

Extended Employment Chapter 19

Extended Employment [Reference Federal Register, January 22, 2001 (Volume 66, Number 14)]

1. Extended Employment means work in a non-integrated or sheltered setting for a public or private nonprofit agency or organization that provides compensation in accordance with the Fair Labor Standards Act

DVR must refer to local extended employment providers an individual with a disability who makes an informed choice to pursue extended employment as the individual's employment goal. Before making the referral, the counselor must:

- a. Explain to the individual that the purpose of the vocational rehabilitation program is to assist individuals to achieve an employment outcome in an integrated setting;
 - b. Provide the individual with the information concerning the availability of employment options, and of vocational rehabilitation services, in integrated settings;
 - c. Inform the individual that services under the vocational program can be provided to eligible individuals in an extended employment setting if necessary for purposes of training or otherwise preparing for employment in an integrated setting;
 - d. Inform the individual that, if he or she initially chooses not to pursue employment in an integrated setting, he or she can seek services from DVR at a later date, if at that time, he or she chooses to pursue employment in an integrated setting; and
 - e. Refer the individual, as appropriate, to the Social Security Administration in order to obtain information concerning the ability of individuals with disabilities to work while receiving benefits from the Social Security Administration.
2. An annual review and reevaluation of the status of each individual with a disability who has achieved an employment outcome in an extended employment setting in a community rehabilitation program will be conducted for two (2) years after the achievement of the outcome (and thereafter if requested by the individual or if appropriate, the individual's representative).
 3. The Individual's Documentation of the Extended Employment review reflects:
 - a. the individual was provided the opportunity to have input into the review and re-evaluation, and

- b. the case record includes a signed acknowledgment that such review and re-evaluation has been conducted with the individual, or if appropriate the individual's representative, and
- c. this review includes exploration and provision of maximum efforts including the identification and provision of vocational rehabilitation services, reasonable accommodations, and other necessary support services, to assist the individual in engaging in competitive employment.
- d. Review and approval of the VR Counselor/Analyst or VR Supervisor.

Stevens Amendment

The Florida Department of Education, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) is an equal opportunity employer. It is against the law for VR as a recipient of Federal financial assistance to discriminate against any individual in the United States on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, political affiliation or belief. The application process used by VR to determine eligibility for services, any subsequent services and the entire VR process are subject to these non-discrimination requirements. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. VR program receives 78.7 percent of its funding through a grant from the U.S. Department of Education. For the 2021 Federal fiscal year, the total amount of grant funds awarded were \$176,836,896. The remaining 21.3 percent of the costs (\$47,860,557) were funded by Florida State Appropriations. Revised October 2021.