



Welcome to NDE!



Kathryn Lanning
Admin. Associate III
NSOB – Fin & Org Srv.
Started 04/25/2016



Jeneta Smith
VR Associate
VR – Lincoln
Started 4/25/2016



Kor Tot
IT Appl. Dev. Senior
NSOB - DRE Team
Started 04/25/2016



Sara Hulac
Legal Counsel II
NSOB – Gen. Counsel's Ofc.
Started 05/02/2016



Jeannie Nickels
Office Assoc. IV
NSOB – DRE Team
Started 05/02/2016



Jennifer Flemming
Program Specialist II
NSOB – Early Childhood
Started 05/09/2016



Clarice Fredenburg
Program Associate II
DDS
Started 05/09/2016



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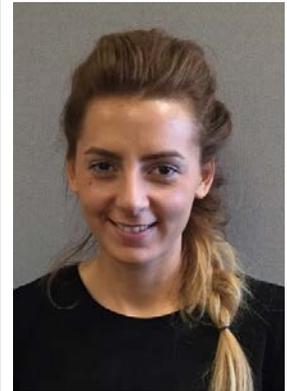
Erica Arter
Program Specialist II
NSOB – Fed. Programs
Started 05/16/2016



Judy Brichacek
VR Associate
VR – Lincoln
Started 05/16/2016



Emily Nash
Program Specialist II
Omaha – ECTC
Started 05/31/2016



Zara Sanayan
VR Service Specialist
VR – Omaha
Started 05/31/2016



Krystl Knabe
Education Specialist III
NSOB – Teaching & Learning
Started 06/01/2016



Sita Reddy
IT Data/Database Analyst
NSOB – DRE Team
Started 06/01/2016



Robyn Gonzales
Program Specialist III
NSOB – Special Ed.
Started 06/09/2016



Cynthia Walz
VR Service Specialist
VR- North Platte
Started 06/13/2016

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Trelton Jones
VR Service Specialist
VR - Kearney
Started 06/13/2016



Kelly Muthersbaugh
Clerk Professional
Practices
NSOB - PPC
Started 06/15/2016



Virginia Manley
Office Associate IV
NSOB - Statewide
Assessment
Started 06/16/2016



Crissa Burchfield
VR Service Specialist
VR - Grand Island
Started 06/20/2016



Justine Yeo
Program Specialist II
NSOB - DRE Team
Started 06/20/2016

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College Coursework Request Update

NDE supports [continuing education](#) for employees in two primary ways: (1) allowing employees to take postsecondary coursework during work time, and (2) reimbursement for job-related postsecondary coursework taken by the employee on non-work time. Approval of college coursework requests must be granted by the immediate supervisor, Leadership Council Member/Team Leader (or Commissioner's designee), and the Deputy Commissioner. Availability of funding and workload demands are pivotal in the consideration of such requests.

The college coursework request form has been updated. Clarification relating to postsecondary credit hours being awarded on a semester basis has been added.

- General Guidance - [Continuing Education](#)
- [NDE College Coursework Request Form](#)

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Ombudsman Program

Please help me congratulate Donna Hoffman and Lindsay Brown as they have been selected to serve as NDE Ombudsman.



Donna Hoffman
(402)471-4811
Donna.hoffman@nebraska.gov



Lindsay Brown
402-594-4952
Lindsay.brown@nebraska.gov

The Ombudsman program is a program that was designed to provide assistance to any staff member or team in resolving work-related problems. Two NDE staff members, appointed by the Commissioner, serve in the role of NDE Ombudsman.

An ombudsman can:

- Listen to staff concerns about work-related problems,
- Help staff understand their rights and responsibilities, as well as their options,
- Service as a source of information about grievance procedures or services provided by the bargaining unit (NAPE or Employee Assistance Program (EAP)), and
- Recommend strategies to assist in resolving conflicts.

Any employee can reach out to our [NDE Ombudsman](#) for assistance.

A special thank you to Victoria Rasmussen and Jill Hunzeker for serving in this capacity previously.

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Employee and Manager of the Year

Congratulations, the following NDE Staff members who were selected as the 2016 Manager and Employee of the Year and Honorable Mention Manager and Employee of the Year. The Manager and Employee of the year will be further recognized by the Governor in October with an awards ceremony at the State Capital.

[Congratulations to all of the recipients!](#) Click on this link to read more about their BIOS.

	<p>MARK SCHULTZ Manager of the Year 2016</p>
	<p>FREIDA LANGE Honorable Mention Manager of the Year 2016</p>
	<p>JUDY VOHLAND Employee of the Year 2016</p>
	<p>LINDSAY BROWN Honorable Mention Employee of the Year 2016</p>



Wellness Champion – Welcome Aboard!



Please help me welcome Krista Holley, VR – Rehabilitation Specialist (VR-Omaha West), to the NDE Wellness Champion Team. Krista joined our NDE Wellness Champion team effective in June!

“The goal of a Wellness Champion is to serve as a resource to the State of Nebraska Employee Wellness Program to build a culture of health. This is accomplished by communicating wellness options programs to fellow co-workers, expanding opportunities for wellness education or active participation within agencies across the State, and providing constructive feedback to the Wellness Coordinator. What Wellness Champions have in common is their belief or passion for the wellness program and its mission and goals. Wellness Champions serve as an important direct link between the wellness program and their agency or department.”

To learn more about Employee Wellness – [Click Here](#).

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