



# Oregon

John A. Kitzhaber, MD, Governor

## Employment Department

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## 2012 Government-to-Government Report

### Agency:

Oregon Employment Department (OED)

### Key Contacts:

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### Major Areas:

The Oregon Employment Department is responsible for administering the public labor exchange (WorkSource Oregon offices, online job seeking and employer services), Unemployment Insurance program, Child Care licensing, and Workforce Research.

The Government-to-Government Executive Order provided the framework to work with tribes. The OED works primarily with tribal employers as a resource for assistance with job recruitments and local labor market information.

### Departmental Statement:

The OED values its relationship with Oregon's tribes. The Department administers four employment-related programs: Unemployment Insurance; Business & Employment Services; Labor Market Information; and Child Care Licensing. The purpose of the OED Tribal Relations policy is to formalize the relationship that exists between Oregon tribes and the Department.

Our primary key contacts identify the programs within the OED that affect the tribes; ensures that relevant communication occurs as needed; supervises the preparation of the annual report; and ensures that all OED employees are aware of the Departmental policy and the provisions of ORS 182.162 to 182.168.



**Solutions and Programs:**

Departmental key contacts actively participate in the Economic Development and Community Services Tribal Cluster meetings.

Over the past year, more than half of the Employment Department's WorkSource Oregon offices throughout the state have had some type of relationship with a tribal government or tribal business. These relationships were mostly business recruitment and informal in nature. They also include: recruitment of employees for tribal businesses; regular networking with tribal employers' Human Resource Departments; working with tribes on local and regional workforce investment boards and Oregon Employer Councils.

Examples of these local partnerships include, but are not limited to:

- Our McMinnville Office staff participated in the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde College and Career Fair;
- The Spirit Mountain Casino is a member of the Mid-Willamette Employer Council;
- Our Portland Central Office provided training and assistance to the Native American Youth Association, including inviting students to participate in the annual Summer Youth Job Fair;
- The Klamath Tribes attend monthly One Stop Partners Committee Meetings. They provide updates on their Vocational Rehabilitation program and various tribal employment programs;
- Chinook Winds Casino is an active member of the Lincoln County Employer Council. The Casino and Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Indians list all job openings with OED;
- Our Albany and Newport Office staff, along with other state agencies, participated in training for Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Indians tribal members who work in the Tribal 477 Self-Sufficiency Programs;
- The OED's Newport/Lincoln City Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program representative networks and collaborates regularly with Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Indians veterans' representative on behalf of Lincoln County veterans;
- The Umpqua Indian Development Corporation is an active member of the Roseburg Employer Council. They were a sponsor of the March 2012 Employer Expo; and
- The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indians is an active member of the Regional Workforce Investment Board. They interact regularly with the local OED offices on job listings and career/job fairs.

Our Workforce & Economic Research Division works with tribal governments and businesses in a variety of ways. Tribal governments and businesses across Oregon

request information about employment trends by industries and occupations. Research staff typically provides workforce and economic information to help with grants; to assist decision makers in prioritizing training resources; and demographic, commuting pattern and labor shed studies. Examples of activities include:

- The Bureau of Labor Statistics provides the states with the ability to produce current unemployment rates for American Indian Areas (formally known as Indian Reservations) of certain sizes, dependent upon data availability. These estimates can currently be produced for nine of the 21 Areas.
- At times, some Oregon-based tribes have been randomly selected to be in OED's wage and employment surveys. Although this may be viewed as more of a survey for us, it is a method used to share information back to employers, planners and others.
- Our state employment economist, Nick Beleiciks, made a presentation on key workforce challenges at the September 28, 2012 Economic Development and Community Services Cluster meeting.

In 2012, the OED Contracts and Procurement Section hired a recent Native American high school graduate for a six-month internship. The intern's tribal government paid the intern's stipend. The OED provided training and work experience in state contracting and procurement practices. This intern experience led to an additional work assignment in the OED Communications section.

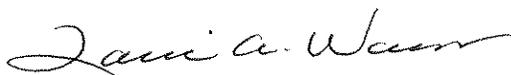
On January 30, 2012, the OED Child Care Division convened a planning session with child care and education stakeholders in the state. The focus of the assembly was to forge a shared vision and realistic next steps for Oregon's early care professional development system. Representatives from the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla and the Confederated Tribes of the Grande Ronde participated in the visioning and planning session.

**Training:**

In 2007 the Department developed Administrative Policy 30(1) "Tribal Relations." It is available to all staff via the OED intranet; we transmit it annually to staff in conjunction with a message from the agency Director or Deputy Director.

We look forward to continuing and expanding on the mutually beneficial relationships that have been built with Oregon's tribal governments and businesses in 2012.

Sincerely,



Laurie A. Warner  
Director