

Temporary Changes to the College of Employment Services ACRE Fieldwork Assignments During COVID-19 Pandemic **ODP Announcement 20-048**

AUDIENCE:

Providers of employment and prevocational services in the Consolidated, Community Living, Person/Family Directed Support (P/FDS), and Adult Autism waivers

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this communication is to inform providers of the new, temporary directions regarding fieldwork assignments approved by the College of Employment Services (CES).

DISCUSSION:

The College of Employment Services (CES) is a course that, upon completion, offers a Basic Employment Services Certificate of Achievement approved by the Association of Community Rehabilitation Educators (ACRE). The CES ACRE course is comprised of two parts:

Part 1: CES ACRE-Certified Course. In Part 1, learners move through 11 self-directed modules; and

Part 2: CES ACRE Supplement. This portion of the curriculum consists of 4 recorded webinars, discussion forums, case studies, and field assignments that are reviewed and approved by an instructor from the Institute for Community Inclusion (ICI) at the University of Massachusetts Boston.

To obtain the complete ACRE Basic Certificate in Employment Services, learners must complete both Part 1 and Part 2 of the CES ACRE Training.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, CES has received temporary approval for fieldwork assignments that usually require contact with employers and job seekers to be revised. Now learners will use the internet, phones, video conferencing and other media in lieu of face-to-face meetings and contact. **Learners do not need to have any contact with employers but will still need to have remote access to a job seeker to complete some of the assignments.**

These temporary directions for fieldwork assignments are posted on the courses and will expire on September 30, 2020.

Questions about specific circumstances to which this change applies can be directed to the Institute for Community Inclusion (ICI):

Lara Enein-Donovan
lara.eneindonovan@umb.edu

General questions about this communication can be directed to RA-PWOPD_OUTREACH@pa.gov.