



## EMPLOYMENT TOPICAL INFORMATION

### Section Overview

Effective legislative advocacy requires knowledge about specific topics which can be difficult to understand. APSE has developed a number of tools for advocates and allies to better understand the issues, to disseminate information to decision makers, and to understand APSE's position on these topics. The following sections provide issue specific details.

### About APSE and Broad Policy Agenda

APSE, the *Association for Persons Supporting Employment 1st*, is the only national organization with an *exclusive focus* on integrated employment and career advancement opportunities for individuals with disabilities. APSE is a 3,000+ growing national non-profit membership organization, founded in 1988. Our members include individuals with disabilities, families, disability professionals, and businesses.

The organization has specific goals and policy agenda to support and advance legislation to improve employment for people with disabilities. The following fact sheet resources provide detailed information APSE and it's areas of focus.

1. [About APSE Fact Sheet Website Link: http://bit.ly/1k0cAcj](http://bit.ly/1k0cAcj)
2. [APSE State Chapters – Legislator Fact Sheet](http://bit.ly/KVg1UP) Website link: <http://bit.ly/KVg1UP>

### Transition and Education

Currently many of our nation's students are leaving school without any significant work experience or a clear career plan. This problem is even more significant for students with disabilities. Youth with disabilities are more likely to drop out of high school, not receive adequate job training, become involved in the juvenile justice system, and remain on government programs resulting in a life of poverty and cyclical dependence. The following fact sheet is useful resource to understand the issue:

1. [APSE Fact Sheet—Transition](#)

### Sub-Minimum Wage and Sheltered Work

APSE has clearly stated its view that sub-minimum wage is unnecessary to promote employment opportunities for people with disabilities. As detailed in APSE's 2009 policy statement on sub-minimum wage:

1. Bad job matches are the real issue;
2. Productivity rate is not a fair basis for wage;
3. The productivity standard is discriminatory toward people with disabilities;
4. Sub-minimum wage is at odds with national disability policy; and,
5. Sub-minimum wage is being used to support a more costly service delivery model.

Additionally, sheltered workshops needlessly segregate people with disabilities, keeping them out of the community. The following sections provide resources to assist your advocacy efforts to eliminate sub-minimum wage and sheltered work.



### ***APSE and WIA 511 Sub-Minimum Wage Language Fact Sheet***

1. [Background—APSE and 511](#)
2. [Call to Phase Out Sub-Minimum Wage](#)

### ***National Council on Disability***

1. August 2012 Report: [“Subminimum Wage and Supported Employment”](#)

### ***Converting Sheltered Workshops***

1. [Deconstructing the Workshop: A Colorado Experience](#)

### ***Olmstead and Sheltered Work***

1. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services: [CMS Guidance on Olmstead and Employment](#)
2. U.S. Department of Justice: [DOJ letters, findings to the State of Oregon re: Olmstead and Employment](#)
3. Georgia State Law Review: [Beyond Residential Segregation: The application of Olmstead to Segregated Employment Settings](#)
4. Implementing Olmstead at the Community Level - A Local Disability Advocacy Campaign: [Californians for Olmstead Advocacy Toolkit](#)

## **Best-Practices in Employment Support**

### ***Employer Relationships***

1. [Developing Relationships with Employers](#)

## **Employment and Disability Research and Data**

Data and research can be effective tool in legislative advocacy efforts. Many resources exist to provide access to such information. Follow the links below to search disability–related data resources.

[U.S. Census Bureau](#)

[Social Security Administration](#)

[Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration](#)

[Statedata.info](#)

[Cornell University, Disability Statistics](#)

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### **Additional Resources**

1. US Library of Congress (THOMAS) – [www.thomas.loc.gov](http://www.thomas.loc.gov)
2. PACER Center – [www.pacer.org](http://www.pacer.org)
3. [www.ADA.gov](http://www.ADA.gov)
4. [www.Disability.gov](http://www.Disability.gov)
5. State Employment Leadership Network - <http://www.selnmembers.org/>
6. Universities
  - a. Virginia Commonwealth University- <http://www.vcu.edu/>
  - b. Institute for Community Inclusion at UMass, Boston-  
<http://www.communityinclusion.org/>
  - c. Research and Training Center on Community Living, University of MN-  
<http://rtc.umn.edu/rtc/>