

## WHAT IS OEDI?

OEDI stands for Oregon Employer Drug-Free Initiative – a name and direction change from the Workdrugfree Oregon program of Oregon Nurses Foundation. In July 2008 it became a program of Associated Oregon Industries Foundation, then changed its name to OEDI in January 2009 to ensure a clear business identity and statewide scope.



OEDI is Oregon's only statewide drug-free workplace initiative designed to help inform businesses of the value of drug-free workplace programs and assist them in launching and implementing these programs. OEDI brings this to a local level through a network of 15 Chambers of Commerce and local business groups -- extending from Astoria to Klamath Falls and east to La Grande and Lakeview.

## How do businesses benefit from drug-free workplaces?

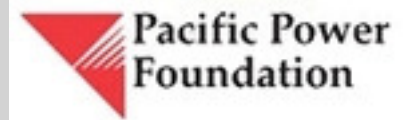
It is much more time-consuming and costly to be without a drug-free workplace program than to establish and maintain one. Companies that do not have a drug-free workplace program experience:

- Excessive absenteeism;
- Higher rates of on-the-job injuries;
- Higher workers' comp costs;
- Lower employee morale and productivity;
- More applicants who use drugs because they can't find employment with companies who have established drug-free workplace programs;
- A sense of helplessness in being able to do anything about an employee who is a substance abuser.

By putting in place a drug-free workplace program, your company will experience:

- Increased safety and lower workers' comp costs;
- Lower health care costs;
- Increased productivity, employee morale, and customer satisfaction;
- Less turnover and absenteeism;
- Higher quality applicants;
- Respect and a positive reputation in the community.

## Sponsor



## To Get Started Contact Partners in Your Area

Albany Area Chamber  
Baker-Union County Chambers  
Clatsop County Chambers  
Gresham Area Chamber  
Klamath County Chamber  
McMinnville Area Chamber  
Medford-Jackson County Chamber  
Molalla Area Chamber  
Newport Area Chamber  
Portland Employer Drug-Free Initiative  
Prineville-Crook County Chamber  
Salem-Keizer Chambers  
Lake County/SCOEDD  
Workdrugfree Douglas County

## Get Involved!

## News & Events

**March 31, 2009:**  
Supervisor Training, Workplace Behavior Problems: The Challenge

In the OEDI 2008 Survey of Oregon Businesses, employers of all size agree that **a safer and more productive workplace is the most important benefit gained from implementing a drug-free workplace program.** [Link to <http://www.oregonemployerdrugfree.org/documents/DFWPPresentation0812.pdf> ]

### Why was OEDI established?

Business in five of nine Oregon Business Plan bus tour stops in 2005 reported that drug use was a key obstacle to hiring otherwise qualified workers. Statewide surveys showed that substance abuse was a concern of over 70% of Oregon employers, yet only 12% had drug-free workplace programs in place. At its January 2006 Leadership Summit, the Oregon Business Plan approved OEDI as part of its strategic framework to build a more competitive Oregon economy.



### What are OEDI's goals?

The overall goal of the Initiative is to substantially increase the number of drug-free workplaces statewide. Specifically, it will:

- Educate and mobilize the business community to combat substance abuse through a business-to-business awareness and education campaign;
- Raise legislator awareness of the impact of drugs on workplace safety and productivity;
- Prioritize substance abuse prevention in Oregon's public workforce system; and
- Elevate importance of student preparation for the drug-free workplace.

OEDI's 15 partner sites offer legal policy workshops, company supervisor trainings and employer forums on issues such as addressing medical marijuana and prescription drug abuse in the workplace. The partners also conduct business education campaigns, survey local business needs, document success stories, and distribute business toolkits with local resources.

### What are Oregon's biggest challenges?

Substance abuse cost the Oregon economy \$5.9 billion in 2006, the equivalent of K-12 education spending. Over \$4 billion of that cost was in lost productivity, which directly impacts business competitiveness. OEDI focuses on helping smaller businesses overcome such obstacles as lack of time, money and expertise and the fear of losing hard-to-replace employees. It is achievable.

### PacifiCorp: A DRUG-FREE "POWER" HOUSE

***Having a drug-free workplace increases safety for employees and customers***

PacifiCorp knows that when working with electricity, safety has to be a number-one priority. The company supplies 1.7 million people with power in several western states, including Oregon, and it realizes that by having a drug-free workforce, its employees and customers are safer. In fact, since 1989, PacifiCorp has had a drug-free policy, making them one of the pioneers of drug testing in Oregon.

Diana Corder, Corporate Account Manager for PacifiCorp, and Tom Gauntt, PacifiCorp Company Spokesman, both say a drug-free workplace is necessary, especially considering the potential dangers of working with electricity.

Corder said, "A drug-free workplace is essential for safety; it's another tool that can be used to create a working environment that is as safe as possible."

10 am – 2:30 pm  
OSU Extension Office, Lakeview  
[Download Flyer](#)

**April 2, 2009:**  
Employer Seminar, Drugs,  
Alcohol & Medications:  
A Roadmap to a Clean & Sober  
Workforce  
Noon – 1:30 pm  
Ingram Books, Roseburg  
[Download Flyer](#)



**Representative Bruce Hanna**  
(R-Roseburg)



**J.L. Wilson,**  
*Associated Oregon Industries*



**Paula Barran,**  
*Barron Liebman Attorneys*



**Dan Sabatino,**  
*Western Partitions*



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