

EARN

Employer Assistance and Resource Network

INFORMATION YOU CAN USE:

WRP GRAD HELPS WHD IN BP OIL SPILL CASES

Although he was the new guy on the job for the Wage and Hour Division in Florida, Kevin Sheil helped lead his office in its investigations of cleanup companies hired during the BP oil spill last year. His outstanding work and that of his team earned them the U.S. Department of Labor Secretary's Exceptional Achievement Award.

Sheil came into government service through his participation in the Office of Disability Employment Policy's Workforce Recruitment Program (WRP). Sheil, who has learning disabilities, has a Master of Business Administration from the University of North Florida and a Bachelor of Science in Economics from Auburn University in Alabama. The WRP helped him acquire a job with the Department of Homeland Security in Georgia as a technology support assistant.

For private sector employers looking to diversify their workforce and fill internship or job opportunities, the WRP has qualified candidates with disabilities available to meet hiring needs. EARN's expert staff will match candidates based on job descriptions and provide free consultation to ensure a smooth transition at the workplace. For more information on the WRP or to complete an online request form, please visit www.AskEARN.org.

[To read more, click here.](#)

OFCCP PUBLISHES PROPOSED VEVRAA REGULATION REVISIONS TO STRENGTHEN EMPLOYMENT PROTECTIONS FOR VETERANS

The U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs announced on April 25 a proposed rule to strengthen affirmative action requirements of federal contractors and subcontractors for veterans protected under the Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974. The proposed rule was published in the April 26 edition of the Federal Register.

Veterans protected by VEVRAA include those with disabilities, recently discharged, as well as those who served during a war, campaign or expedition for which a campaign badge is authorized.

To read about these revisions, [click here](#).

ODEP ALLIANCE PARTNER USBLN AND THE U.S. CHAMBER RELEASE NEW DISABILITY INCLUSION PUBLICATION FOR EMPLOYERS

At its April 12, 2011 Corporate Disability Employment Summit, ODEP's Alliance partner USBLN joined the US Chamber of Commerce in releasing a new publication, Leading Practices on Disability Inclusion, that employers can use to improve their workforce and increase their customer base.

[Click here to read "Leading Practices on Disability Inclusion.”](#)

ODEP PUBLISHES YOUTH EMPLOYMENT DATA

ODEP now publishes monthly updates to the national employment rate of youth with disabilities. These data are available due to ODEP's sponsorship of a set of disability questions added to the Current Population Survey (CPS) in 2006. The CPS, which is conducted monthly by the Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) provides the most accurate and reliable national data available on the nation's labor force status.

The inclusion of youth in the data, which is disaggregated by ages 16 to 19 and 20 to 24, exhibits the significance of the nation's younger labor force participants.

[Click here to view the March 2011 Youth Employment Data.](#)

DID YOU KNOW?...

HARKIN CALLS ON BUSINESS TO HIRE MORE INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITES

During a keynote address at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Corporate Disability Employment Summit on April 12, Senator Tom Harkin (D-IA) called on the CEOs and business owners in the audience to join him in his goal of increasing the number of Americans with disabilities in the workforce from 4.9 million today to 6 million in 2015.

More than two thirds of Americans with disabilities are without a job, and adults with disabilities are leaving the labor force during this recession at more than 10 times the rate of adults without disabilities, according to Senator Harkin, chairman of the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions.

[Click here to read more.](#)

THE DIVERSITYINC TOP 10 COMPANIES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

What makes a company a good employer for people with disabilities? It isn't just accommodations and flexible work schedules.

[Click here](#) to read how 10 of the top fifty companies surveyed by DiversityInc make a concerted effort to recruit, retain and promote people with disabilities and to create an inclusive corporate culture.

[Click here](#) to find out how three of these Top 50 companies use Employee-Resource Groups to access new markets and more.

THE DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT SITUATION:

APRIL 2011*

[Employment rate of persons ages 16-64 with disabilities:](#) 26.6%

[Employment rate of persons ages 16-64 without disabilities:](#) 69.9%

Employment Gap: 43.3%

[Commonly Used Terms](#)

*In April 2011, the employment rate of people 16-64 years of age was 26.6% for persons with disabilities compared with 69.9% for persons without a disability. The gap between the employment rate of persons of 16-64 years of age with and without disabilities was 43.3%, not seasonally adjusted.

OPM LAUNCHES ONLINE RECRUITMENT TOOL FOR HIRING MANAGERS

The [USAJobsRecruit](#) website has recruiting guidance, discussion forums, chats and blogs for hiring

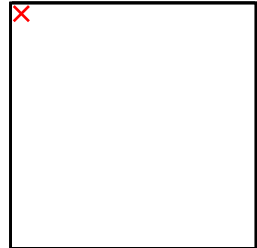
managers that will ease their involvement in the hiring process.

USAJobsRecruit is an online community for agencies to showcase best practices, share marketing and outreach strategies, and post hiring events.

[To read more, click here.](#)

TELEWORK GUIDE RELEASED

The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) issued a telework guide to help agencies implement the Telework Enhancement Act, which was signed into law in December 2010. Released in April, the telework guide will serve as a resource on the law for the Federal government.



[Click here to download "Guide to Telework in the Federal Government."](#)

2011 NATIONAL DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH THEME ANNOUNCED

ODEP Assistant Secretary Kathy Martinez unveiled the official theme of the October 2011 National Disability Employment Awareness Month. The theme, "Profit by Investing in Workers with Disabilities," promotes the contributions of workers with disabilities and serves to inform the public that these workers represent a highly skilled talent pool that can help employers compete in a global economy.

[Read the News Release.](#)

WEBINAR: REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION UNDER THE ADA, JUNE 22

The ADA Amendments Act final regulations take effect May 24. What new requirements does your agency face? And what programs must you change to fit the regulations' parameters?

Register today for "Reasonable Accommodation Under the ADA: A Practical Approach for Your Agency" webinar on Wednesday, June 22 from 12:00-1:30 PM ET.

[For more information and to register, click here.](#)

ARCHIVED ADA WEBINAR PRESENTATION AND MATERIALS NOW AVAILABLE

Did you miss the April 28th webinar, "Introduction and Analysis of EEOC's Final Regulation Implementing the ADA Amendments Act of 2008"? The archived presentation and materials can now be accessed at your convenience by clicking <http://www.askearn.org/m-archive.cfm>.

The webinar was presented by Robert "Bobby" Silverstein, J.D., a principal in the law firm of Powers Pyles Sutter & Verville, PC and director of the Center for the Study and Advancement of Disability Policy.

For information on other web events and more, visit www.AskEarn.org.

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