



What the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation's (OVR) Memo Regarding the Order of Selection and Waiting List Means for Office of Developmental Program (ODP) Services

ODP Announcement 25-028 REISSUE

AUDIENCE:

Individuals and families, County ID Programs/Administrative Entity (AE) Administrators, Supports Coordination Organizations (SCOs), and Providers of employment-related services in the Consolidated, Community Living, Person/Family Directed Support (P/FDS), and Adult Autism waivers and base funding.

PURPOSE:

To clarify how OVR's Memo released on March 15, 2025, regarding the Order of Selection and the OVR waiting list for services impacts referral requirements and access to ODP-funded employment services. **This announcement is being reissued to update the name of the Individuals with a Non-Significant Disability (NSD) priority category. On July 1, 2025, the NSD category was renamed to Individual with a Disability (D). The change in the priority category name has not affected the relevant eligibility criteria for the D, formerly NSD, category.**

DISCUSSION:

OVR provides vocational rehabilitation services to individuals with disabilities to help them prepare for, secure, retain, advance in, or regain employment consistent with the individual's unique strengths, resources, priorities, concerns, abilities, capabilities, interests, and informed choice. Under federal law:

- State vocational rehabilitation programs that do not have sufficient funding or personnel to provide services to everyone who is eligible must set priorities to serve those with the most significant disabilities.
- OVR, as the designated State unit, is responsible for conducting any assessments for eligibility or priority for services determinations for vocational rehabilitation services.

Additionally, federal regulations direct that ODP waiver funding function as the “payer of last resort.” This means that services cannot be funded through ODP's Consolidated, Community Living, P/FDS and Adult Autism Waivers when another agency such as OVR is responsible for the provision of those services and the services are available.

OVR has announced that beginning April 1, 2025, the Order of Selection will close for two of three priority categories: **Individuals with a Disability (D)** and Individuals with a Significant Disability (SD). To ensure that limited resources are directed to those who are most in need, while maintaining quality services, OVR will place any individuals in the **D** or SD categories, who do not have an Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE) developed prior to April 1, 2025, on a wait list for OVR services. These individuals will remain on the OVR waiting list until resources are available through OVR to provide services. All individuals currently in the **D** and SD categories, with an approved IPE

developed prior to April 1, 2025, may proceed and follow through with planned OVR services.

Individuals who meet criteria for the Most Significant Disability (MSD) priority category will receive OVR services without being placed on a waitlist. Please see [OVR's Memo](#) on the Order of Selection for additional information.

OVR will continue to take new referrals, determine eligibility, and place individuals in the **D** or SD categories on the waiting list. Because OVR services will still be available for individuals in the MSD category, AEs and SCOs must continue to refer individuals to OVR for services as outlined in [Bulletin 00-19-01, OVR Referrals for ODP Employment Related Services](#). In the event the individual is notified that they are either ineligible for OVR services or will be placed on the OVR waiting list, ODP funded employment related services may be authorized.

Since OVR services remain available to individuals in the MSD category, the guidance released in bulletin [00-19-02, OVR Referrals During a Period when OVR's Order of Selection is Closed](#) is not applicable and should not be followed during the current Order of Selection closure. Should OVR move to also close the MSD priority category additional guidance will be issued.

The guidance in this announcement applies to the following services through ODP's waivers or base funding:

- Consolidated, P/FDS and Community Living Waivers and base-funding:
 - Advanced Supported Employment
 - Supported Employment

- Education Support
- Adult Autism Waiver:
 - Supported Employment
 - Career Planning

Individuals who begin receiving ODP-funded services while on an OVR waiting list and are subsequently offered services through OVR may choose to either receive services from OVR or continue to receive ODP employment-related services.

Individuals under the age of 25 seeking Community Participation Support prevocational services that pay subminimum wage must continue to be referred to OVR in accordance with Bulletin 00-19-01, *OVR Referrals for ODP Employment Related Services*.

CONTACT:

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