

**UPCOMING DCRSA POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR PUBLIC HEARING**

<b>DOCUMENT</b>	<b>WHAT'S NEW?</b>
Postsecondary Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Payment of tuition costs in accordance with the new Postsecondary regulations;</li> <li>• Established preference for public institutions within the Washington DC Metro Area;</li> <li>• Increased financial support for necessary developmental/ remedial courses for up to two semesters;</li> <li>• Standards - Defined criteria for:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- College-readiness;</li> <li>- Approval for summer classes ;</li> <li>- Selecting a postsecondary institution</li> <li>- Determination of service:                   <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Is the service/good necessary?</li> <li>2. Is the service/good appropriate?</li> <li>3. Is the service/good the least possible cost?</li> <li>4. Who will be responsible for the costs in excess of the least costly alternative when a more expensive service/ good is chosen?</li> </ol> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Postsecondary Procedure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outlined steps in approving postsecondary cases and clearly identified responsibilities of the VR Specialist and the eligible person;</li> <li>• Introduced new processes in the approval of postsecondary cases;</li> <li>• Standardized reporting formats for case documentation;</li> <li>• Established timelines when postsecondary training can be requested(no later than 90 days before start of a semester or grading period);</li> <li>• Identified training monitoring requirements;</li> <li>• Provided guidelines in the application of the Postsecondary Regulations effective 8/29/14;</li> <li>• Clarified calculation of amount of financial assistance and how to apply scholarships and grants with illustrative examples;</li> <li>• Set guidelines for purchase of training-related goods and services as well as provision of transportation service.</li> </ul>
Maintenance Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adjusted definition to be consistent with the CFR;</li> <li>• Emphasis in the exploration of comparable services and benefits first;</li> <li>• Established that provision of maintenance is:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Subject to financial participation except when it is being provided during assessment;</li> <li>- Not a standalone service but a support service to a primary VR service (e.g. assessment, postsecondary training or job search);</li> <li>- Not for living expenses that a person would normally incur if s/he were not involved in</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<p>the VR program;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Not intended to duplicate other public benefits such as SSDI, SSI, SNAP or TANF.</li> <li>• Limitations of when it can be provided (not beyond first 30 days from job placement)</li> <li>• Established limits for certain good/s and service in a fee schedule;</li> <li>• Set standards for exceptions to spending guidelines.</li> </ul>
Self-employment Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Defined self-employment consistent with Department of Labor definition;</li> <li>• Proposed business must be organized as for-profit entities and designed with the intention of ultimately serving as the person's primary, steady, long-term source of income; be located and operated in an integrated, community-based setting; and comply with all applicable Federal and District laws and regulations;</li> <li>• Primary role of DCRSA in assisting a person with a self-employment goal is to provide information and support during the assessment, planning and business implementation phases;</li> <li>• Established that DCRSA shall not be a primary source of income or monetary support for a proposed business;</li> <li>• Set standards for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Self-employment assessment</li> <li>- Business plan components</li> <li>- Approval criteria for a self-employment plan</li> <li>- Monitoring and rehabilitation criteria for self-employment</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Self-Employment Procedure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outlined process in guiding persons with a goal in self-employment;</li> <li>• Identified responsibilities of the VR Specialist and the eligible person for each phase;</li> <li>• Standardized use of assessment and reporting formats for case documentation;</li> <li>• Identified available resources for self-employment.</li> </ul>
Rates of Payment for VR Services Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rates paid for post-secondary education or training are the rates established by the college, university or training institution;</li> <li>• Rates for VR services will be established by regulation in a fee schedule that will be paid across the board to vendors;</li> <li>• For other service rates that are not established by regulation, OCP is responsible for negotiating a fair and reasonable price.</li> </ul>