



**Opportunities for  
Ohioans with  
Disabilities**



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# The Heart of Service

VR Fee Schedule Update 2024

Presented by the Provider and Contract Management Unit

Division of Policy and Partnerships



**Opportunities for  
Ohioans with  
Disabilities**

# The Heart of Service



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## Agenda

Listening First

The Heart of Language

Brief History of the Fee Schedule

What's in the rate? (Rate methodology)

2024 Updates

What's Next?



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## The Heart of Change

Person centered

Consider DEIA

Support providers

Consider budget

Remain sustainable

Continuous improvement



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# Listening First

VR Fee Schedule Think Tank – Internal  
OOD Workgroup

VR Fee Schedule Provider Workgroup

Participant Needs

Program Support

Stakeholder Listening Sessions

Feedback Windows



# The Heart of Language



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Have you experienced this?

“Your car’s thingamajib is malcomplicroncating.”

“Your breaks are soft.”

“You need to re-gas.”

“Root canal drill denial of preapproval  
preconditions appeal process.”

Consider:

Tier III 30 days

Job Development

Rehabilitation Technology



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# The Heart of Language



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## Goals

Person centered  
Family centered  
Community centered  
Partner centered  
Greater clarity  
Simplification

# The Heart of Language

On-the-job Supports → Job Coaching  
Job Development → Job Search Assistance  
“Tiers” → Parts

Rehabilitation Technology → Assistive Technology

Activities of Daily Living Training → Life Skills Training

Community Based Assessment → Community Work Experience

Service Area Modifier → Extra Travel Allowance (ETA)

**NEW!**

New service codes in **Aware** will be ready for services beginning in October 1, 2024 and afterward.

# Brief History of the VR Fee Schedule

## 2012 – First VR Fee Schedule

- Standardized rates and definitions
- Based on market rates

## 2014 – VR Fee Schedule Update

- Flat Report Fees
- Moved Vocational Evaluation to Flat Fee

## 2017 – VR Fee Schedule Update (Cost Informed)

- Updated rates & definitions (all Inclusive)
- Now “Outcome” and “Flat Fee” services
- Cost informed rates (Data from Providers via PCG Consulting and report)
- New Services based on WIOA (Supported Employment Job Development)
- Enhanced rates for Providers with credentials (Work Incentives Planning, SEJD)
- Contracted Services (ADL, LVS, RT, & OM) (moved out of the VR Fee Schedule)





# Brief History of the VR Fee Schedule

## 2019 – October 1, 2019

Major updates included:

- “Across the board” increase of at least 6.5%
- 8% increase to Job Development services
- Tiers restructured
- “Kick off meeting” became a requirement
- Incentives for CBA/WA placements
- Summer Youth – removed classroom week
- Pre-ETS moved from contracts onto the VR Fee Schedule
- BSVI services moved from contracts to the VR Fee Schedule )Activities of Daily Living, Orientation and Mobility Training, Rehabilitation Technology, Low Vision Services)



# Brief History of the VR Fee Schedule

## 2022 – October 1, 2022

Major updates included:

- “Across the board” increase of 2.37% est. \$1.49M per year
- Pre-ETS Coordination added \$266.20 flat fee
- +8% to Pre-ETS subcategories
- Bridge Support Services added as new services
- Work Incentives Planning +37% increase to flat rate
- Critical Need Rate added (\$100)
- Shift differential added to ASL interpreting; cancellation window expanded to 24 hours
- Holiday shift differential for On-the-job supports (11 holidays)
- Texting allowances for On-the-job-supports



# Rate Methodology & Examples



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## Myth Busting

- “Rates do not include travel costs.”
- “Rates don’t pay to prepare for services.”
- “The rates don’t support staff wages.”
- “Rates don’t cover texting, service reminders, scheduling, etc.”
- “Rates don’t pay for completing reports.”

# Rate Methodology & Examples



Image courtesy vecteezy.com

Let's look at what's in the service rate, and how having this all included in the rate **reduces administrative burdens of having multiple separate reports**, such as those for the service, for mileage, and for report writing.

# What's in the rate?

## OOD's Rate Methodology for the VR Fee Schedule Update and Examples

Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) has established rates for the Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Fee Schedule based on a rate methodology developed by Public Consulting Group (PCG). This rate methodology was utilized to develop rates for the 2017 VR Fee Schedule and has since received periodic rate increases (in 2019 and 2022).

For the proposed 2024 VR Fee Schedule update, targeted for implementation on October 1, 2024, OOD has made adjustments to the rate factors established by PCG. These adjustments are based on feedback received from the VR Fee Schedule Provider Workgroup. The changes include an increase in the provider staff wage, which automatically raises all other rate elements. Additionally, significant modifications have been made to the rate formula, including:

- Increasing provider staff wage (varies by service);
- Increasing the fringe component from 26.06% to 27.06%;
- Increasing the non-billable (indirect) time component from 16.68% to 17.50%; and
- Increasing the administration component from 20.03% to 22.00%.

# What's in the rate?

## Example 1: On-the-Job Supports (Job Coaching)

Rate Factors	Current Rate Per Hour	New Rate Per Hour	Increase to Rate
<b>Provider Staff Wage</b>	<b>\$19.83</b>	<b>\$20.00</b>	<b>\$0.17</b>
<b>Fringe</b>	<b>\$5.17</b>	<b>\$5.41</b>	<b>\$0.24</b>
Report Writing	\$3.92	\$3.98	\$0.06
Paid Time Off	\$5.01	\$5.16	\$0.15
<b>Non-billable (indirect) time</b>	<b>\$6.79</b>	<b>\$7.33</b>	<b>\$0.54</b>
Supervision	\$9.73	\$10.00	\$0.27
<b>Administration</b>	<b>\$13.20</b>	<b>\$15.31</b>	<b>\$2.11</b>
Mileage	\$2.26	\$2.39	\$0.13
<b>Total Hourly Rate</b> (Total Before Rounding)	<b>\$66.00</b> (\$65.91)	<b>\$69.60</b> (\$69.58)	<b>\$3.60 or 5.5%</b> (\$3.67)

# What's in the rate?

What does this mean? The table below shows an example of a 6-hour Job Coaching service per day, and together, as part of a 30-hour week.

Rate Factors	Per 6-hour Day	Per 30-hour Week
<b>Provider Staff Wage</b>	<b>\$120.00</b>	<b>\$600.00</b>
<b>Fringe</b>	<b>\$32.46</b>	<b>\$162.30</b>
Report Writing	\$23.88	\$119.40
Paid Time Off	\$30.96	\$154.80
<b>Non-billable (indirect) time</b>	<b>\$43.98</b>	<b>\$219.90</b>
Supervision	\$60.00	\$300.00
<b>Administration</b>	<b>\$91.86</b>	<b>\$459.30</b>
Mileage	\$14.34	\$71.70
<b>Total</b> (Total Before Rounding)	<b>\$417.60</b> (\$417.48)	<b>\$2,088</b> (\$2,087.40)

Takeaways: For a 30-hour week, with a provider staff at \$20.00 an hour, the rate supports 6 hours for report writing, 11 hours for non-billable (indirect) time and \$459.30 for administrative costs.





# What's in the rate?

## Example 2: Summer Youth Work Experience

The rate for **Summer Youth Work Experience** uses the Job Coaching formula to calculate a weekly flat fee payment for 20 hours of service.

Rate Factors	Current Rate Per Hour	New Rate Per Hour	Increase to Rate
<b>Provider Staff Wage</b>	<b>\$18.66</b>	<b>\$20.00</b>	<b>\$1.34</b>
<b>Fringe</b>	<b>\$4.86</b>	<b>\$5.41</b>	<b>\$0.55</b>
Report Writing	\$3.69	\$3.98	\$0.29
Paid Time Off	\$4.72	\$5.16	\$0.44
<b>Non-billable (indirect) time</b>	<b>\$6.39</b>	<b>\$7.33</b>	<b>\$0.94</b>
Supervision	\$9.15	\$10.00	\$0.85
<b>Administration</b>	<b>\$12.42</b>	<b>\$15.31</b>	<b>\$2.89</b>
Mileage	\$2.13	\$2.39	\$0.26
<b>Total Hourly Rate (Total Before Rounding)</b>	<b>\$62.04 (\$62.02)</b>	<b>\$69.63 (\$69.58)</b>	<b>\$7.59 or 12.23% (\$7.56)</b>



# What's in the rate?

What does this mean? The table below shows an example of a 4-hour SYWE service per day, and together, as part of a 20-hour week with a 1:1 staff/participant ratio.

Rate Factors	Per 4-hour Day	Per 20-hour Week
<b>Provider Staff Wage</b>	<b>\$80.00</b>	<b>\$400.00</b>
<b>Fringe</b>	<b>\$21.64</b>	<b>\$108.20</b>
Report Writing	\$15.92	\$79.60
Paid Time Off	\$20.64	\$103.20
<b>Non-billable (indirect) time</b>	<b>\$29.32</b>	<b>\$146.60</b>
Supervision	\$40.00	\$200.00
<b>Administration</b>	<b>\$61.24</b>	<b>\$306.20</b>
Mileage	\$9.56	\$47.80
<b>Total</b> (Total Before Rounding)	<b>\$278.52</b> (\$278.32)	<b>\$1392.60</b> (\$1391.60)



# What's in the rate?

Most SYWE are group services, which will lead to incrementally higher payments to providers when applicable.

<b>SYWE Rate Comparisons</b>	<b>1 participant</b>	<b>2 participants</b>	<b>3 participants</b>	<b>4 participants</b>
1 hour	\$69.63	\$75.20	\$85.65	\$91.91
1 week (20 hours)	\$1,392.60	\$1,504.00	\$1,712.91	\$1,838.24
5-week session (20 hours each week)	\$6,963.00	\$7,520.00	\$8,564.55	\$9,191.20

# What's in the rate?

**Takeaways:** For a 5-week SYWE with 1 participant at 20 hours each week, with a \$20.00 per hour wage for staff, this rate supports 20 hours for report writing, 36.65 hours for non-billable time, and \$1,531 for administrative costs over the 5 weeks. Providers will also be paid significantly more for their sites that have multiple participants.

Non-billable time includes compensation to providers for the preparation and coordination of these services. A provider with 1 participant at the SYWE site will earn \$6,963.00 for the 5-week session. A provider with 4 participants will earn \$9,191.20 for the 5-week session. This is an additional \$2,228.20 for the 5-week session to cover other costs of doing business.

# The Heart of Services

## VR Fee Schedule 2024 – Summary of Major Changes

Bridge Support Services: Training Support services condensed into one service

Assistive Technology group option now available

ASL & International Language Interpreting moving out of the VR Fee Schedule

→ Accepting standard rates, similar to transportation

→ Guidance will be available regarding how to find vendors and rates

Expanding the window of the On-the-Job Supports (Job Coaching) Shift Differential from after 9:00pm and before 5:30am to after 6pm and before 6am.

SAM Rates → Extra Travel Allowance with two extra levels

Summer Youth Work Experience – Substantial rate increases; same model with Levels 1 and 2

Additional rate increases across the VR Fee Schedule

# The Heart of Services

## VR Fee Schedule 2024 – Summary of Major Changes, Continued

### Justice-Involved Placement Incentive

Participant with a felony conviction, as verified by VR Staff or VR Contractor through a background check and/or court records and indicated on the JSA Part 1 referral to the provider, is placed in an employment setting, in accordance with requirements of JSA Part 2, that matches their desired wages, hours, and employment outcome as identified on their IPE.

The referring VR Staff should be aware of this history and include this in the referral. If the provider later becomes aware of this information, they can share that with the VR Staff.

# The Heart of Services

## School Based Community Work Experience (Internships)

### Additional language in the VR Fee Schedule

**Direct services** with students during the (up to two-week) orientation period may be authorized at the beginning of this service to allow for activities necessary for a participant to engage in the service. Activities include, but are not limited to: host site tours with students, assisting the student with completing a health screening/immunizations, obtaining badges/IDs with students, internship or rotation interviews with students, internship or rotation assessments with students, reviewing work tasks with students, assessing for job accommodations with students, and assisting students to complete first aid/CPR/ServSafe or other required training with students prior to starting internships or rotations.

Additionally, up to twice per school year, direct services with students during the 'transition week' between internships or rotations may be authored for activities including: helping students interview for their next internship or rotation, helping students develop skill needed to start the next internship or rotation, helping students learn to navigate to a different part of the host business and learn the necessary routines to start a new internship or rotation such as safety protocols, and revisiting orientation activities with the student.

# The Heart of Services

## Community Work Experience (Internships) Reminders

1. The CWE (Internships) service time begins during internship rotations. Classroom time is sponsored by the school district. The teacher provides classroom instruction and manages student behavior. Only the Job Coach/Skills Trainer's direct service time during the internship rotations will be reimbursed and should be documented on the OOD invoice (i.e. 9:30-11:30 and 12:00-2:00).
2. Lunch breaks are not a part of the billable service time. Lunch must be documented invoice report.
3. Service start and end times should reflect a set schedule of services, which are generally adhered to. School Based CWE (Internships) services are expected to be scheduled two and a half (2 ½) hours for Half Day services and four (4) hours for Full Day services, not including classroom time and lunch time.
4. Reports must be fully completed, including work tasks and a narrative of each individual's performance. This will expedite the review and processing of payments. Current performance and areas of improvement should be clearly identified.

# The Heart of Services

## American Sign Language (ASL) & International Language Interpreting

These services will be **moving out** of the VR Fee Schedule and considered as services purchased through vendors/suppliers.

They will no longer be VR Fee Schedule services.





# The Heart of Services

## **What does this mean? What's next?**

There will no longer be one set rate for ASL or International language interpreting, and OOD will instead authorize at the standard rates of these vendors/suppliers.

There will no longer be a standard OOD invoice report for these services, and vendors/suppliers may utilize their own invoice reports.

For ASL Interpreting, OOD has reached out to all vendors/suppliers of this service and requested a copy of their current rates for OOD to have on file. Deaf Services will be sharing a new way for VR Staff to access these rates ahead of October 1.

Deaf Services and PCA Manager Katie Scheetz will be sharing joining the VR Fee Schedule OOD Staff Q&A session on September 11, 2024 to speak more about this transition.

OOD will also be sharing how VR Staff may access international language interpreting rates ahead of October 1.



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# The Heart of Job Search



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*People are on different paths.*

# The Heart of Job Search

## What is changing related to Job Development?

**NEW!** Job Development → Job Search Assistance.

**NEW!** Tiers I, III, and III → Parts 1, 2, and 3.

**NEW!** The “non-permanent” path of Job Search Assistance is being memorialized.

**NEW!** A new path between traditional performance based and the current Supported Employment Job Development path is being created, with a focus on participant needs, circumstances, and intensity of services.

**NEW!** A “hand-off” process is being formalized for Supported Employment services.

**NEW!** Placement incentives are now separate line items. Authorize for each incentive providers are eligible for at the time of JSA Part 3 – 90 days authorization.

# The Heart of Job Search

## What is staying the same with Job Development?

Same structure, same general authorization guidance, same service expectations and requirements.

There are largely just two new “paths” being added as options.

Let’s look at our current and new paths together.



Image courtesy vecteezy.com

# Job Search Assistance (JSA)

## Job Search Assistance

### Parts 1, 2, and 3

(Formerly Performance Based Job  
Development)



*Standard job search assistance services*

## Job Search Assistance Non-permanent

Previously approved via guidance  
“Introducing Non-permanent  
Supported Employment Job  
Development”



*Standard job search assistance services*

## **SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS**

Staff may consider Supported Employment (Non-Credentialed and Credentialed) in competitive integrated employment (CIE) for individuals:

- with a most significant disability (MSD), including a youth with an MSD
- for whom CIE has not historically occurred, or for whom CIE has been interrupted or intermittent as a result of an MSD; and
- who, because of the nature and severity of their disabilities, the individual needs and have access to the following to maintain an employment outcome and perform the work involved:
  - intensive supported employment services (e.g., Job Search Assistance (JSA) – Supported Employment (Non-Credentialed); Job Search Assistance – Supported Employment (Credentialed) and job coaching and retention services); and
  - extended services after the transition from support provided by OOD (e.g., a county board of DD, behavioral and/or mental health healthcare provider, a TBI network, Community Center for the Deaf).

# Job Search Assistance-SE

## Job Search Assistance – Supported Employment (Credentialed)

### Parts 1, 2, and 3

(Formerly Supported Employment Job Development)



*Providers must be a dually certified OOD/DODD or an IPS Provider  
For DD, provider staff must have a CESP or CRC credential for Parts 1 and 2*

## **NEW!** Job Search Assistance –Supported Employment (Non-credentialed)

### Parts 1, 2, and 3



*New! Does not require credentials listed above and expanded to include a mental health and/or substance use disorder diagnosis, a documented developmental disability, a diagnosed TBI, and/or is deaf or deafblind*





## **JSA – SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT (NON-CREDENTIALLED)**

This intensive service may be authorized based on all of the following requirements being met:

- participant has been determined to have a **Most Significant Disability (MSD)** at the time of the referral for this service and requires long term supports in order to maintain CIE;
- participant has a documented developmental disability which would qualify them for services from a county board of developmental disabilities, a mental health and/or substance use disorder diagnosis, a diagnosed traumatic brain injury (TBI), and/or is Deaf or deafblind; and
- participant has **secured ongoing supports** available after OOD case closure (e.g., through a TBI network, local DD county board, behavioral healthcare provider, Community Center for the Deaf (CCD), or other official funding source as approved by OOD).

In addition to all of the JSA service requirements noted in the standards Job Search Assistance, for this intensive service model providers must **meet with participants at a minimum of two times per week during Parts 1 and 2**. Providers, participants, and their person-centered planning team should meet as a team at a minimum of every sixty calendar days to review the supported employment/job search plan.



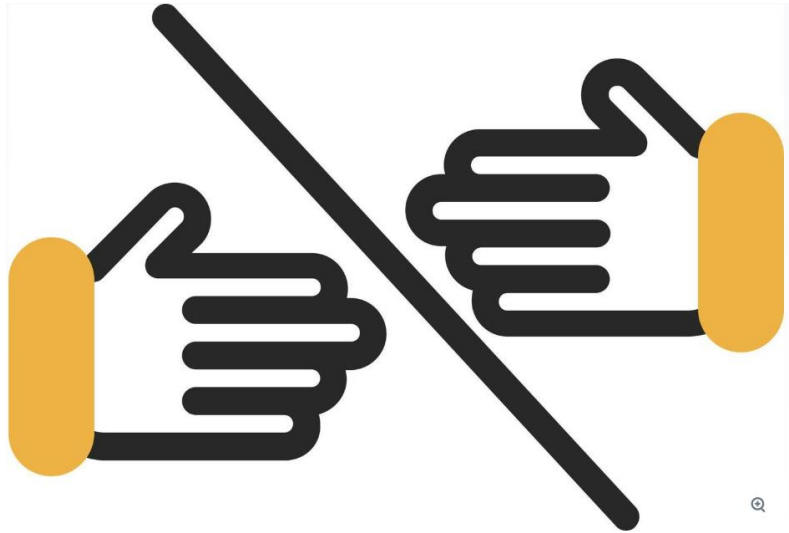


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## The Hand-off Meeting

At the beginning of Job Search Assistance (JSA) during Part 1, there should be a Kick-off meeting to set the course and expectation for services.

**Similarly, a Hand-off meeting should occur before successful case closure for both non-credentialed and credentialed Supported Employment JSA.**

Documentation of an appropriate Hand-off discussion during JSA Part 3 is required, noting that the participant's access to ongoing supports after OOD case closure has been communicated to the participant, and they have a written copy of this information.

## **Tips for VR Staff**

- ★ When referring for any Job Search Assistance service, please be sure to authorize for the correct service code to accurately pay for the service and have correct documentation of services provided.
- ★ For Job Search Assistance - SE (Non-Credentialed) there are codes for DD, MH/SUD, and Other (TBI and/or Deaf).
- ★ For Job Search Assistance - SE (Credentialed) there will continue to be dedicated service codes for DD and for IPS.
- ★ Please reference Supported Employment Procedure #:80-VR-11-03 as needed.

## **Tips for Providers**

- ★ Do not accept a referral for a service you are not approved to provide.
- ★ Request any needed service authorization amendments before services begin.



Image courtesy vecteezy.com

## Q&A

### **Q: Would a case ever change “paths” or lanes (e.g. JSA service path)?**

A: Generally, cases would expect to move forward on the paths they began. However, there may be some reasons for cases to change “paths”, such as:

A provider’s credential status changes for Supported Employment (moving them to or from the credentialed rate). This would be reflected at the next service we authorize for and would not be retroactive.

### **Q: Is the new non-credentialed JSA Supported Employment path now only based on the disability type?**

A: That can be an indicator that a case may be appropriate for this service, though all Supported Employment requirements must be met. Not all cases who have a DD, mental health, Deaf, or TBI diagnosis will qualify for this service.

### **Q: Will there be new service codes in Aware for each of the new service paths?**

A: Yes. The Data & Reporting Unit is providing an OOD staff training regarding service code changes in August. The Service Crosswalk will be updated and made available.

### **Q: When do the current CESP exceptions end?**

A: The current CESP exceptions end on September 30, 2024. Provider staff directly delivering the service must meet the service requirements to bill the credentialed rate.

### **Q: How do I let OOD staff know that my organization would like to provide one of the new services?**

A: Providers should add services they are able to provide in the Provider Management Portal. All providers are advised to review the services they provide and make any changes to incorporate new services.



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# Pre-ETS Subcategories Updates



# Pre-ETS Subcategories Updates

## What's new with Pre-ETS subcategories?

- Primary delivery model will move from Units of Service (UOS) to a Parts model.
- Units of Service (UOS) will still be available outside of the Parts model on a 1:1 basis, at the Job Coaching rate.

## What remains the same?

- Core services, intent, and outcomes of Pre-ETS subcategories remain the same.
- Same students we are serving, same provider curriculum, just organized slightly differently on the authorization side.
- Same relationships and communication with schools and partners.
- Same provider-to-student ratio of 1 to 4 (1:4).

Our schools should not experience a disruption, confusion, or experience Pre-ETS subcategories very differently, unless they are a Pre-ETS provider. These changes should be more “behind-the-scenes” for our school partners.

## Pre-ETS Subcategories Updates



Each Pre-ETS subcategory is structured in 3 Parts:

1. *Coordination and pre-assessment.*
2. *Service outcomes (4 benchmarks per subcategory).*
3. *Post-assessment, and summary.*

Let's look a little closer at each Part, with Instruction in Self-Advocacy as our service example.



# Pre-ETS Subcategories Updates

## STANDARD REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL PRE-ETS SUBCATEGORIES

### Pre-ETS Part 1 (Coordination + Pre-Assessment)

All subcategory Parts 1 will include all coordination activities (e.g., all contacts with the student, student's family or guardian, VR Staff or VR Contractor, school staff, potential businesses, other community partners) and a pre-assessment to document the student's baseline knowledge for the Pre-ETS subcategory to which they are referred. During this service, the provider shall conduct an initial meeting with the student, including activities such as reviewing referral information, gathering pertinent disability related information, determining the appropriateness of remote services (if applicable), and identifying any needed accommodations for participation in the specific Pre-ETS subcategory to which they are being referred. The provider shall review the Pre-ETS subcategory the student has been referred for, explain what is involved with the service, and review whether the service is expected to be provided individually or in a group. The provider shall also discuss the student's preferred mode of communication (e.g., Braille, email, in-person, phone, text, virtual) for coordination and arrangement of services. This service shall also include coordination with whom services will occur. This may include the activities such as planning meetings, interviews, site tours with potential businesses, postsecondary institutions, and service arrangements (e.g., following school protocols to reserve meeting space, schedule services, orchestrate remote services) with school staff, VR Staff or VR Contractor, and other community partners.

An invoice report is required for each Pre-ETS subcategory being invoiced. Additional requirements include:

- a pre-assessment documenting the student's baseline knowledge for the referred Pre-ETS subcategory.

# Pre-ETS Subcategories Updates

## Pre-ETS Parts 2 (Activities To Achieve Benchmarks)

All subcategory Parts 2 will include the activities to achieve the completion of the referred Pre-ETS subcategory benchmarks.

While the expectation is that each student completes all benchmarks of the referred Pre-ETS subcategory, in instances where the student is unable to complete all benchmarks identified in Part 2 of each Pre-ETS subcategory, OOD may prorate Part 2 for less than four benchmarks achieved. If the service must be prorated, **each completed benchmark can be billed at twenty-five percent of the Part 2 fee or \$62.50 per benchmark**. VR Staff or VR Contractor must be notified of any change in the expectation of a student completing all benchmarks.

An [invoice report](#) is required for each Pre-ETS subcategory being invoiced, including participant behaviors and participant Input. Additional requirements include:

- activities that were completed to support the required benchmarks; and
- documents completed during the service.



# Pre-ETS Subcategories Updates

## **Pre-ETS Part 2 Benchmark Examples**

### **Instruction In Self-Advocacy - Part 2**

Part 2 includes expected benchmarks for Instruction in Self-Advocacy Part 2 are:

- explore rights and responsibilities as it relates to the student's disability.
- introduce leadership skills to support success in the workplace.
- increase awareness of opportunities in the community to build leadership skills, expand community networks, and increase advocacy skills (e.g., at work, Individualized Education Program (IEP) and IPE meetings, requesting accommodations); and.
- identify personal self-advocacy interests and activities to build independence and self-advocacy skills including any network activities locally such as the name of peer mentoring groups or community networks.

Providers shall ensure that the above requirements are met. Additional requirements include:  
a completed self-evaluation of personal self-advocacy interests and activities to build independence and self-advocacy skills.

# Pre-ETS Subcategories Updates

## STANDARD REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL PRE-ETS SUBCATEGORIES

### Pre-ETS Part 3 (Post-Assessment + Recommendations)

All subcategory Parts 3 will include the completion of the post-assessment to evaluate a student's progress from the beginning of the service and recommend any additional needs they may have.

An invoice report is required for each Pre-ETS subcategory being invoiced. Additional requirements include:

- student's post-assessment information; and
- comprehensive summary of all benchmarks reached, student reaction and input to service delivery, and provider's recommendation for future services and potential areas of concern.

# Pre-ETS Subcategories Updates

## **Sample Pre- and Post-Assessments**

OOD will make sample pre- and post-assessments available for each Pre-ETS subcategory available. Provider may also utilize their own forms for these service elements.

## **Invoice Reports (Forms)**

A new Pre-ETS Subcategories Parts form will be available and may be invoiced after the completion of any Part.

# Pre-ETS Subcategories Update

## Q&A

**Q: Does the plan need to be amended?**

A: Current IPEs do not need to be amended. Future and amended plans should be amended to reflect the current/new language and service category.

**Q: Will any Pre-ETS specific materials and related policies/procedures be updated to reflect this new approach?**

A: These materials are all being reviewed, and will be updated if needed.

**Q: How should authorizations and services transition from UOS in September to Parts in October? Are there any Pre-ETS program specific authorization protocols?**

A: Please reference the Pre-ETS Subcategories Authorization Guidance document, which will be distributed ahead of October 1.

## Pre-ETS Subcategories Authorization Guidance Preview.

Final document will be  
distributed ahead of  
October 1, 2024

# Pre-ETS Subcategories Update

### Pre-ETS Fab 5 Parts Authorization Guidance

Starting 10/1/24, Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) Subcategories will now be authorized in flat-rate packages. These packages will be composed of three (3) separate parts for the provision of services. Each Pre-ETS Subcategory will have its own package of authorizations. Units of Service (UOS) will still be available for individual circumstances, but these should be rare instances.

#### Authorization Category and Subcategories

VR Staff shall authorize for Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) Subcategories in Aware by choosing a category of "Pre-Employment Transition Services" and a subcategory of:

\*Pre-Employment Transition Service\* - Part 1;  
\*Pre-Employment Transition Service\* - Part 2; and  
\*Pre-Employment Transition Service\* - Part 3.

Example: When authorizing for Pre-Employment Transition Services – Instruction in Self-Advocacy, VR Staff will choose "Pre-Employment Transition Services" as the category, and the subcategories would be:

Instruction in Self-Advocacy – Part 1  
Instruction in Self-Advocacy – Part 2  
Instruction in Self-Advocacy – Part 3

*Note: In most cases, VR Staff will not use "Pre-Employment Transition Services - UOS" for the authorization.*

#### Authorization Rates and Requirements

##### Part 1

- \$150.00 Flat Rate Fee
- Coordination of Services
- Pre-Assessment of Student

##### Part 2

- \$250.00 Flat Rate Fee
- Four (4) Benchmarks
- If the service must be prorated, each completed benchmark can be billed at twenty-five percent of the Part 2 fee or \$62.50 per benchmark.

##### Part 3

- \$100.00 Flat Rate Fee
- Post-Assessment
- Recommendations

## Transitioning from September to October

Authorizations typically do not cross over between state fiscal years, and for general VR Fee Schedule services should end by September 30, 2024.

College2Careers has issued specific guidance for post-secondary training.

Authorizations beginning in October 1, 2024 should utilize the new VR Fee Schedule language and service codes, which will automatically include the new rates.

Participant IPEs do not need to be amended for the purpose of new language for services, though amended or new plans should include the new and accurate service names.

# Invoice Reports (Forms)

Forms will look familiar and are not largely changing other than rates.

An updated cross-walk will be available.

New Life Skills Training invoice report.

Forms all have instructions tabs, etc.

Testing forms internally and with a provider test group.

New forms must be utilized for services beginning October 1 and afterward, to ensure full and accurate payment.



# What's Next?

## Rule Making Process

The rule has moved through the Common Sense Initiative and is now with JCARR; Targeted effective date of October 1, 2024

VR Fee Schedule update and all material in this training are conditional on JCARR approval

Data & Reporting Training aligning with VR Fee Schedule training (covers additional service code changes)

Live Staff Q&A Session on September 11, 2024

Live Provider Q&A Session on September 12, 2024

FAQ and additional guidance as needed

Updated *Services & Standards Guide* (Provider Manual)

Invoice Reports (forms) being updated – targeting September 1 posting

Please send questions related to this training to PCMU  
[pcmu@ood.ohio.gov](mailto:pcmu@ood.ohio.gov)

Potential November check-in and live Q&A

# What's Next?

## Support for VR Fee Schedule Transition

Please start by reviewing existing guidance, including:

- Returning to this training (pdf will be available);
- The VR Fee Schedule or the Services & Standards Guide;
- Any FAQs or follow-up guidance emails.

If existing guidance does not resolve any questions, please consult with your direct supervisor

VR Fee Schedule questions that cannot be resolved by reviewing existing guidance and consulting with supervision may be sent to [pcmu@ood.ohio.gov](mailto:pcmu@ood.ohio.gov)

Questions which are program specific should be directed to the corresponding Subject Matter Experts (SMEs)

Providers may contact their VRS liaison after reviewing existing guidance

Invoicing support may be received by contacting the Accountant Examiner Unit

# Thank you

VR Fee Schedule Think Tank

VR Provider Workgroup

Providers who offered feedback and participated in listening sessions

Division of Fiscal Management

Division of Legal Services

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Accessibility

Office of Communications

Data & Reporting, BSVI, Training Unit, Policy Unit, SETU

Vicki Friesland, Office of the Director

OOD Leadership

Field Leadership

PCMU RPSs