

# Columbia Employment Consortium

## Membership Criteria

The Columbia Employment Consortium, CEC, was originally established by organizations that serve persons with disabilities to seek, obtain and retain employment. The original objective of the Consortium was and continues to be to work collectively in providing a universal and accurate voice to the business community with regards to education and awareness of the following:

- Employment rights of persons with disabilities;
- Inclusion of persons with disabilities in the workforce;
- Resources within the community to support persons in the labor market;
- Provide training for associations, groups and businesses.

### Our Mission:

To provide resources and supports to the business community in recruiting, retaining and promoting qualified employees with disabilities in an integrated, competitive work environment.

### Our Vision:

We are committed to a framework for systems change that is centered on the premise that **all** citizens, including individuals with significant disabilities, are capable of full participation in integrated employment and community life.

### Application Process:

1. Complete an application (to be developed later) and upon approval be recommended to the Consortium by the Membership Committee;
2. Membership Committee shall review and, if approved, submit the application to the CEC at the next scheduled membership meeting;
3. Applicants must receive a vote of approval by two-thirds of the membership – at large.

### Membership Criteria:

1. Be active in the area of integrated employment of person with disabilities and their and inclusion in the work place;
2. Be active in the development and execution of Columbia Employment Consortium educational and awareness activities.

### Membership Responsibilities:

- Attend regularly scheduled meetings;
- Actively participate in CEC collaborative planning, developing and executing Mission-driven activities.
- Contribute to CEC activities. Contributions can include direct and indirect funding, technical expertise, staff time and/or assistance with media and networking toward educational and training activities;
- Promote the values of the CEC and principles of Employment First;
- Share the knowledge of lessons learned and best practices that benefit persons with disabilities in entering the workforce, as well as the businesses that hire them.
- Refrain from promoting one's own organization, agency, business or employer.