

Transition Contacts Meeting (Call)

Questions from VR's "WBLE Transition to Fee-For-Service" Session

May 21, 2020

The following questions were posed by participants of the Transition Contacts Meeting Webinar. For more information, please reference our website www.RehabWorks.org or contact the Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Program Administrators for Transition Youth Services at VRTransitionYouth@vr.fldoe.org.

Q: Can it still be a VR referral or a STAR referral?

A: Any student with a disability can be referred to VR through the STAR Portal <https://star.rehabworks.org>.

Q: Will we get a copy of this slide show?

A: Project 10 will have this presentation along with their previous webinars on their website.

Q: Is the application for the district the same?

A: VR's Vendor Registration Unit has agreed to "grandfather" all school districts with active WBLE Contracts to become Pre-ETS Vendors. If there is any additional information needed, they will reach out to the district's POC.

Q: Could a student on McKay Scholarship at a private school return to district to take part in WBLE if they wanted to? Many of these students are missing out on these important opportunities.

A: Any student with a disability and an active case with VR can participate in Pre-ETS, including WBLEs. As the Fee-For-Service Model of WBLE can be done during or outside of school hours, the student can choose to receive this service from the school district or from another provider.

Q: Is the VR Pre-ETS provider status the same as a VR Vendor?

A: Yes, the Pre-ETS Provider status is a type of VR Vendor.

Q: WBLE and Pre-ETS were separate in the past. Are they all becoming Pre-ETS?

A: WBLE is one of the mandated Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) indicated by WIOA. As of July 31, 2020, there will no longer be a contracted WBLE option to provide this service, this service will only be available through the Fee-For-Service Model.

Q: What is the ETA of training for the schools?

A: VR will continue to provide the School Year Kick-Off Training we have provided each year in the fall. At this time it is tentatively plan to begin in mid-August.

Q: Are Provider Managers are going to be VR staff?

A: There will be several levels of support through the transition and beyond. School districts will have access to VR staff (Provider Managers, Provider Liaisons, Program Administrators, and Local VR Contacts) to assist with learning the processes and requirements.

Q: Who conducts the in-depth training, and is there someone locally that could present this new model to the district?

A: VR's Program Administrators (Brandi and Johana) will be the main trainers for the in-depth training. However, if it would be useful for someone to present the changes and processes to your district, this may be able to be arranged through wither a provider liaison or local VR staff.

Q: Will the WBLE take the place of VRCC during summer months?

A: *No, VR Career Camps will still take place for the foreseeable future. However, students participating in a WBLE over the summer would need their work hours to be outside of the Career Camp hours as they are separate services.*

Q: If you add an employment specialist is the level 2 clearance process the same with the same 2 year experience requirement?

A: *Yes. The background screening process and education/experience requirements under the contract mirrored the standard vendor requirements. These requirements will remain the same.*

Q: How does a district get started on applying for the fee for services?

A: *If your district has an active WBLE contract, there are no extra steps to take. If you do not have an active WBLE contract, please reach out to our Vendor Registration Unit by phone at (850) 245-3401 or email at vrvendors@vr.fldoe.org*

Q: Is it possible to get a list of districts that are vendors now?

A: *This information can be requested. If you would like additional information about this, you can email VRTransitionYouth@vr.fldoe.org and we can get you the information.*

Q: Who in VR can we contact to determine where we are in the process?

A: *You can contact the Vendor Registration Unit (see above) to follow up if you have any questions about the requirements or processes.*

Q: We were asked to provide a budget for our contract renewal. Is that no longer necessary? Will we need to submit a different contract than what we submitted in April?

A: *There is no budget or cost analysis required under the Fee-For-Service Model.*

Q: Is there a requirement that students work with different workplaces for each plan, or can the student work in various positions with the same workplace?

A: *We do not recommend multiple work experiences in the same workplace. The purpose of a Work Based Learning Experience is to allow the student to explore multiple workplace settings and explore career options while developing "soft skills" that can be generalized into any work environment. Best practices would be to arrange these experiences to take place in different workplaces.*

Q: Just to clarify, Work Readiness Training and Self-Advocacy training has to be completed after school hours?

A: *Best practices would be to provide Work Readiness Training and Self-Advocacy Training outside normal school hours so as to avoid the possibility of supplanting the services and accommodations the district is required and obligated to provide during the school day.*

Q: Can employment specialists (if trained) do the Self Advocacy training for the student and OJT at the same time?

A: *Based on the structure of each service, these services are not able to be delivered at the same time. The district may receive a referral for both services simultaneously, however staff delivering the services would need to arrange to deliver them at different times.*

Q: What are the selling points to get businesses involved and can we as a state look at corporate agreements. ex. Burlington

A: *Vocational Rehabilitation does not routinely enter into formal (legal) agreements with businesses or employers. However, if you would like assistance with developing a relationship with a specific employer, VR does have Business Relations Representatives across the state that can assist with making connections and establishing partnerships. You can contact our Business Relations office at VRBusinessRep@vr.fldoe.org.*

Q: What are the criteria for one who wants to provide the Pre-ETS training? e.g. be a certified teacher?

A: *Vendor Registration has a list of requirements for providers. The Vendor Qualification Manual can be found [here](#). However, I recommend reaching out to the Vendor Registration Unit to answer any specific questions.*

Q: What if you were in the process of approval of the contract?

A: *As of this moment, only districts with active contracts are being transferred. You can contact the Vendor Registration Unit and discuss transferring your application from the contracted WBLE option to the Pre-ETS Provider application type.*

Q: Is the Self Advocacy course open for new vendors?

A: *All Pre-ETS including Self-Advocacy will be open to new Districts interested in becoming a VR vendor. **If you are interested in having one or more of your staff trained to provide this service, contact the Vendor Registration Unit to facilitate that training opportunity.***

Q: Santa Rosa hires "job coaches" directly so they are district employees. Will each of them need to be vetted through VR as vendors under Fee for Services?

A: *Yes, to protect our participants each individual who provides direct services at the bequest of VR must meet the vendor requirements prior to being approved to receive referrals. Vocational Rehabilitation is one of seven state agencies that use the statewide screening database, "The Clearinghouse." The Clearinghouse provides a single data source administered by the Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) for background screening results for persons screened for employment or licensure that provide services to children, the elderly and disabled individuals. The Clearinghouse allows the results of criminal history checks to be shared among specific agencies when a person has applied to volunteer, be employed, be licensed (including foster parents), or enter into a contract that requires a state and national fingerprint-based criminal history check. The Clearinghouse provides numerous benefits to providers, including reduced costs and more up to date information. The Clearinghouse allows the results of criminal history checks to be shared among specified state agencies, thereby reducing duplicative screenings for individuals requiring screening across multiple state agencies.*

Related Contact Information:

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