



SOUTHWESTERN
Oregon Community College

CASE Grant FAQ Sheet

CASE Career Center

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1. Q: What is CASE?

A: CASE stands for Credential, Acceleration, and Support for Employment. It is a three year, federally funded, Department of Labor grant that is part of a statewide collaboration involving all 17 Oregon Community Colleges, the Oregon Employment Department/Trade Act, Oregon Department of Community Colleges, and Workforce Development, employers, and community partners.

2. Q: What will the funding be used for?

A: Our focus will be to help SWOCC students overcome both educational and occupational barriers toward acquiring the skills and credentials needed for high-wage, high-skilled jobs. We hope to accelerate progress, improve retention/completion rates, and ultimately assist students in becoming job-ready once they've completed their training.

3. Q: Who will be involved?

A: The CASE team will consist of two job coaches, the grant administrator, a WIA/SCBEC Job Placement Specialist and an Administrative Assistant. We will be working closely with multiple staff on campus, including but not limited to the Internship Coordinator, Transitional Ed Staff, First Stop staff, Advisors, and Counselors.

4. Q: Specifically, how might a student benefit from participation in the CASE grant?

A: Career coaches will provide wrap-around student support services that include career exploration, referral to online, community, and federal resources to reduce or eliminate financial barriers, linkage to college resources such as tutoring, advising, and counseling. Also, once the coursework is completed, career

coaches and the SCBEC staff will provide job-readiness training and support, such as resume writing, interviewing, and other “soft” skills that are essential to landing the job.

5. Q: What else is involved?

A: The grant is also funding an accelerated math lab on campus. Instruction will be both online and face-to-face, using the Hawkes system. The intent is to provide students who need a self-paced model with an opportunity to move at an accelerated speed. Those needing more support can access faculty, tutors, and online resources. This model will provide contextualized content, and give students immediate feedback and sufficient structural support. Also, SWOCC will be involved in working with five other community colleges in Oregon to increase understanding and use of Credit for Prior Learning within and between Oregon’s community colleges. The first year will be a pilot project with the goal of creating a Community of Practice for all colleges.

6. Q: How is it different from other grants providing student support?

A: This is a research grant, and as such will require both participant and comparison cohorts, extensive data tracking, and compilation statewide. We will be placing students in jobs upon completion of their training, and tracking them for a nine-month period after they have received their credential.

7. Q: What’s the long term vision?

A: The goal here is to create a career center on campus, including both career counselors and community partners such as SCBEC. Our vision also includes bringing faculty and industry together to train adult students to meet the demands of an ever-changing workplace.

8. Q: What else?

A: One of the Career Coaches will be assigned to work with students from Transitional Ed and Pathways in the areas of Welding, Early Childhood Education, and Medical Assistant. As we need to track for nine months, and are already almost six months into the three-year grant, we will be targeting students seeking to complete a credential that is one year or less in duration. CASE staff will begin accepting referrals in the fall of 2012, but could begin as early as this summer.

Equal Employment Opportunity CASE is a WIA Title I- financially assisted program and is therefore an equal opportunity employer/program which provides auxiliary aids and services upon request to individuals with disabilities by calling 711 or 800.648.3458 TTY. US Department of Labor The CASE grant project (\$18,679,289) is 100% funded through the US Department of Labor's Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training program. DOL Attribution This workforce solution was funded by a grant awarded by the US Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration. The solution was created by the grantee and does not necessarily reflect the official position of the US Department of Labor. The Department of Labor makes no guarantees, warranties or assurances of any kind, express or implied, with respect to such information, including any information on linked sites and including, but not limited to, accuracy of the information or its completeness, timeliness, usefulness, adequacy, continued availability or ownership.



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