



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
Developmental Disabilities Administration
PO Box 45310, Olympia, WA 98504-5310

January 23, 2020

TO: DDA and DVR Staff

FROM: Evelyn Perez, DDA Assistant Secretary *EP*
Robert Hines, DVR Director *RH*

RE: DDA DVR Collaboration Transition Students Pilot

The Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA), the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), and the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) are implementing a four-year Transition Students Pilot. The pilot is an effort to engage younger students (ages 19-20) in vocational assessment and employment planning. The effort intends to build their connection to the employment service system for desired outcomes.

The purpose of this agreement is to establish the roles and responsibilities of DVR and DDA in implementing the Transition Students Pilot. The goal of this pilot is to ensure that students have an actionable next step towards employment through DVR services with the goal of jobs by June of their graduation year. This pilot does not replace existing transition programs, such as the School-to-Work programs through DVR and the county, Pre-Employment Services, school district employment transition programs or others.

The following actions will support the goals of this pilot:

- Using the DDA Job Foundation report community-based employment providers gather information about student interests, strengths, skills, and the nature and extent of supports the student may need to obtain and maintain a paid job.
- Participating community-based employment providers must collaborate with schools and DVR to enhance the vocational, academic and life skills the student is already building in school.
- The community-based employment providers must be eligible to serve the student through DVR.

- Ideally, the student will commit to staying in school after age 18 to continue skill development; access school resources; and become eligible for the SSI student earned income exclusion if they get a job. For students who achieve employment through this pilot before transitioning to DDA at age 21, DVR will provide the necessary employment services such as Extended Services.
- The DVR Counselor will consider a properly completed Job Foundations report as part of the eligibility and priority category determinations, and as part of a comprehensive vocational assessment. DVR staff will collect additional documentation and provide any additional vocational rehabilitation services necessary to complete these actions. The DVR Counselor will continue to work with the student and their support team through the vocational rehabilitation process per the DVR DDA MOU dated August 2018.
- DVR counselors will discuss with each applicant the benefits of providing consent for DDA and DVR staff to exchange data related to the vocational rehabilitation case with each applicant, and check the consent box in DVR's electronic case management system when the individual consents to the release of information to DDA. This allows DDA to see the individual's assigned counselor and plan status in the CARE system:

County Referrals / Authorizations

DVR

DVR Counselor:

DVR Status:

DVR Status Date:

Counselor Email:

Counselor Office:

Counselor Phone:

- DDA eligible students participating in the development of a Job Foundations report will have ongoing support services (long-term funding) available from a source other than DVR funds at the time they reach age 21.