



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF REHABILITATION SERVICES

Amy Porter  
Commissioner

December 23, 2014

Collegiate Education for the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing  
Attn: Jacquelyn Sessa, Board Member  
NCCC  
Winsted, CT

Dear Jacquelyn Sessa,

Last summer our Rehabilitation Counselors for the Deaf (RCD) met to discuss educational and vocational training opportunities for our deaf and hard of hearing job seekers in Connecticut. Prior to this meeting, each of our RCDs reviewed their caseload and determined how many of their job seekers are currently enrolled in or interested in post-secondary education and technical training programs.

At this meeting we found that we have numerous deaf and hard of hearing job seekers who are interested in or enrolled in a post-secondary education program that will help them to prepare for their professional careers. We also found that a large number of our deaf and hard of hearing job seekers are either enrolled in or interested in a technical training program or community college program to prepare for their careers.

Over the years our counselors have found that their job seekers prefer training programs that are centrally located, have available housing opportunities, surround a variety of employment options in the nearby community, and are accessible by public transportation. CEDHH is a great program for our deaf and hard of hearing job seekers. However, its location, lack of public transportation, and the lack of technical programs available at NCCC make it inaccessible for many of our job seekers, particularly those who live in the inner city.

I hope this information will be helpful to CEDHH as it continues to play a vital role in the lives of the deaf and hard-of-hearing community here in Connecticut.

Sincerely,

Heidi A. F. Henaire, MSW  
Associate Education Consultant  
State Coordinator for the Deaf

**ATTACHMENT "E-9"**