The Extended Application (EA) Standard for high school graduation requires students graduating in 2007 to apply their learning to the real world and their individual goals. Designed to help students personalize their education and demonstrate higher level knowledge and skills, the EA presents challenges and opportunities to the classroom teacher.

In an effort to help schools develop feasible EA approaches, the Southern Oregon ESD used capacity grant funds to develop a Senior Portfolio Project in 2005. The project created tools to help students and guide teachers in the process. (For more information, go to http://www.soesd.k12.or.us/page.asp?navid=710). It incorporated all elements of the state’s career-related learning requirements, connecting the education plan and incorporating career-related knowledge and skills, career-related learning experiences, and extended application outcomes into the senior project. Oregon CIS was asked to help by modifying My CRLE Planner to support students in creating and assembling project elements. After use in the SOESD region for the past year and some modification based on this pilot experience, CIS will release the new Extended Application component to all schools this fall.

In addition to adding this important component to My CRLE Planner, Oregon CIS is working on incorporating the Oregon Skill Sets into the product. When completed, students will be able to use the knowledge and skill statements in the skill sets to create their learning objectives for career-related learning experiences and extended applications.

So if your school is struggling with implementing the extended application, make sure you take a look at this new tool in September!

My Extended Application includes three major sections:

- **Create Required Elements** section includes guided writing to help students compose their essential questions, proposals, abstracts and reflective essays. This section also allows them to create lists of the knowledge and skills and the career-related learning standards they will be demonstrating.

- **Evaluate My Project** section generates the mentor evaluation and scoring guides for the EA. Students can also document how and where they demonstrate the career-related learning standards.

- **Complete My Project** section allows students to print or export all materials into PDF or a word processing format.
CIS Recognizes Career Education Leaders

In April, the CIS Board announced the recipients of its 2006 awards. Each year, the Oregon CIS Board recognizes outstanding professionals through its awards program. The Les Adkins Award was established to recognize excellence in career development practices. Les Adkins was a founding board member of CIS in 1972 and Director of Student Services for the Oregon Department of Education. The Nancy Hargis Award serves to recognize people in the fields of education and workforce development whose contributions are making a difference in the career decisions and preparation of Oregonians. Nancy Hargis is retired from the Oregon Department of Education where she served as the School-to-Work Program Coordinator for many years.

**Les Adkins Award**

Two Les Adkins Awards were presented at the annual OACTE conference April 6, 2006. They went to Cathie Mink of William Lord High School and South Eugene High School’s Career/Counseling Services and School to Work Program.

Cathie Mink’s long history in career development began as a vocational assistant in the Salem-Keizer SD. She has taught for many years at Lord High School, which is housed within the gates of MacLaren Youth Correctional Facility. She was an advocate of career development long before the state’s career-related learning requirements were adopted. In choosing Cathie for this award, the CIS Board noted her innovation in developing ways for incarcerated youth to be engaged in career and life planning.

Jocelyn LaMar, School to Work Coordinator at South Eugene High School and key member of their career development team, accepted the award for her school. Jocelyn has been a guiding force in the career center since the early 1990’s, directly helping students, supporting staff, and acting as an ambassador to the local business community. She, along with the Career Center Coordinator, four counselors, a 21st Century Coordinator, and a team of over 60 parent volunteers, oversee the career-related graduation requirements, delivering guidance services to 1700 students. South Eugene’s school to work program and the career center expose students to postsecondary options, provide resources and information, assist with post high school planning, and encourage students to pursue education and training “at whatever level works for the student.”

**Nancy Hargis Award**

The Nancy Hargis Award for Leadership in Career Development was presented to committed teacher, vocational coordinator, and now middle school principal, Kathie Sue Summers of Rogue River Middle School. The CIS Board chose Kathi Sue because of her strong leadership, commitment, and collaboration in developing programs and promoting strategies for the career development of students in Rogue River. With the school district for over 15 years, her accomplishments with students, staff, and community organizations are numerous.

As a teacher and vocational coordinator, Kathi Sue designed the school-to-work curriculum and built high school pathways for Health Science and Recreation, Arts and Communication, Natural Resources, Industrial Engineering, and Business Management and Human Resources. She oversaw the creation of education and career plans by all students through an 18 week class. She created individualized learning experiences in her classrooms to help students connect their school work with their futures. She supervised leadership clubs and coordinated work experience. She also developed the Rogue River SD K-12 Counseling and Guidance Plan and cultivated over 40 business partnerships. As the middle school principal, she has written a 6th through 8th grade curriculum and workbook to support career-related learning.

She has been the guiding light in a rural Oregon school district that is delivering career-related outcomes through innovative and effective curriculum.
OVRS Pilot Project Underway

This summer, CIS will pilot new materials at three OVRS offices (Office of Vocational Rehabilitation Services). CIS has created a series of activities controlled for a 6th-grade reading level. Each activity focuses on career-related information to help consumers gain confidence in their job search and offer tools to help them become re-employed. The pilot will involve training for OVRS staff and use of new CIS-OVRS materials.

Training on CIS and O*NET will occur in May. The training includes case management strategies using the CIS Administration Tools, basic assessments, and additional resources for OVRS consumers.

In June and July, OVRS counselors will assign assessments and activities as they deem appropriate. The activities are step-by-step instructions for OVRS consumers to complete independently or with input from OVRS staff. Cheryl Furrer, OVRS Training Coordinator, is looking forward to the pilot results. “I’m really excited that we’re going to have a tool the consumer and counselor can use together,” she said.

Once the pilot is completed and the materials updated, the materials will be available statewide. If you would like to receive the materials as soon as they are available, please call us (800.495.1266) and we will place you on the waiting list.

Information changes
• Wage tables in Occupations will look slightly different. More importantly, users will be able to display equivalent wage information for any state in the U.S. in addition to Oregon and national wages.
• Barriers to employment related to felony convictions will be added to each Occupation’s Hiring Practices and the FAQs.
• We have completed a review of the new programs of study and training titles and their clusters. We will be modifying the clustering of programs and simplifying the taxonomy by removing unused titles and combining duplicate programs.
• Oregon’s Career Learning Areas (CLA’s) will be linked to CIS Occupations and Program by the Cluster and Focus Area taxonomy used in the Oregon Skill Sets.

Improved features
• We will complete the navigation changes introduced last fall, by adding the standard header buttons and Quick Links to the Exploration Tools.
• Building on last fall’s enhancement of the IDEAS Assessment, the Interest Profiler items will be redesigned so items will display one at a time.

Portfolio enhancements
• Navigation within portfolio components will be modified to be consistent with CIS information navigation.
• All information in My Career Planning Portfolios will print out and selective printing of the components will be available throughout the portfolio.
• My Education and Work History component will have new sections added for activities and standardized test scores.

Revised Administration Tools
• Based upon your feedback and suggestions, major changes to the Administration Tools are in the works. The tools will “look and feel” more like CIS, better address the most commonly used features, and offer a variety of organizing and reporting options.

New components in My CRLE Planner
• My Extended Application and Oregon Skill Sets will be added to My CRLE Planner.

OCDA Awards Announced

The Oregon Career Development Association has also announced its 2006 award recipients. Gene Eakin received the Esther Matthews Award, honoring his long-term service, scholarship, and professional commitment to the career development field. Dr. Eakin has been a leader in the field in Oregon for the past 35 years as a high school counselor, counselor educator, and mentor. Tami Volz was presented with the Emerging Leader Award. Tami is the High School Relations Coordinator and College Credit Now Liaison for the Mid-Willamette Education Consortium. She was recognized for her commitment to and vision for quality career development for high school students through collaboration among teachers, counselors, and administrators.

Oregon CIS congratulates these very deserving professionals.
Planning for the CIS fall workshop in your region begins soon and we invite your suggestions. Please send us the topics of interest, desired workshop dates or locations, and other suggestions that will make these workshops useful for you to rlee@orcis.uoregon.edu.

This is a great opportunity to learn more about CIS, whether you are new or experienced.

The 2006 fall workshops will offer hands-on information about the newest refinements in CIS for Internet, the latest enhancements to our Administration Tools, and a close-up look at My Extended Application, our new component to My CRLE Planner.

Due to room capacity, early registration is encouraged since these free workshops fill quickly. Look for fall workshop details at our website this August: http://oregoncis.uoregon.edu

Online pre-registration is required to ensure computer access: http://oregoncis.uoregon.edu/Workshops/Default.aspx

June 22, Noon - 4 P.M.
UO Knight Library, Eugene

Courtesy parking permits will be provided at the workshop.

Welcome New Sites

CIS would like to welcome aboard our newest sites: Hawthorne Learning Center, Helensview High School, Hermiston High School, LaCumb Elementary, Marylhurst University, Powder River Correctional Facility, Professional Consulting Services, Sprague High School, Union High School, Warner Creek Correctional Facility, and West County School.