To: Community Rehabilitation Programs

From: Ron O’Hair, Community Rehabilitation Program (CRP) Branch Manager

Re: Extended Services

Date: September 22, 2022

CRP partners,

Effective October 1st, 2022, CRPs will be eligible to receive payment for providing Extended Services to youth with disabilities (ages 14-24) who receive supported employment services. The appropriate codes to be used are 73A-Traditional, 73B-Individual Placement and Support, and 73C-Customized. The rate is $50 per hour.

**Supported Employment** means competitive integrated employment, including customized employment, that is individualized, and customized, consistent with the unique strengths, abilities, interests, and informed choice of the individual with a most significant disability, including a youth with a disability, who requires ongoing support services. Supported employment is for individuals with the most significant disabilities who have had no experience in Competitive Integrated Employment (CIE), or who have had interrupted or intermittent experiences in CIE because of their disability. Also, because of the severity of their disabilities, require intensive supported employment services and extended services after the transition from support, to perform job tasks. 34 CFR 361.5 (53)

**Supported Employment Services** is defined as ongoing support services, including customized employment, and other appropriate services needed to support and maintain an individual with a most significant disability, including a youth with a most significant disability, in supported employment that are organized and made available in such a way to assist the individual in achieving competitive integrated employment. 34 CFR 361.5 (54)

**Extended Services** is defined as ongoing support services needed to assist and maintain an individual with a most significant disability including a youth with a disability, in supported employment. The Office of Vocational Rehabilitation is not permitted to provide extended services to an individual with a most significant disability who is not a youth with a most significant disability. 34 CFR 361.5 (19)

**Youth with a Disability** is defined as an individual with a disability who is not younger than 14 years of age and is not older than 24 years of age. 34 CFR 361.5 (58)

Simply, extended services are often referred to as long-term support, follow-up, or follow along. These are the support services that the Employment Specialist provides to the consumer after Vocational Rehabilitation has paid the 90-Day Outcome Milestone to ensure that the consumer maintains competitive integrated employment. The Employment Specialist is required to have at least two onsite face-to-face contacts per month while providing extended services.

Examples of when to utilize extended services are:

**Scenario 1**: A youth in supported employment completed 90-days of stable employment, whereby the CRP was paid the 30, 60, and 90-Day Outcome Milestone payments, and the youth worker remains employed thereafter. VR could pay the CRP for any extended services (follow-up) they provide to the consumer from day 91 until the VR case is closed (typically day 180). In cases where intensive supported employment services are needed after day 90, then Additional Supported Employment (SE) funds should be utilized and not extended services.

**Scenario 2**: A youth in supported employment completed 90 days of stable employment, whereby the CRP was paid the 30, 60, and 90-Day Outcome Milestone payments, but the youth worker loses or quits the job at day 120. Extended services would be paid up to day 120, then Additional SE funds would be utilized to assist in acquiring a new job, and for providing supported employment services until transition to extended services begins again.

Additionally, the VR case can be closed 90 days after transitioning to extended services. Therefore, if a job was quickly found and the worker was ready to transition to extended services after 30 days of intensive supported employment services, then the case could be closed 120 days after acquiring the job.

**Final thoughts.**

CRP staff needs to be mindful when a consumer reaches the age of 25. If a youth worker turns the age of 25 prior to VR case closure (day 180), then the CRP will be responsible for having resources in place to provide extended services.

Extended services should be reflected on the Stable Employment Summary forms. Each date that an extended service was provided should be listed, include the amount of time spent providing extended services, and have a note specific to that date. Dates and notes specific to the dates can be added to the “Other” section of the Stable Employment Summary.

**Example**:

10-10-22: 1.25 hrs., Provide detailed information pertaining to services provided during this time.

10-19-22: .50 hrs., Provide detailed information pertaining to services provided during this time.

The cumulative total of time spent providing extended services should be accurately reflected at the bottom of the Stable Employment Summary.

Please feel free to reach out to your respective CRP Branch Consultant, or me, with any questions.

Ron