Colorado CANDO Meeting and Feature Presentation
Friday, Sept 9, 2016
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

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Colorado Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
Purpose and Scope of VR

Rehabilitation Act

- Right to live independently, make choices, contribute to society, pursue meaningful careers and enjoy full inclusion
- Increased employment through vocational rehabilitation program
- Maximize employment, economic self-sufficiency, independence and inclusion, and integration

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act

- Places increased emphasis on service to transition age students
Organizational Structure

Region I
• Canon City, Colorado Springs, Lamar, Limon, Pueblo, Personal Adjustment Training (Statewide), Trinidad

Region II
• Aurora, Greenwood Village, Denver Metro, Golden

Region III
• Boulder, Ft. Collins, Ft. Morgan, Greeley, Longmont, Northglenn, Sterling

Region IV
• Alamosa, Craig, Delta, Durango, Edwards, Glenwood Springs, Grand Junction, Frisco, Montrose, Salida, Steamboat Springs
Overview of the VR Process

- Referral
- Application
- Eligibility
- Delayed
- Eligible
- Closed Other
- Closed Other
- Closed Other
- Closed Other
- Rehabilitated
- Employed
- Service - J
- Service
- Closed Other
Funding Impact of WIOA for DVR

Requirement of 15% of the existing Federal grant to be reserved for Pre-Employment Transition Services

No additional funds for schools/activities

• Equates to
  • FY ’17 = estimated $6 million

Must set aside 50% of supported employment funds for services to youth

• No increase to Federal supported employment grant
WIOA Youth vs Student with Disabilities

Youth with Disabilities

• Ages 14-24
• May be in or out of secondary education

Students with Disabilities

• Ages 15-21
• Must be enrolled in secondary education with an IEP or 504 Plan

Pre-Employment Transition Services

• Specific set of services
• Only provided to Students with Disabilities
Required Pre-Employment Transition Services

1. Job exploration counseling

   • Services may include the following:
     • career counseling
     • career pathways
     • career clusters
     • job shadows
     • job tours
     • assessments (aptitude, ability, situational)
     • career speakers
     • field trips
     • interest inventories
Required Pre-Employment Transition Services

2. Work-based learning experiences, which may include in-school or after school opportunities or experience outside the traditional school setting (including internships) that is provided in an integrated environment to the maximum extent possible.

• Services may include the following:
  • Internships
  • Mentorships
  • Volunteering
  • in-school jobs
  • unpaid work experiences
  • paid employment
3. Counseling on opportunities for enrollment in comprehensive transition or postsecondary educational programs at institutions of higher education

- Services may include the following:
  - college visits
  - assistance with FAFSA
  - assistance with post secondary justification forms
  - vocational programs
Required Pre-Employment Transition Services

4. Workplace readiness training to develop social skills and independent living

- Services may include the following:
  - communication skills
  - social skills
  - Interviewing
  - resume development
  - Work study
Required Pre-Employment Transition Services

5. Instruction in self-advocacy, which may include peer mentoring

- Services may include the following:
  - financial literacy (Skills to Pay the Bills)
  - self-advocacy (411 Disclosure)
  - self determination
# Career/Post Secondary Education/Transition Continuum

## School to Work Alliance Program
- Begin at age 15
- Graduation/Exit Ages 18 - 21

### Awareness
- Aptitude Assessments
- Career Speakers
- Communication Skills
- Field Trips
- In-school Jobs
- Interest Inventories
- Selfadvocacy
- Selfdetermination
- Service Learning
- Social Skills

### Exploration
- Apprenticeships
- Career Clusters
- Career Counseling
- Career Pathways
- College Visits
- Internships
- Job Shadows
- Job Tours
- Mentorships
- Volunteering

### Preparation
- Alternative Cooperative Education
- Area Vocational Programs
- Concurrent Enrollment
- Financial Literacy
- Interviewing
- Paid Employment
- Resume Development
- Unpaid Work Experiences
- Vocational Education

### Training/Independent Living Skills
- Voc. Rehabilitation
- School to Work Alliance Program
- Achieving Success by Promoting Readiness for Education and Employment
- Project Search
- Private Vendors/Other Programs
- Community Centered Board (CCBs)
- Postsecondary Education System
- Social Security Administration
- Independent Living Centers
- Competitive Employment
- Mental Health Centers
- Workforce Centers

### Additional Resources
- Achieving Success by Promoting Readiness for Education and Employment Project Search
- Private Vendors/Other Programs

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**Achieving Success by Promoting Readiness for Education and Employment**
Pre-Employment Transition Services
Coordination Opportunities

Between local DVR offices

• Attend IEP meetings, when invited

• Collaborate with community partners, including workforce centers, to develop work opportunities

• Coordinate provision of PETS

• Attend person-centered planning meetings, when invited

• Cross system training with youth, family members & community systems

• Shared resources for greater support