



Dear HR, ACCESS, and Accessibility Colleagues,

This month [Governor Dayton was joined by community advocates and state hiring leaders to re-launch Connect 700](#), the state's hiring program for individuals with disabilities, and the Supported Worker Program.

[Connect 700](#) (formerly known as 700-Hour Program On-The-Job Demonstration and Appointment) is an alternative, non-competitive selection process available to hiring managers and individuals with disabilities seeking employment in state government. C700 is a program that provides eligible individuals an opportunity to demonstrate their abilities through an on-the job trial work experience of up to 700 hours, and gives hiring managers the opportunity to better match people with the right skills and abilities to be successful in their position.

In addition to Connect 700, the state also re-launched the [Supported Worker Program](#), which offers people with disabilities integrated employment opportunities with up to 50 full time positions within various state agencies. The supported worker positions can be shared by up to three people with certain disabilities. Agencies who sponsor the position will integrate them into existing teams and provide a job coach as necessary.

### **Materials**

We have posted Connect 700 materials for HR professionals on the in the [Temporary Hiring Toolbox on the Extranet](#):

- [Connect 700 Program Guide](#)
- [Connect 700 Program Policy and Procedure](#)
- [Connect 700 check lists](#)
- [Connect 700 Program flowchart](#)

The [Connect 700 webpage](#) contains information for the public.

### **Training**

Johnnie Burns, Statewide Director of Equal Opportunity, ADA, Diversity and Inclusion, has been making the rounds to internal and external groups to provide information about Connect 700. Please contact Johnnie if you would like training.

### **Questions?**

Contact Johnnie Burns at 651-259-3760

Thank you for all that you do to create opportunity for all Minnesotans!

Edwin Hudson

