



ODP Announcement

College of Employment Services

ACRE Supplement *Update*

ODP Communication Number 046-18

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 AWC FMS and VF/EA FMS Models; Individual Providers, and Agency Staff
- Small Group Employment – Agency Staff
- Community Participation Support – Prevocational Services – Program Specialists and Supervisors

PURPOSE: To announce a change in the contact for Part 2: of the College of Employment Services (CES) Association of Community Rehabilitation Educators (ACRE) Supplement and an increase in the cost for Part 2 of the CES ACRE Basic Employment Certification Course.

BACKGROUND: Pennsylvania became an Employment First State on March 10, 2016, when Governor Tom Wolf signed Executive Order 2016-03, “Establishing ‘Employment First’ Policy and Increasing Competitive-Integrated Employment for Pennsylvania’s with a Disability.” The Executive Order establishes policy for agencies under the Governor’s jurisdiction, requiring competitive-integrated employment be the first consideration and preferred outcome of all publicly-funded education, employment and training, and long-term supports and service programs for working-age Pennsylvanians with a disability.

Priority Number 5 in the Executive Order Recommendations, published in September 2016, is to “Assist Adults with a Disability in Getting and Keeping a Job.” Both the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) and Office of Developmental Programs (ODP) support adults with

disabilities in obtaining and maintaining employment and have invested in the attainment of the ACRE Basic Certificate of Achievement to accomplish this goal and share this requirement among providers of both OVR and ODP services. Because both Offices understand the need for affordable and accessible ACRE-approved trainings to be available in Pennsylvania, ACRE-approved training is now available online. More background and detail are available concerning this initiative. Please refer to [ODP ANN 041-18 College of Employment Services.docx](#) for more information.

DISCUSSION:

As you have been informed in [ODP ANN 041-18 College of Employment Services.docx](#), to facilitate the achievement of ACRE certification the Commonwealth has purchased a license from the Elsevier organization to support learners enrolling in CES comprised of modules that provide instruction in employment services, funding and support.

This CES ACRE course consists of two parts:

Part 1: CES ACRE-Certified Course | Participants move through 11 self-directed modules:

- Foundations of Employment Services
- Funding
- Principles of Career Development
- Networking
- Using Work Incentives Toward Self-Sufficiency
- Strategies for Job Development 1
- Strategies for Job Development 2
- Business Perspectives
- Job Creation
- Performance Coaching 1
- Performance Coaching 2

Part 2: CES ACRE Supplement | This portion of the curriculum consists of 4 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).

*To obtain the complete ACRE Basic Certificate of Achievement, participants must complete **both Part 1 and Part 2 of the CES Certified Training.***



The cost to complete Part 2: CES ACRE Supplement will increase January 1, 2019. **The cost to complete Part 2 is \$170.00 until December 31, 2018 only.** Effective January 1, 2019 the cost for all learners to complete Part 2 will be \$225.00. Please use the following discount code **ACRE2018** in order to obtain the discounted rate **until December 31, 2018 only.**

Support Service Professionals (SSPs) Who Provide Employment Services through a Participant-Directed Service Model

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. *Participant-Directed Goods and Services* may **not** be used to cover the cost of the Support Service Professional's time that they spend completing Parts 1 and 2 of this program or to cover the cost (\$170 or \$225) of Part 2.

Individual Provider and Provider Agencies

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.

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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