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Federal Regulations

[34 CFR 361.52](#) - Informed Choice

Section 150 INFORMED CHOICE

150 INFORMED CHOICE

150.1 Definition

- Informing each applicant and client through appropriate modes of communication, information and support services to assist them in exercising informed choice throughout the vocational rehabilitation (VR) process, including but not limited to:
 - Assessment information and, if appropriate, choice of vendor for assessment
 - Vocational goal selection
 - Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE) development and/or amendments
 - Vocational rehabilitation services, including choice of vendor

150.2 Application/Intake

- Provide the client with information about eligibility, order of selection, services based upon financial need and the overall rehabilitation process so they can make an informed choice about whether to pursue VR services.

150.3 Assessment

- Review and discuss the purpose of any assessment.
- Provide information regarding the different types of assessment and the various vendors that provide assessments.
- Document the client’s choice of vendors and why he or she chose that vendor.

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- Ensure the assessment is provided in the most integrated setting possible, consistent with the client’s needs and informed choice.
- Review, discuss and document assessment results that may impact vocational planning.

150.4 Selection of Vocational Goal and IPE Development

- Assist the client with selecting a vocational goal by exploring his or her unique strengths, resources, priorities, concerns, abilities, capabilities, interests and informed choice.
- Provide information concerning the labor market, occupations consistent with the client’s preferences and the variety of services available to assist the client in achieving his or her goal. ([Missouri Economic Research and Information Center](#))
- If a service being considered is based on financial eligibility, review [CSG section 600](#) with the client.
- In those situations when the counselor cannot support the client’s informed choice, the following action should be taken:
 - Document why the client’s choice is not supported.
 - Explore alternative opportunities/options with the client.
 - Provide the client with information regarding his or her appeal and mediation rights as well as the availability of the Client Assistance Program.
- Once the vocational goal has been agreed upon, document the client’s informed choice and proceed with development of the IPE.

150.5 Revisions to IPE

- The client has the opportunity to review the IPE goal, progress toward the goal, satisfaction with services and make any revisions at any time throughout the life of the case in accordance with informed choice.
- A review of the IPE is required, at least annually, to ensure that it remains an effective tool to assist the client in achieving an employment outcome in accordance with informed choice.

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150.6 Case Closure

- Prior to closure, the client will be informed in writing, as well as any other appropriate form of communication, of the intent to close the case.