WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DIVISION
Workforce Programs
Technical Assistance Bulletin 310

Keyword: **General**

Subject: **Training, Assistive Technology, and Accessibility Resources**

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This Technical Assistance (TA) Bulletin provides Local Workforce Development Boards (Boards) with information and resources for training, assistive technology (AT), and accessibility to improve access to high-quality workforce services for individuals with disabilities.

Background

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) requires that services for individuals with disabilities be improved by increasing access to high-quality workforce services that prepare individuals with disabilities for competitive, integrated employment.

Under WIOA, Workforce Solutions Offices must provide physical and programmatic accessibility to employment and training services for individuals with disabilities.

Resources for Workforce Solutions Offices

- Access for All

    This comprehensive resource manual is designed to assist One-Stop systems in meeting the needs of individuals with disabilities.

- United States Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP)

    The ODEP was established in Fiscal Year 2001 with the purpose of creating an office of disability employment policy that would provide leadership, develop policy and initiatives, and award grants to assist with eliminating barriers to the training and employment of people with disabilities.

- Universal Design Resources

    Universal Design for the Workforce Development System is a collection of tools, online training modules, and best-practice findings from the field, all of which are designed to promote a workforce development system that is both responsive to local needs and realities, and able to meet the needs of its diverse businesses and job-seeking customers.

- The Job Accommodation Network (JAN)

    The Job Accommodation Network helps employers recognize the valuable contributions that qualified workers with disabilities add to the workforce by providing accommodation solutions, trusted strategies, and practical guidance on the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

- Institute for Community Inclusion

    The Institute for Community Inclusion collaborates with individuals with disabilities, members of their families, state and local government agencies, and service providers to advance the full inclusion of people with disabilities in all aspects of life.

- Texas Workforce Commission's (TWC) Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Program

    TWC's VR program helps people with disabilities prepare for, obtain, and retain employment and grow in meaningful career paths.

Assistive Technology and Training Resources

- Freedom Scientific

    Freedom Scientific offers a wide range of low-vision solutions, including portable video magnifiers, desktop magnifiers or closed-circuit televisions, and software (ZoomText, OpenBook, Fusion) to assist with many low-vision conditions.

- UbiDuo from SComm

    SComm offers text-to-speech devices that enhance face-to-face communications between people with hearing impairment and those with no hearing impairment.

- Sorenson Video Relay Service

    Sorenson offers deaf-centric products and expert interpreting in English or Spanish, which enable people with hearing impairments to make encrypted video relay calls anytime and anywhere, privately, and safely.

- Steps for Success HR Toolkit

    The American Foundation for the Blind provides key best insight, practices, and guidance to assure barriers to opportunity do not stand in the way of people who are blind or have low vision.

- TWC Training for Board and Contractor Staff
    - ➢ Introduction to Electronic and Information Resources Accessibility
    - ➢ ADA Overview

    For more information or to register for TWC training, contact: training.development@twc.texas.gov.

Accessibility Resources

- [WebAIM](#) (Web Accessibility in Mind)—WebAIM hosts the Web Accessibility Evaluation (WAVE) tool, which can check accessibility for any web page.
- [The National Assistive Technology Act Technical Assistance and Training Center (AT3)](#) and Oklahoma ABLE Tech have partnered to provide free, self-paced online courses related to digital accessibility.
- [The American Foundation for the Blind](#) provides information and computer-based training on the latest digital accessibility technologies for individuals who have blindness or low vision.

Please distribute this information to appropriate staff.

Send inquiries regarding this TA Bulletin to wfpolicy.clarifications@twc.texas.gov.

References
Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, §107(d)(6)(A)

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TA Bulletin 287