

# *Colorado CANDO Meeting and Feature Presentation*

*Friday, Sept 9, 2016  
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon*

Cheryl Carver, M. A.

Youth Services and Transition Unit Manager

[Cheryl.carver@state.co.us](mailto:Cheryl.carver@state.co.us)



303.866.4827

## **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

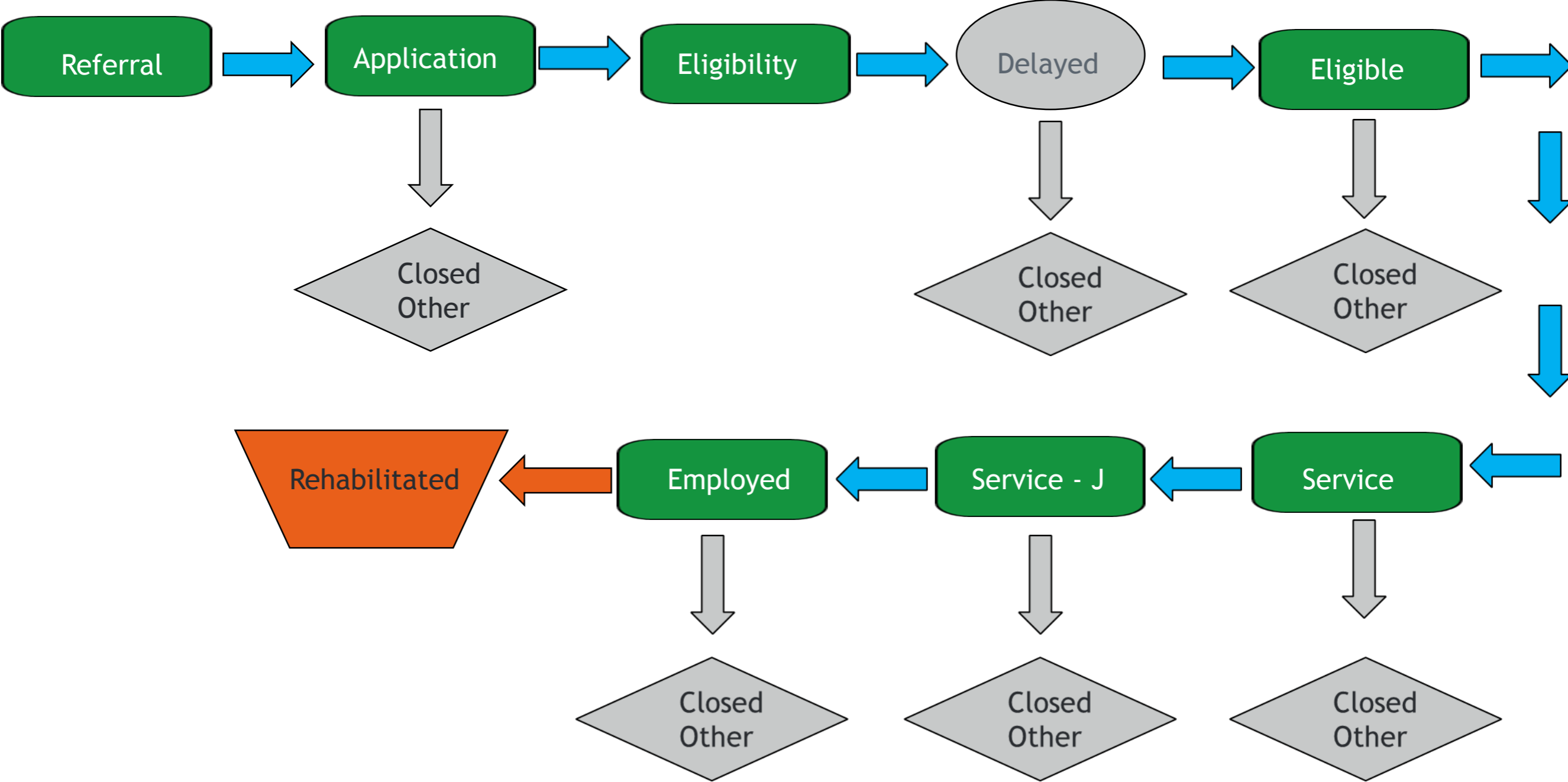
## Region III

- 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



# *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



# *Required Pre-Employment Transition Services*

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

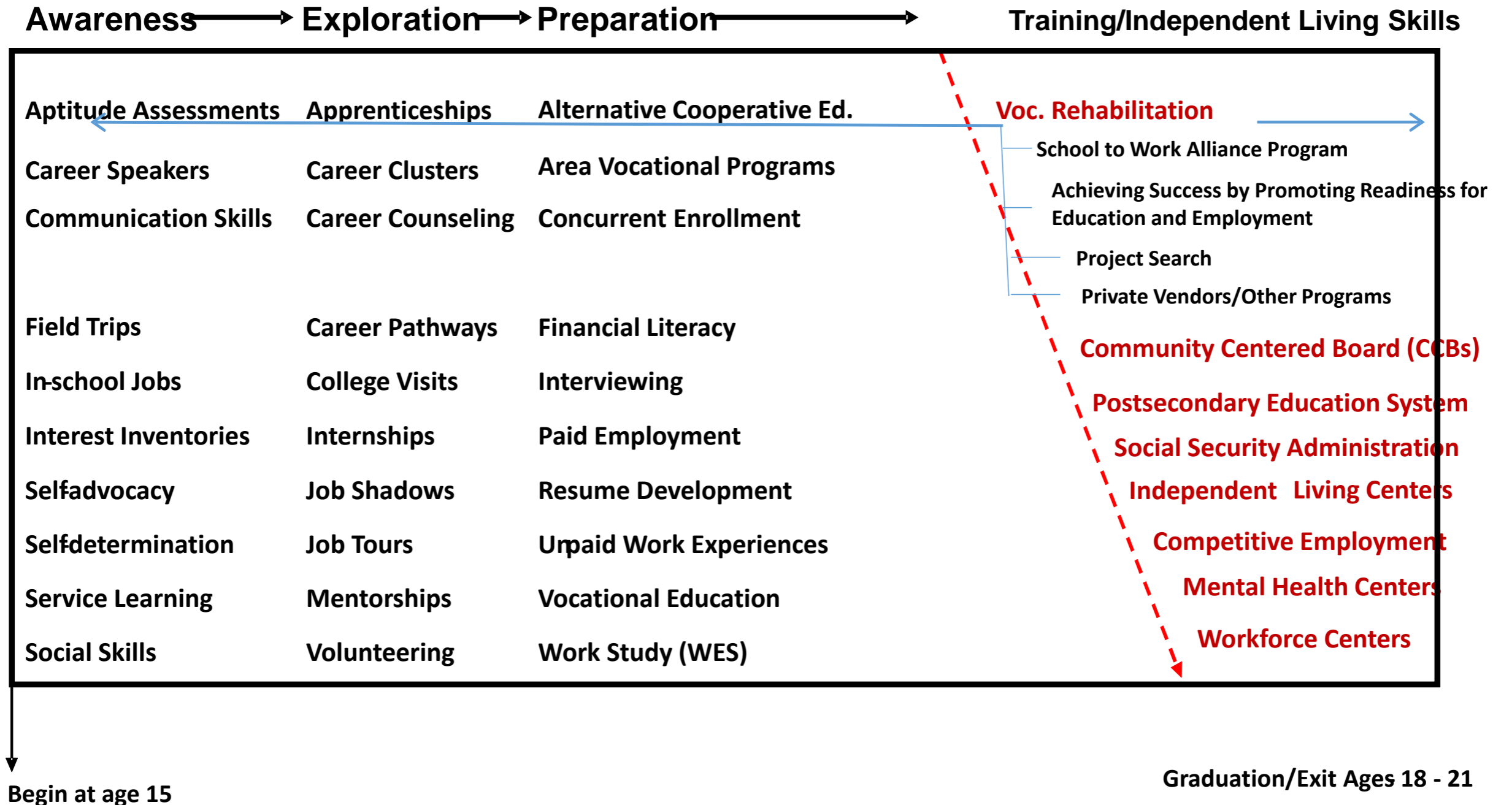
# *Required Pre-Employment Transition Services*

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

# Transition Continuum



# *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