

DVR 101

CO Division of Vocational
Rehabilitation



COLORADO
Department of
Labor and Employment





What are we learning about today?!

- **DVR & The Processes**
- **Referrals to DVR**
- **Services Provided**
- **DVR/ Medicaid Waiver Braided CCB Funding**
- **Myths & Facts**
- **Questions**

What Is DVR & What Do They Do?

DVR assists individuals with disabilities to: prepare for employment, obtain employment, perform job tasks, maintain employment, and advance in employment.

Services we provide to get ready for a job: One-on-one vocational rehabilitation counseling and guidance, Pre-employment Transition Services to students with disabilities, Physical and mental restoration services, Training services: vocational, academic, and personal adjustment

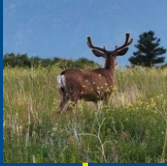
Employment services we provide: Job-seeking skills training, job placement, job coaching, on-the-job training, rehabilitation technology services, benefits counseling, Supportive services: maintenance, transportation, personal assistance services

What is the referral process? DVR receives referrals from community agencies, individuals themselves, medical/ mental health providers, education entities, etc



DVR Process

Application



Individuals must apply for services and meet eligibility criteria in order to receive support

Plan



Once eligible, individual and their counselor will work together to decide on an appropriate employment goal and develop the IPE.

Services & Employment



The DVR counselor monitors the services in the IPE, ensuring they are progressing toward the employment goal. Once job is secured & stable, the case closed successfully!

Eligibility



An individual must have a permanent disability that results in barriers to getting or keeping suitable employment, they must be able to actively participate in services, & services must be necessary for the individual to obtain or maintain suitable employment

Services



Based on informed choice; the IPE services, vendors, and job goal will be individually tailored to meet their unique rehabilitation need and written into a plan.

Timeline



Depending on the services needed, the rehabilitation process can last anywhere from a few months to several years.

Job Exploration, Search, & Coaching

Vocational counseling and guidance, career exploration, job shadowing, preparing for interviews, working on a resume, filling out applications, job coaching and personal adjustment to employment

Work Experience

Paid Internships, Paid Work Experiences, Community Based Work Experiences, and finding CIE jobs in the community

Training

Inclusive education, transportation training, industry specific certifications, and work adjustment are some examples of training we could support to help with entering into employment

How Can DVR Help Me?

Independence

Services may include connecting with a benefits counselor, assistance with transportation, or referring and connecting to other agencies to help individuals be as independent as possible

And More!

Every DVR service is agreed upon and curated specifically for the individual we are serving and may look completely different depending on their needs, interests, skills, abilities, capabilities, limitations, and employment goal



Wow, all of that is free!?

Not exactly...

- If an individual receives Social Security Income (SSI) or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) benefits because of their disability, there is no cost to them for approved services
- *Some* of our services are available without cost to the individual
- Other services may be paid for in full by the DVR or may require financial participation from individual in services
- All services are agreed upon and approved beforehand, and will be determined as necessary, appropriate, and least possible cost
- Negotiated rates such as Hearing Aid Contract
- Some services may require funding such as Inclusive Ed

Well, I'm ready to sign up!

What do I need to do first?

- Make sure everyone is involved!
- Three ways to refer:
 - General DVR Interest Form Online
 - Contact your Local DVR Office by Phone
 - Contact your CCB Case Manager





Braided Funding

There are times in which DVR's policy does not allow services to be authorized and there are limitations to what Medicaid Waivers through the CCB will pay.

DVR/Medicaid funding does not always need to be 'one or the other' but there are times when both payers are appropriate to utilize separate services simultaneously in order to assist an individual with employment.

DVR is a time limited agency, so some services such as job coaching may initially be funded through DVR but eventually will be funded through a CCB service plan long term.

DVR Myth or Fact?



DVR is able to support non-competitive employment such as group employment, volunteer opportunities, or jobs set aside for PWD



DVR has a menu of services that individuals can choose from



DVR will pay for education, training, and certificates to those individuals who are eligible for our program



DVR can only fund job coaching for 90 days after someone becomes employed



DVR cannot serve individuals who require line-of-sight supervision

Speciality Populations & Referrals

DVR counselors are trained to work with a variety of disabilities, and typically referrals are divided evenly among DVR offices by zipcode. However, some counselors have ‘specialty caseloads’ that allow them to serve as subject matter expert and best serve the individuals such as:



Denver Metro

Blind, visually impaired,
or deaf-blind

Deaf and Hard of
Hearing

CCB: Rocky Mountain
Human Services

MH: MHCD & AuMHC



Centennial/ Aurora

CCB: Developmental
Pathways

MH: AllHealth Network



Golden

CCB: DDRC

MH: JeffCO



An individual can request to work with a specific office, however, we avoid allowing transferring from counselor to counselor if possible to continue smoother service provision



Thank
You!

