Topic: Developmental Disabilities

Transmitting (check the box that best applies):
- [ ] New policy  - [ ] Policy change  - [ ] Policy clarification  - [ ] Executive letter
- [ ] Administrative Rule  - [ ] Manual update  - [ ] Other: 

Applies to (check all that apply):
- [ ] All DHS employees  - [ ] County Mental Health Directors
- [ ] Area Agencies on Aging  - [ ] Health Services
- [ ] Aging and People with Disabilities  - [ ] Office of Developmental Disabilities Services (ODDS)
- [ ] Self Sufficiency Programs  - [ ] ODDS Children’s Intensive In Home Services
- [x] County DD Program Managers
- [ ] ODDS Children’s Residential Services  - [ ] Stabilization and Crisis Unit (SACU)
- [ ] Child Welfare Programs  - [x] Other (please specify): Brokerage Directors, Employment Service Providers

Policy/rule title: Oregon’s Identified Sheltered Workshop Settings: No New Entry after July 1, 2015

Policy/rule number(s): OAR 407-025; Executive Order 15-01; OAR 411-345; APD-PT-15-006 and APD-PT-15-007

Release no: 

Effective date: 07/01/2015

Expiration: 

References: 

Web address: 

DHS 0079 (12/14)
POLICY:

In order to further Oregon’s Employment First policy, effective July 1, 2015, ODDS will no longer fund Sheltered Work or services in a Sheltered Workshop setting, for individuals who are newly eligible for services, or individuals already using services but not in a Sheltered Workshop setting.¹

In Oregon, a Sheltered Workshop means:

“[A] facility in which individuals with I/DD are congregated for the purpose of receiving employment services and performing work tasks for pay at the facility. A sheltered workshop primarily employs individuals with I/DD and other disabilities, with the exception of service support staff. A sheltered workshop is a fixed site that is owned, operated, or controlled by a provider, where an individual has few or no opportunities to interact with non-disabled individuals, except paid support staff. A sheltered workshop is not small group employment in an integrated employment setting, and is not otherwise an integrated employment setting as defined in this rule.”

Beginning July 1, 2015, Oregon Service Coordinators and Personal Agents are no longer permitted to authorize services for new participants to use ODDS services for Sheltered Work or support in a Sheltered Workshop setting. Only individuals who use Employment Path Facility for support in a Sheltered Workshop setting during the month of June 2015 may receive authorization to continue using Employment Path Facility services in the Sheltered Workshop setting after July 1, 2015.

In order to operationalize this policy, ODDS has compiled a list of Sheltered Workshop settings or locations where Sheltered Work is done. This list can be found on the Developmental Disabilities Staff Tools Page: https://www.dhs.state.or.us/spd/tools/dd/index.htm. Note: this list may change for reasons such as a provider transformation. Any updates will be posted to the website and changes will be clearly indicated. This policy will be enforced based on the current list available.

For individuals who are already using services for support in a Sheltered Workshop setting, the only service that may be used in this setting is Employment Path Facility. This is to clarify that Sheltered Work may not continue under a different service authorization (such as Attendant Care). The authorization may only change if the service changes.

If a person leaves a sheltered workshop setting after July 1, 2015, he or she may return so long as he or she has not been gone for more than one year (12 calendar months).

¹ See Oregon’s Executive Order 15-01 (which replaces and supersedes Oregon’s earlier Executive Order 13-04) and Oregon Administrative Rule 407-025.
A person may transfer to a different sheltered workshop setting even after July 1, 2015.

A portion of a provider’s address or site listed on the enclosure meets the definition of a Sheltered Workshop. However, this does not necessarily mean that the entire site or address is a Sheltered Workshop. Individuals may continue to be referred to use other services in settings that are not the Sheltered Workshop setting.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon formally adopted its “Employment First” policy in 2008, and was one of the first states in the country to do so. Under its Employment First policy, Oregon presumes that, with the right training and support, each individual who experiences an intellectual or developmental disability (I/DD) can succeed in an individual integrated job that pays competitive wages and benefits. Recognizing the pivotal role integrated employment plays in the lives of individuals who experience intellectual or developmental disabilities, employment in fully integrated settings is the highest priority over unemployment, segregated employment, facility-based employment, or day habilitation.2

Additional information regarding this policy and Oregon’s ongoing Employment First initiatives can be found in related ODDS policy transmittals APD-PT-15-006 and 15-007:


Additional information can also be found on the ODDS website or Oregon’s Employment First website:


Field/stakeholder review:  ☑ Yes  ☐ No

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2 See Oregon’s Employment First policy codified under Oregon Revised Statutes 427.007(1)(b); see also Oregon Administrative Rule 411-345-0025(2) regulating ODDS and Medicaid-funded employment services.
If yes, reviewed by:  CDDPs, Brokerages, Provider Organizations, DHS Employment First, Vocational Rehabilitation, Oregon Department of Education, and Oregon Council on Developmental Disabilities.

**Filing instructions:**

*If you have any questions about this policy, contact:*

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