How Does Iowa Workforce Developments' Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Division Help People with Disabilities?

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Iowa Workforce

Vocational Rehabilitation Services

OBJECTIVES



Provide a brief overview of IVRS services for students.

SECONDARY OBJECTIVE

Provide IVRS updates

IOWA HAS TWO VR AGENCIES

Rehabilitation Services Administration Vocational Rehabilitation Services lowa Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services lowa Department for the Blind

WIOA LEGISLATION: KEY CH

01

Added Pre-ETS

02

Limitations on subminimum wage

03

Collaboration between IVRS and IDB

04

Specified the need to avoid supplanting

05

Added Potentially Eligible

06

Always focus on CIE

DEFINITIONS

• Potentially Eligible (PE): Any student with a disability who is currently on an IEP or covered under the provisions of section 504, regardless of whether the student has applied for, or been determined eligible for IVRS.

 IVRS Eligible: A student with a disability who has applied for, and been determined eligible, for IVRS.

DEFINITIONS

Pre -Employment Transition Services:
 Activities for students with
 disabilities that provide an early
 start at job exploration. They also
 assist with making decisions about
 post -secondary education and/or
 employment.



WHO CAN ACCESS SERVICE



Potentially Eligible for IVRS

- Students with documented disabilities, in an education program, between the ages of 14 through 21
- For potentially eligible, IVRS staff coordinate needed Pre-ETS but there is no individualized plan for employment (IPE)

Eligible for IVRS

- Students have applied for and been determined eligible for IVRS services
- IVRS staff include needed Pre-ETS as part of the IPE, which includes addition services unique to the individual that assist them in achieving competitive integrated employment
- Adults with disabilities

IVRS SERVICES FOR ELIGIBL

All services are individualized for the unique needs of the individual with a disability receiving them to allow that individual to obtain and maintain competitive integrated employment. Examples of services include:

- Assessment
- Vocational counseling and guidance
- Self-Employment
- College training
- Occupational/vocational training
- Work-based learning experiences
- Job readiness training
- Disability-related skills training
- Supported Employment
- Customized Employment
- IPS
- Rehabilitation technology

- Information and referral
- Job search supports
- Interpreter services
- Benefits planning
- And more!

IVRS also offers other services to support the services listed:

- Transportation
- Maintenance
- Personal Attendant

COLLABORATION IS CRITICA

How IVRS collaborates with schools:

- IVRS staff cover every school within the State of Iowa
- IVRS staff work with the schools to make Pre

 ETS available

 to all students with disabilities
- IVRS and schools work together on outreach to students with disabilities
- IVRS staff inform and engage school staff
- Schools invite IVRS to IEP meetings
- IVRS works with schools to ensure students with disabilities are included in school activities
- Parent engagement is encouraged and stressed
- Funding decisions are made within the Memorandum of Agreement between IVRS and the Department of Education; and within the Memorandum of Agreement between IVRS and IDB
- IVRS works with schools to develop a local school plan that outlines the responsibilities of the local school, AEA, IVRS/IDB and other partners involved



Connect early with IVRS, so staff can assist with connections to community resources (e.g., wavier services, options for housing); work-based learning experiences, and other support services.

Hold high expectations for your student, IVRS, and the school.

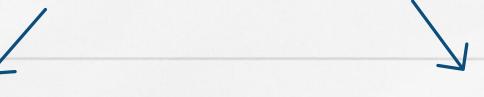
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PARENTS

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DO?

Ensure students are completing tasks and assignments provided to them.

Ask about options for appropriate accommodations (e.g., assistive technology) for your student.

Encourage your student to participate in classes and to attend all Pre-ETS activities and/or appointments with IVRS.



As IVRS and the school are providing opportunities for selfadvocacy and choice, work with the student at home to do the same.

IVRS UPDATE

IOWA BLUEPRINT FOR C

- IVRS was one of 14 state VR agencies awarded a Disability Innovation Fund (DIF) grant
- DIF-SWTCIE: move individuals from subminimum wage to competitive integrated employment
- Five-year grant (10/1/22 9/30/27), totaling \$13,875,048.55 with an additional year of evaluation at \$230,000
- Goal: Advance and improve systems so that lowans with disabilities have competitive integrated employment opportunities that lead to economic security.



IOWA BLUEPRINT OBJE

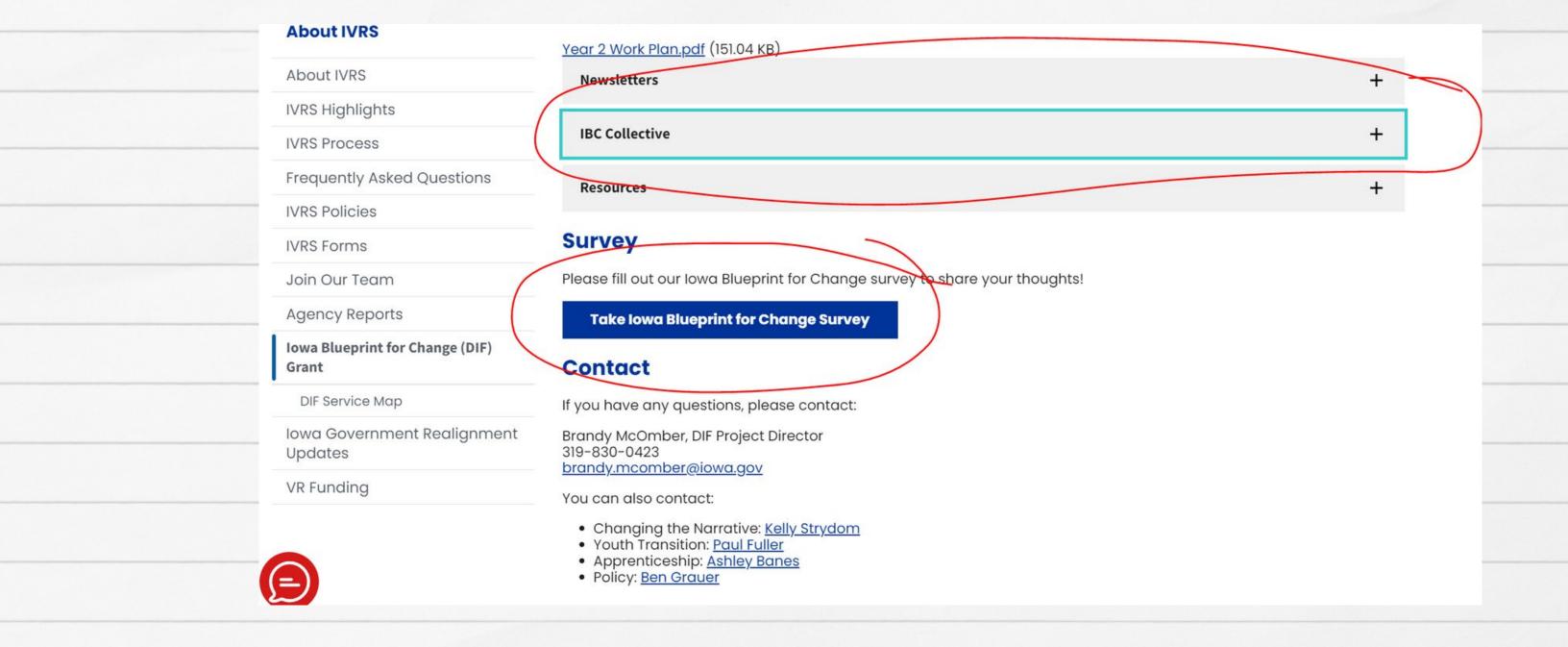
Students:

- Developed a Collective (large group of over 130 individuals with lived experience, parents, agency staff, community providers, stakeholders, etc.) that all come together to work on systems change for the state of lowa
- Working on developing a Direct Support Professional Registered Apprenticeship and quality preapprenticeship program that will be available to students
- Six pilot sites focused on ensuring services begin earlier for students; resulting in uninterrupted services for youth with disabilities
- Offering IPS-Y for the first time in lowa
- o Offering CE to youth and training lowa providers to reach fidelity in services provided
- o Developing resources for parents/students on information learned through evaluation

INTERESTED IN PARTICIF

Visit: https://ivrs.iowa.gov/welcome-ivrs/iowa-blueprint-change-dif-grant

Sign up on the website for Collective meetings, or take the survey to provide your information so we can contact you



THANK YOU

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