



Free Services for U.S. Department of Labor Grantees

Get Help Meeting Your Grant Deliverables

Are you concerned about some of the terms of your grant, such as the CC BY license requirement, requirements on accessibility, or reaching diverse learners? The Open Professionals Education Network (OPEN), funded by the Gates Foundation, has created **free services** aligned with the DOL grant requirements and designed to support your project. Our partners' long-standing experience in the service areas noted below can help you achieve your project goals while minimizing time and resources spent.

Summary of Services

OPEN will provide free support and technical assistance to all Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College & Career Training (TAACCCT) grantees with information and professional development in the following areas:

- Open licensing ("CC BY" is required by the grant)
- Increasing access to existing open educational resources (OER)
- Effective course and learning design
- Accessibility and web-based design best practices
- Best practices in open policy and OER adoption

Why These Services?

Support for open learning

The DOL grant requires that you share what you build with the public grant funds. All resources created (new builds and revisions) using grant funds must be released under the Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 license (CC BY). CC BY is a copyright license that grants permission to the public to reuse, revise, remix or redistribute the materials for any purpose so long as the user gives attribution to the author.

Creative Commons will provide technical support in meeting the open licensing requirement. We will help you implement CC BY with best practices in machine-readability (so that users can find your content on the Internet) and mark the content with clear and appropriate license icons and language. Creative Commons will also help projects find existing OER that might be used in their project.

Support for learning design and accessibility

CAST and Carnegie Mellon Open Learning Initiative (OLI) will work together, leveraging current learning science research and accessibility guidelines, to provide resources and technical assistance to support the creation of high quality online courses. Carnegie Mellon OLI brings expertise in applying results from the learning sciences to the design, implementation, evaluation and continuous improvement of open web-based learning environments. CAST, the research and development organization that pioneered Universal Design for Learning (UDL) brings expertise, technical support and enabling technologies. The resources and technical assistance from OLI and CAST will support you in implementing OLI learning guidelines, the UDL framework and techniques and technologies to ensure that all of the digital content and learning environments developed in this project succeed with the widest range of learners possible.

Support for the development of best practices and policies

OER might be new to your institution. The Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC) has system-wide experience in development, adoption, remix, reuse and distribution of OER as well as a policy that requires colleges to share system-funded resources. Using that experience, SBCTC will provide professional development opportunities for your faculty, administrators, staff and trustees to learn how you can both share what you build and, more important, adopt and use high quality OER from others. Administrators and trustees can learn how to develop and support open policies, while faculty and staff can get information on how to develop, find, evaluate and share open content.

Beyond Support: Collaborative Opportunities

The services mentioned above are available to all grantees. In addition, a limited number of participants will be selected for these more collaborative projects:

Platform+ The OLI platform, enhanced by Universal Design for Learning principles, enables instructional designs that embed practice and assessment throughout the course and provide a complete, supported learning experience. The system captures data on student interactions and uses this data to provide meaningful feedback to the learner, the instructor, and the course designer. Platform+ projects will receive technical training on the OLI platform, project space for development, course hosting, and access to all learning data and reports. (Available to 25 grantees.)

Co-Development For this more intensive collaboration, OLI will lead teams composed of multiple subject matter experts, CAST experts, course developers, learning scientists, HCI experts and software engineers to develop and deliver OER in accordance with current learning research. Grantees from different projects in the same domain will be invited to collaborate on a single development team to create an OER that serves all projects. (Available to 3 cross-project teams.)

What Should I Do Now?

- Sign up for OPEN services at <http://open4us.org/services>.
- Access presentations and recordings from the OPEN Kick-Off Conference: <http://open4us.org/events/kick-off-conference-agenda>.
- Watch the short videos explaining our services at <http://open4us.org/resources>.



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