

# Information from Our Partners

## 50th Anniversary of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

- See attached flyer: [Rehab Act 50th Anniversary](#)

## The Professional Educator Standards Board (PESB) Adapted Physical Education Update

In late September, the Professional Educators Standards Board (PESB) added Adapted Physical Education (Adapted PE) specialty endorsement to the Washington state system.

PESB, in collaboration with the Society of Health and Physical Educators (SHAPE) & Pacific Lutheran University (PLU), is conducting a listening session **October 10**, to gather community and stakeholder feedback on the [proposed essential learnings for the Adapted PE specialty endorsement](#), as well as who may earn this specialty endorsement. [Register here](#).

In November, the Board will vote on whether to approve the proposed essential learning for this specialty endorsement, as well as which educators may earn this specialty endorsement.

## Early Career EduDesign Learning Communities

We are delighted to announce two upcoming cohorts of EduDesign [Teacher Learning Communities](#)! EduDesign community cohorts are a year-long and teacher-led professional learning opportunities. We provide a space to build supportive connections, explore complex questions, and develop as educators. EduDesign is not your typical professional development, instead it is a collective approach to learning. Each of our cohorts supports teachers across the P-12 continuum.

This fall we are starting 2 cohorts designed to support **\*early career\*** justice-focused teachers in their 1st-3rd years of teaching:

- Centering Early Career Black, Indigenous and People of Color Educators
- Supporting Early Career P-12 Educators' Agency for Justice & Wellbeing

These cohorts will meet online, and full participation will result in earning 10.5 equity clock hours. Dates and times are as follows:

- Fall Kick-Off: Saturday, Nov 4 (9–12 pm) ONLINE
- Tuesday Sessions: Dec 12 | Jan 9 | Feb 13 | March 12 (4:30–6 pm) ONLINE
- Final Saturday Session: May 4 (9–10:30 am) HYBRID, plus optional 10:30–12 pm in person closing celebration.



Interest Form Deadline: **October 23**

Join Now: [Interest Form](#)

**There are currently no costs to participate.** This opportunity is funded by the University of Washington (UW) Teacher Education Program and the College of Education. UW alumni, their colleagues, and other teachers in the region in the first three years of teaching are welcome to join.

**Questions?** Contact Deborah Massachi ([massachi@uw.edu](mailto:massachi@uw.edu)) or Gwen Sweeney ([gwens@uw.edu](mailto:gwens@uw.edu)) with questions.

## Special Education Technology Center Update

The Special Education Technology Center equips educators and parents with the knowledge and skills needed to create equitable, meaningful, and inclusive learning experiences for students receiving special education supports or 504 accommodations using technology across learning environments.

Check out the **Special Education Technology Center October Newsletter** [here](#).

## Coalition on Inclusive Emergency Planning - Emergency Preparedness for Individuals with Disabilities

Disability intersects every demographic group—there are people with disabilities of all ages, races, genders, or national origin. For people with disabilities and their families, it is important to consider individual circumstances and needs to effectively prepare for emergencies and disasters. In addition to having basic survival supplies, an [emergency kit](#) should have items to meet individual needs in various emergencies. Consider the items used every day and which ones may need to be added to the kit.

**Get Informed:** [People with Disabilities | Ready.gov](#)

[Coalition on Inclusive Emergency Planning \(CIEP\)](#)

## Medicaid Renewals for Students and Families

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Health Care Authority expanded coverage for Apple Health (Medicaid) to Washingtonians around the state. Now that the COVID-19 public health emergency has ended, Washington state is required to redetermine eligibility for all individuals currently receiving Apple Health. For more information on this, go to: [Apple Health and the public health emergency | Washington State Health Care Authority](#)

[HCA continuous enrollment date shows](#) that there are still many school-aged children and youth who have not reenrolled. Many of them may still be eligible, even if their parents or caregivers are not.

Inform parents, caregivers, and families with Apple Health about this policy and coverage change and encourage them to make sure their contact information is updated.

Please share these resources with parents, caregivers, families, and older students:

- Website: [Apple Health and the public health emergency | Washington State Health Care Authority](#)
- Flyer: [Renewing your Apple Health coverage \(wa.gov\)](#)
- Flyer: [Health coverage for teens and young adults \(wa.gov\)](#)
- Brochure: [Find free or low-cost Apple Health \(Medicaid\) coverage \(wa.gov\)](#)

[Click HERE for insurance assistance.](#)

## **The Department of Health K–12 Health Notebook has officially launched**

This newsletter provides educational leaders and school health professionals highlights of DOH information and resources involving children, youth, and schools. Updates will be provided quarterly and/or will increase as needed. Subscribe today to the [DOH K–12 Health Notebook](#) to ensure you receive future updates.

Additional public health information for schools can be found at the [DOH School web page](#). It is designed to be a “one-stop shop” highlighting new and relevant categories such as COVID-19 guidance, information about childhood immunizations, and mental and behavioral health resources.

For additional DOH school-related questions, please contact [k12engagement@doh.wa.gov](mailto:k12engagement@doh.wa.gov).