

OK Pathways to Partnerships Update

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Lori Chesnut, Program Manager



OKLAHOMA
Education



OK Pathways to Partnerships (OP2P)

- **\$9,993,000** from the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) Disability Innovation Fund (DIF).
 - **Required partnerships** include Oklahoma State Department of Education, Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services, federally funded Centers for Independent Living, and Local Education Agencies.
- Includes a secondary **transition website hub** with aligned and shared guidance, technical assistance, and learning modules for students, parents, districts, businesses, agencies/entities.
- Provides ongoing professional development, including coaching, to support regional teams for new transition program implementation.
- Provides almost **6 million dollars** in subgrants to **districts** and **community partners** (businesses, Department of Rehabilitation Services (DRS), Career Technology Education (CTE), Institutes for Higher Education (IHEs), Centers for Independent Living (CILs), Community-Based Providers (CBP), Workforce Boards, etc.) to implement **new career exploration** and **work-based learning programs** focused on **competitive integrated employment (CIE)**.

OP2P Staff

- Lori Chesnut, Program Manager (IDEA-B & OP2P)
- Donna Tye-Lewis, Project Manager
- Claudia Beckner, Specialist (part-time, IDEA-B & OP2P)
- Two OP2P Transition Specialists (to be filled)

OP2P Goal and Initiatives

- The overarching goal of the OP2P project is to support quality transition programming through the development of an Oklahoma Transition Framework.
 - Expand the capacity of the OK Transition Council and local/regional transition teams to serve students with disabilities (SWD) in transition to postsecondary life and competitive integrated employment (CIE).
 - Expand access and effectiveness of transition programming, work-based learning and competitive integrated employment (CIE) experiences for students with significant disabilities and students with disabilities in rural, high need settings.

OP2P Activity – Develop a Unified Secondary Transition Definition, Mission & Vision for the Oklahoma Transition Council & Grant

- **Definition:** The Oklahoma Transition Council defines transition as the movement of youth with disabilities from secondary education to postsecondary adult life, including participation in higher education or training, employment with a focus on competitive integrated employment, opportunities for independent living, and community participation.
- **Mission:** The mission of The Oklahoma Transition Council is to improve transition education, planning and services through stakeholder partnerships that lead to successful postschool outcomes for students with disabilities, including education or training, employment, independent living, mental health services and community participation.
- **Vision:** The mission of the Oklahoma Transition Council is to make a lasting difference in improving the quality of life for all individuals with disabilities by creating and supporting person-centered innovative transition services and programming statewide.

OP2P Resource Mapping

- Resource Mapping at State, Regional, and Local levels is an important focus of the grant in developing the Oklahoma Transition Framework.
- National Technical Assistance on Transition: The Collaborative (NTACT:C) facilitators Jacque Hyatt and Brenda Simmons are currently providing training on Resource Mapping and will help us to facilitate the mapping process at the State level.
- Once mapping is complete at the State level, the next step will be mapping at the Regional level through the Oklahoma Transition Teams (i.e. teams identified through the Oklahoma Transition Institute).

- Pilot area for Year 2 is southeast Oklahoma.
- McAlester, Spiro, Panama (LEAs), OK for Ind. Living (CIL), DRS, Pervasive Parenting Center, and many others

Plan Your Way, OK!

- Primary transition resource for Oklahoma
- Being developed by OMES with digital accessibility support provided by ABLE Tech
- Opportunity to share examples and success stories to help children and youth with disabilities and their families/ support systems have improved transition experiences leading to successful outcomes
- [VCU Center on Transition Innovations](#)

Professional Development

- Asynchronous Modules

Secondary Transition & Alternate Diploma

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Criteria for the Alternate Diploma

- Individualized Education Program (IEP) teams, including parents and student, need to ensure student participation in OAAP is correctly indicated and aligned with the [Criteria Checklist for Assessing Students with Disabilities on Alternate Assessments](#) and the companion document [Guidance Rubric for Considering Student Eligibility for the Oklahoma Alternate Assessment Program \(OAAP\)](#)

Alternate Diploma Guidance Documents

- Visit the [Alternate Diploma Collaboration Google Folder](#) to access technical assistance documents, Alternate Diploma Collaboratives slide decks and recordings.
- https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Gd-4laDph4rUhkwqniSohmjtLGnaw4ki?usp=share_link