AUDIENCE: All Interested Parties

PURPOSE: To announce that registration is now open for the 2016 Pennsylvania Disability Employment and Empowerment Summit (PADES).

DISCUSSION: Registration for the 2016 PADES Summit in Erie, Pennsylvania on October 17 and 18, 2016 is now open. The event was previously held in Harrisburg, Lancaster and Pittsburgh. The new location was selected to highlight a different region in the state and give attendees that may not have had the chance to participate previously to attend.

The summit brings together employers, people with disabilities, and related government agencies to engage in this year’s national disability employment awareness theme, #Inclusion Works, through presentations and discussions on work-based learning experiences for students that target access to career pathways, information and trends on PA high-demand occupations, advancements in adaptive technology, no-cost on-boarding supports to insure employment success, and making state government responsive to the needs of businesses and workers with disabilities.

Other important topics to be presented across both days include: school-to-work transition innovation, employment rules when hiring youth, trends in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics), and agricultural careers. There will be guest speakers, breakout sessions and a job fair. As part of the Employment First Initiative, employers will have the chance to learn the benefits of hiring qualified individuals with disabilities. The job fair will allow all participating employers to interview pre-screened applicants.
Cost for participants to attend both days is $20. Registration is open through September 30\textsuperscript{th}, 2016.

Online registration for participants and exhibitors is available at the PADES conference website:

\url{www.padesummit2016.org/}

Requests for assistance in registering or any questions may be directed to \texttt{pades@tiu11.org}