Succession Planning Glossary

9-box: a performance measurement tool that indicates if employees are ready to be considered for a talent pool by evaluating their current performance via competencies and goals.

Abilities: aptitude or competence in skills needed to perform a job task.

Career Ladder: promotional career progression that involves staying within the same job classification series (e.g. Designer 1, Designer 2, Designer 3).

Demotion: a reassignment to a position with a lower pay range, skill requirement or level of responsibility than the employee’s current position. As defined by Ohio Administrative Code Chapter 123:1-47-01 (46), a demotion “means the movement of an employee at the request of the appointing authority or the employee, from one position to a vacant position which is assigned to a different classification and a lower pay range, or lower salary where pay ranges do not exist. For the purposes of this definition, a lower pay range is determined by comparing the step one rates of the relevant pay ranges.”

Incumbent: an employee that is currently in the critical position and will help develop potential successors to perform their job prior to the incumbent’s exit.

Knowledge: acquaintance with facts, truths, or principles, as from study, investigation, or performance of a job task.

Lateral Move: career movement that does not necessarily involve a monetary incentive. As defined by Ohio Administrative Code Chapter 123:1-47-01 (46), a lateral classification change “means the movement of an employee, with the employee’s consent, from one classification to another classification that is assigned to the same pay range or to a pay range in which the step one rate is the same as the step one rate as the classification from which the employee moves.”

Potential Successor Pool: a group of employees who are interested in filling a critical position, but whose knowledge, skills, and abilities need developed prior to moving into the critical position.

Pre-placement: the act of successors being next in line to fill the incumbent’s position when it becomes vacant.

Promotional Move: career movement that involves increased complexity and responsibility and usually comes with a monetary incentive. Ohio’s classified civil service promotions may be made “on the basis of merit and conduct and capacity in office” (see Ohio Administrative Code Chapter 123:1-23).

Skills: the ability to perform a mental or motor activity that contributes to the effective performance of a job task.

Talent Pool: a group of employees who currently possess the knowledge, skills, and abilities for another position.