

Central and Eastern Oregon Juvenile Justice Consortium (CEOJJC)

An intergovernmental organization of the counties of: Baker, Crook, Deschutes, Gilliam, Grant, Harney, Hood River, Jefferson, Lake, Malheur, Morrow, Sherman, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, Wasco, Wheeler

Educational Assessment and Transition Specialist - Limited Duration Position

Initial Posting Date: 04/29/2021

Application Deadline: 05/14/2021

Salary Range: \$20/hr - \$26/hr

Position Title: Educational Assessment and Transition Specialist – (Limited Duration)

Position Type: This position will provide consultation to juvenile departments in the 17 counties throughout the CEOJJC region to help plan for the educational needs of moderate and high-risk youth. These groups of youth are at risk of further escalation into the juvenile justice system. Work is approximately 20 hours a week

This is a limited duration position that will end on March 31, 2022.

This position is part of a demonstration project to show the benefits of these services to help improve educational planning for youth in the juvenile justice system. There may be a possibility to continue the position but there is no guarantee this will happen.

Position Location: -

Because of COVID-19 and a large geographic area of the CEOJJC region, almost all of the work of this position will be virtual (videoconferencing, phone conversations, email and text messages). There may be some travel to regional meetings.

Job Description:

In rural and frontier counties in Central and Eastern Oregon, juvenile departments, in partnership with schools, provide a range of services to youth and families. School attendance and educational planning are large parts of the individualized supervision and support plans juvenile departments develop with youth and their families.

Educational and vocational training are critical to helping youth in the juvenile justice system overcome various risk factors that have contributed to their involvement in the justice system.

A number of youth involved in the juvenile justice system are successfully engaged in school or other educational alternatives. This is because of their past success in school and the support from local schools and advocacy from local juvenile departments.

There is a group of moderate and high risk youth who have histories of irregular and poor school attendance, significant credit deficits, grade retention, learning disabilities and disengagement from school due to behavior problems and disciplinary issues. In addition to having problems in school, this group of youth are at risk of further escalation into the juvenile justice system.

A number of these moderate and high-risk youth are successfully managed in the community. A component of effective supervision plans is reconnection to school and individualized educational planning. When these youth are successfully engaged in education, they see it as part of a plan to get their life “back on track”. It is important for these youth to see and commit to a pathway toward completing education, skills training and preparing to enter the workforce in the future.

Some of these youth struggle with being successful under community supervision because of their risk factors for further escalation into the juvenile justice system. As part of efforts to stabilize their behavior, some of these youth may be placed in a residential treatment program or juvenile detention for short period of time or a 30 day or longer secure treatment program.

This position will provide consultation to juvenile departments in the 17 counties throughout the CEOJJC region planning for the educational needs of moderate and high-risk youth. This planning may include planning for transition from a community treatment program or secure program back to the community. This transition planning includes reentry into school or transition to some other educational alternative such as an online program, preparation for a GED, or a skills training program for future employment.

About the Central and Eastern Oregon Juvenile Justice Consortium (CEOJJC)

The Central and Eastern Oregon Juvenile Justice Consortium is an intergovernmental entity of 17 counties in Central and Eastern Oregon. The purpose of the Consortium is to support the efforts of individual member counties to improve the effectiveness of the juvenile justice system throughout the region. Activities of the Consortium include various system improvement initiatives and advocacy for the needs of youth involved in the juvenile justice system within the region. One of these initiatives is to improve educational planning to help youth who are experiencing difficulties in school and/or preparation for employment in the future.

Essential Functions of This Position

This position will provide assistance and consultation to county juvenile department staff to help develop educational plans for moderate and high-risk youth who have histories of irregular and poor school attendance, significant credit deficits, grade retention, learning disabilities and disengagement from school due to behavior problems and school disciplinary issues.

This assistance and consultation may include:

- assisting the juvenile department in partnerships and collaborations with local schools and any wraparound team involvement in case planning for these youth and their families;
- assisting juvenile departments and local schools with options to reengage these youth in the coming school year;
- interviews with identified youth and families who have educational needs;
- review of any IEP or 504 plans to understand when or why they were developed;
- assessment of any barriers a youth may have faced in the past with educational success;
- assessing the nature of any learning disabilities and behavior problems;
- recommending educational credit recovery options as well as any online options;

Knowledge:

- Basic understanding and knowledge of how Oregon's juvenile justice system works;
- Understanding of the principles, practices and procedures of school districts in Oregon;
- Understanding of the Oregon Department of Education rules related to re-entry of students into school and youth services related to Individual Education Programs and specialized educational plans;
- Knowledge of the current guidelines by the Oregon Department of Education for in person and hybrid learning;
- Basic understanding and any experience in motivational interviewing techniques cognitive restructuring models, and skills coaching approaches to skills training;
- Common causes and conditions that are related to behavior and adjustment problems of at-risk youth and principles and methods of helping youth to overcome these problems;

Skills:

- Demonstrated ability to maintain confidentiality, express compassion, empathy and excellent judgment and discretion;
- Interviewing techniques including active listening;
Interviewing youth and families, including effectively communicating with youth and families from diverse cultural and ethnic backgrounds;
- Ability to work in a team approach and collaborative problem-solving;
- Ability to prepare comprehensive, accurate, and concise reports.
- Organizing materials and documents;
- Effective written and verbal communication;

Ability to:

- Ability to work in virtual environments (videoconferencing, email, text messages, telephone conferences, etc);

- Manage a changing caseload;
- Workload management for timely completion of work;
- Communicate effectively both verbally and in writing;
- Interact effectively and in a professional manner in stressful and/or emotional situations;

Minimum Experience and Training:

Bachelor's degree in behavior sciences is required. Any satisfactory equivalent combination of experience and training which ensures ability to perform the work may substitute for the above.

Other Requirements:

Ability to secure and maintain a driver's license valid in the state of Oregon, or an acceptable alternative means of transportation.

May be subject to pre-employment check and successful completion of a background check.

As mentioned earlier, most of the work of this position will be done through virtual communication methods (videoconferencing, phone conversations, text messages, email, etc.). There may be some travel to meetings within the region.

How to Apply

1. **Cover Letter Required:** Please include a cover letter describing why you are the best candidate for this position. Include in your response how your experiences, skills, and knowledge have prepared you to provide consultation and support to county juvenile departments as described in this application. Please also include a statement of why you are interested in this position.
2. **Resume Required:** Please include an updated resume of your past work history and education.
3. **References Required:** Please include at least three professional references we can contact about your work history.

CEOJJC is an equal opportunity and affirmative action employer. All aspects of employment including the decision to hire, promote, discipline, or discharge, will be individualized based on merit, competence, and performance. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, marital status, age, national origin, ancestry, physical disability, medical condition, pregnancy, genetic information, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, veteran status, or any other status protected under federal, state, or local law

Where to Send Your Completed Application:

Please mail your completed application to:

**CEOJJC Business Office
62910 O.B. Riley Rd., Suite 208
Bend, OR 97703**