

Abstract

New online course for new and young workers on occupational safety, health, wage and hour laws, and soft skills

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New Jersey Safe Schools Program (NJSS) is dedicated to assisting secondary schools in reducing occupational safety and health hazards (S&H) in classrooms and at work-sites. In 2018, NJSS modified an existing training for teachers on federal wage and labor laws to develop a new training course for student and young worker populations. The need for this student-oriented course on the introduction of occupational wage, labor and S&H was expressed by teachers (previously and currently enrolled) in our Structure Learning Experience certification training. The course was beta-tested and piloted summer 2018 and launched September 2018. The goal was to expand knowledge and awareness of specific S&H issues and to provide relevant resources and information on securing work opportunities. Course topics include wage and labor laws, workplace hazards, soft skills, and handling harassment and discrimination in the work place. The course enhances preparation of students and their ability to self-advocate upon entering community workplaces by broadening professional knowledge of S&H hazards and six soft skills. Data analysis was conducted on post-module assessments to gauge understanding of material, and effectiveness of the implementation of module summaries prior to the assessment to determine impacts on information retention and comprehension. Analysis of post-training evaluation data on student and teacher perceptions of the course, and occupational S&H information presented, were also conducted. Course perceptions highlighted effective use of videos, easy to follow material, accessibility to students with special health care needs, and user-friendly modular format. More details on course content and results to date will be presented.

Administer health education strategies, interventions and programs Conduct evaluation related to programs, research, and other areas of practice Epidemiology Occupational health and safety Planning of health education strategies, interventions, and programs Public health or related education

