Probation Project SUPPORT

A collaborative project of Oregon Department of Education, Oregon Youth Authority, and the University of Oregon

**Project SUPPORT:** The purpose of Project SUPPORT (Service Utilization Promoting Positive Outcome in Rehabilitation and Transition) is to assist OYA probation youth to successfully complete probation services by connecting each youth with (a) education, (b) pre-employment and/or employment opportunities, and (c) community-based support services. Probation Project SUPPORT is a collaborative project of the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) and Oregon Youth Authority (OYA). The University of Oregon is contracted with to provide evaluation services for the project. This 4-year project is funded through the Edward Byrne Memorial Grant Program administered by the Oregon Department of State Police. Grant funding establishes pilot sites with the goal of eventual statewide implementation at the end of the funding period.

**Regions Served:** In years 1 & 2 regions served include Eastern Oregon and South Coast region. In years 3 & 4, the project counties that will be served include Multnomah, Linn, Benton, and Lane counties.

**Target Population:** The target population served are adjudicated youth ages 14 -17 committed to OYA for probation services. This is a pilot project allowing for a limited number of randomly selected youth to be served. As required by grant funders, an equitable process of defining project participants will be followed in selecting participants.

**Project Services:** A transition specialist, the key personnel in this project, will work with OYA probation officers to provide case management to project youth with the transition specialist concentrating on academic and employment training placements including service coordination between multiple local service agencies. The transition specialist’s primary responsibility and the foundation for this service model is for the development of a trusting relationship with the probation youth. Through these relationships, services will be tailored to the youth’s strengths, needs, aptitudes, and interests—focusing on academic and/or employment placements. In addition, other local community agencies (e.g., mental health, alcohol and other drug agencies) will be utilized based on the individual needs of each project youth. The transition specialist will work closely with OYA probation officers, education providers, employers, foster care, and community agency staff in each of the communities.

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