

How Might a Target Group E WOTC Credit Get Denied?

Many Target Group E (Voc Rehab referral) WOTC applications seem like “near-automatic approvals”: they are often initiated by a job developer or a VR counselor who knows the employee well and has good reason to believe that the employee meets WOTC eligibility standards. Sometimes, though, the Oregon WOTC Unit denies a Target Group E WOTC application, and sometimes for a very preventable reason. What are some common, preventable reasons for those denials?

1. The employer doesn't file the WOTC application within 28 calendar days of the day the employee starts work. There is a 28-calendar-day time limit from the day the employee starts work within which the WOTC application must be submitted online or must be mailed to the Oregon WOTC Unit. This time limit is firm and non-appealable. Problem prevention: The employer should submit the Form 8850 and Form 9061 (or 9062) online or via US mail within the first few days after the new employee starts work.
2. The employee is not “in plan” with Voc Rehab on or before the day of hire. WOTC rules require that the hire occurs “pursuant to” an individual written plan of employment, so the employee must be in plan on or before the date of hire. Problem prevention: The VR counselor and/or the job developer should confirm that the employee is in plan on or before the day the employee is hired.
3. Employee has been “previously employed” with this employer. WOTC rules require that a WOTC employee be a brand-new hire, having never previously worked for the employer. Problem prevention: The employer should apply for the WOTC credit within a few days of the very first day the new employee works for the employer.

We want to help Oregon employers receive WOTC credits. We are eager to be helpful and answer your WOTC questions. Please call us or email us:

Oregon WOTC Unit (503) 947-1670
Oregon WOTC Coordinator Alan Beeler (503) 947-1739
Alan.C.Beeler@oregon.gov
Oregon WOTC Verifier David Ross (503) 947-1825
David.C.Ross@oregon.gov
Oregon WOTC Verifier Faith Coleman (503) 947-1674
Faith.M.Coleman@oregon.gov
Oregon Employment Department WOTC Unit
875 Union St NE, Room 201
Salem, OR 97311