators** (TNF) began providing transition related resources to all districts in Oregon last year. This school year brings an exciting change. The eight TNF positions now provide full time services, funded collaboratively through the Oregon Department of Education and the Oregon Vocational Rehabilitation Service. The Transition Technical Assistance Network (TTAN) has provided Educator Institute Trainings throughout Oregon for the past two years. Check the TTAN for future training opportunities.

[www.ode.state.or.us/search/page/?id=4250](http://www.ode.state.or.us/search/page/?id=4250)

**Required Instructional Time** guidance has changed as described in OAR 581-022-1620. For students in grades 9-11 the minimum hours of instructional time is 990 hours, and for students in grade 12 and beyond, the minimum hours is 966. [http://arcweb.sos.state.or.us/pages/rules/oars\\_500/oar\\_581/581\\_022.html](http://arcweb.sos.state.or.us/pages/rules/oars_500/oar_581/581_022.html)

**New Legislation** includes **SB 556** which adds language that specifies that when other strategies to change student conduct have been ineffective...expulsion cannot be used to address truancy. **SB 553** adds language that discipline, suspension or expulsion policies must require consideration of the age of a student and the past pattern of behavior of a student prior to imposing the suspension or expulsion of a student. New opportunities for students are provided through the Oregon Promise in **SB 81** which provides a waiver of tuition for community colleges for persons completing certain conditions. For more information:

[www.oregonlegislature.gov/bills\\_laws](http://www.oregonlegislature.gov/bills_laws).