Interior Dept. requires COVID-19 vaccinations for staff at BIE-managed schools

WASHINGTON – To help ensure the safety of students, teachers and Tribal communities, the Department of the Interior announced Sept. 2 it will require staff and faculty at Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) facilities to be vaccinated against COVID-19. This includes Chemawa Indian School in Salem, Ore.

Vaccination is the leading public health strategy to end the COVID-19 pandemic. Getting school communities vaccinated – including school staff and eligible students – will go a long way in preventing outbreaks before they happen and help to ensure students can remain learning in-person at school.

Consistent with the best available science and appropriate prevention strategies to reduce transmission of COVID-19, Secretarial Order 3402 requires educators at all BIE-operated elementary schools, secondary schools, off-reservation boarding schools and peripheral dormitories to get either a single-dose Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-authorized or approved COVID-19 vaccine (such as Johnson & Johnson or comparable future vaccines) or both doses of a two-dose FDA-authorized or approved COVID-19 vaccine (such as Pfizer, Moderna or comparable future vaccines) no later than Oct. 15, 2021.

The department recognizes that education plays a critical role in promoting equity in learning and health, particularly for Indigenous communities that have been disproportionately affected by COVID-19. Today's actions are in line with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommendations that educational institutions take action to provide for the vaccination of all teachers and staff, in addition to other mitigation measures, such as masks and social distancing.

The United States has a direct interest in protecting American Indian and Alaska Native children, including their education, as part of its trust responsibility. This vaccination requirement will help ensure American Indian and Alaska Native students continue to safely receive the invaluable benefits afforded by the BIE-operated schools.

The Interior Department is the latest agency within the Biden-Harris administration to implement vaccine requirements for members of its workforce. Recently, the Departments of Health and Human Services, Veterans Affairs and Defense announced plans to require COVID-19 vaccinations for personnel.

For more information about the Siletz Tribe, visit ctsi.nsn.us.

Siletz Tribal Business Corporation is calling all Tribal Member Business Owners

If you would like to be on the preferred Tribal Member business list for Siletz Tribal Business Corporation and have your business information added to our website, please fax, mail, email, or drop off your business card, brochures, or business information to:

Siletz Tribal Business Corporation
2120 NW 44th St. Suite D
Lincoln City, OR 97367
Phone: 541-351-9152
Fax: 541-994-8973
tgarrison@stbcorp.net

JOM FAMILIES

Follow the CTSI Education department on the CTSI Youth Facebook page and in your local area newsletter for monthly youth program information.

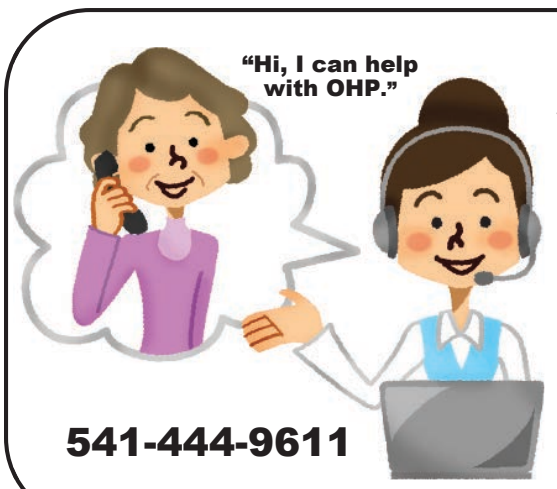
CTSI Youth
@CTSIYouth

Email your local Education Specialist to be added to our email list.

Portland Area Office	Siletz Area	Salem Area Office	Eugene Area Office
Katy Holland	Alissa Lane-Keene	Sonya Moody-Jurado	Candace Hill
(503) 238-1512	(541) 444-8373	(503) 390-9494	(541) 484-4234
katyh@ctsi.nsn.us	alissal@ctsi.nsn.us	sonyamj@ctsi.nsn.us	candaceh@ctsi.nsn.us

Legal Aid Services of Oregon and the Oregon Law Center, civil legal service providers for low-income Oregonians, operate a public benefits hotline where low-income Oregonians can talk to lawyers and paralegals to get advice on public benefits, including unemployment benefits:

Oregon public benefits hotline: 800-520-5292 or Oregonlawhelp.org



541-444-9611

Do you need help with OHP?

You don't have to leave your home to apply!
Applications can now be done online or over the phone.

Shop for health plans at https://or.checkbookhealth.org/ or call direct at 855-268-9767.

Siletz Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation Program (STVRP)

STVRP is here to help members of **ANY** federally recognized Tribe (living within the Siletz Tribe's service area) with barriers to employment. We work with individuals who have disabilities.

Examples of Services:

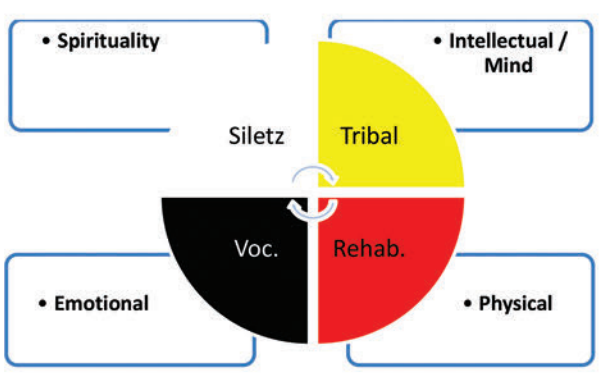
- Guidance and Counseling
- Referral to Services
- Employment Services
- Résumé Writing
- Interviewing Techniques
- Job Coaching
- Culturally Relevant Individualized Services
- Evaluations and Assessments
- Training Placement Opportunities
- Adaptive Equipment

For more information about STVRP, please inquire at 800-922-1399. We also maintain resource and employment boards, so please make an appointment if you're interested. You can speak to VR staff in the following locations:

Salem Area Office
3160 Blossom Drive NE, Suite 105
Salem, OR 97305

Siletz Admin Office
201 SE Swan Ave.
Siletz, OR 97380

Salem/Portland Area – Toni Leija, Counselor/Job Developer
Siletz/Eugene Area – Rachelle Endres, Counselor/Job Developer



Siletz Tribal Behavioral Health Programs

Prevention, Outpatient Treatment, and Women's and Men's Transitional Living Center

Siletz: 800-600-5599 or 541-444-8286

Eugene: 541-484-4234

Salem: 503-390-9494

Portland: 503-238-1512

Narcotics Anonymous Toll-Free Help Line – 877-233-4287

For information on Alcoholics Anonymous: aa-oregon.org