



Update from National APSE 9/3/2010

Kansas Governor Issues Two Executive Orders on Kansans with Disabilities and Employment

On August 26th, 2010, Kansas Governor Mark Parkinson issued two Executive Orders regarding Kansans with disabilities and employment.

Executive Order 10-09

Establishes the Governor's Excellence Awards. Awards are to be given annually for three categories:

1. "An individual direct service professional that currently supports person/s receiving disability services and has demonstrated extraordinary commitment to the provision of high-quality person-centered services.
2. An agency providing services including direct services or self-directed provider support, demonstrating a strong ability to assist individuals to remain in their homes and communities and to achieve self-sufficiency through individualized employment and independent living skills.
3. An individual who has demonstrated a substantial commitment to improving access to or quality of services for Kansans with disabilities, by helping shape public policy or champion system enhancements."

Executive Order 10-10

Calls for greater opportunity for Kansans with disabilities to be competitively employed within state agencies. According to the Order, state agencies are expected to:

1. "Develop a shared vision and mission statement for Kansas that will result in Kansans with disabilities becoming competitively employed in equal numbers to their peers without disabilities and capable of meeting the needs of Kansas businesses.
2. Inventory state plans, strategic plans, and mission and vision statements, to ensure competitive, integrated, employment of people with disabilities is encouraged and supported.

3. Identify policies and procedures within agencies that are a disincentive to competitive employment of people with disabilities, and revise these so that they support competitive employment.
4. Implement changes necessary to coordinate employment programs across agencies to maximize the employment of Kansans with disabilities, as well as tap into an under-utilized source of labor.
5. Explore the possibility of implementing new initiatives that will increase the number of Kansans with disabilities who are competitively employed.
6. Identify mechanisms for determining baseline data of how many people with disabilities are currently employed in Kansas, how many become employed, and the fiscal impact of their being employed.
7. Report annually to the Governor the number of employed Kansans with disabilities and the fiscal impact for the State of Kansas."

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

August 26, 2010 [Press Release](#)

Executive Order [10-09](#)

Executive Order [10-10](#)

If you have any questions, please contact APSE's Public Policy Associate at stephanie@apse.org.