



## Alabama (AL) WIOA Matrix

### Employment First State Leadership Mentor Program (EFSLMP)

Department of Mental Health (DMH): The Agency maintains an ongoing relationship with DMH. ADRS serves numerous consumers with mental illness. ADRS works on cooperative initiatives to ensure services are provided to eligible consumers. ADRS maintains a relationship with the DMH Division of Substance Abuse and a network of residential aftercare service providers. ADRS is working extensively with the DMH to expand and improve the ADRS supported employment program. This includes efforts in the areas of Employment First, extended supports, and collaborating on grants. (Page 168)

The Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services continues to stay abreast of national issues regarding community rehabilitation facilities through its attendance and participation in conferences of state and national significance including Alabama Association of Rehabilitation Facilities (AARF), Alabama Association of People Supporting Employment First (AL-APSE), Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabilitation (CSAVR), and National Rehabilitation Association (NRA). Pages (174-176)

Additionally, the Alabama Department of Mental Health, the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services, the Alabama Department of Education, the Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education, the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs, the Alabama Department of Senior Services, the Alabama Council on Developmental Disabilities, and Alabama's Medicaid Agency are all principle players in Employment First in Alabama. (Page 179)

### Customized Employment

No disability specific information found regarding this element

### Braiding/Blending Resources

The Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services has committed to increasing successful supported employment outcomes through collaboration and coordination with other agencies and organizations including sharing or braiding funding. (Page 198)

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### Section 188/Section 188 Guide

Describe how the one-stop delivery system (including one-stop center operators and the one-stop delivery system partners), will comply with section 188 of WIOA (if applicable) and applicable provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.) with regard to the physical and programmatic accessibility of facilities, programs, services, technology, and materials for individuals with disabilities. This also must include a description of compliance through providing staff training and support for addressing the needs of individuals with disabilities. (Pages 100)

A re-survey of Career Centers (including satellite centers) is being done in FY 2016 to check physical and programmatic accessibility of facilities, services, technology and materials using a DOL survey checklist developed under Section 188 of WIOA and a policy checklist. (Page 101)

### DEI/Disability Resource Coordinators

Project SEARCH teachers and job coaches attend this 3 day interactive training as well. Project SEARCH sends their teachers and job coaches to this training as well. ADRS will partner with ADMH, Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs–Workforce Development, Alabama Department of labor, Community College System, Job Corps, Department of Veterans Affairs, the AL Department of Veterans Affairs, Reintegration Apprenticeship, the WIA Indians and Native American programs to implement the DEI grant. This grant provides funding to increase the number of youths with disabilities ages 19–24 served through American Job Centers and improve their employment and training outcomes while increasing the Job Centers capacity to serve people with disabilities. The goal of the grant is to increase access to existing employment, training and educational opportunities available through the states workforce partners, which will promote a culture of employment as a priority for persons with disabilities. (Page 176)

### Other State Programs/Pilots that Support Competitive Integrated Employment

No disability specific information found regarding this element.

### Financial Literacy/Economic Advancement

No disability specific information found regarding this element.

### Benefits

According to the SSI Annual Statistical Report 2014, Alabama ranks seventh in the nation in the percentage of the population who are receiving disability social security benefits. Census estimates from 2014 show that there were approximately 776,448 people in the state with a disability, nearly 40.0 percent over the age of 65. Nearly 140,000 disabled persons were in the labor force in 2014 (Page24)

We continue to work closely with ADMH on Employment First. We are currently working on contracting with them for additional benefits planners to help support individuals who are seeking competitive, integrated employment. (Page 218)

## Alabama (AL) WIOA Matrix

### School to Work Transition

The students work with a team that includes their family, a special education teacher, and job coaches to create an employment goal, and to support the student during this important transition from school to work. The program is a cooperative arrangement between the employer, the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services, the State Department of Education, the Development Disabilities Council, the Department of Mental Health, and the local school system. (Page 166)

At the state level, ADRS participates as an equal partner in the Alabama State Interagency Transition Team (SITT). SITT is a multidisciplinary group of 37 representatives from 22 state agencies (ADRS, ALSDE, Alabama Department of Mental Health and Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education) and organizations providing services for students and young adults with disabilities. The purpose of this group is to develop a better understanding of each agency's role and responsibilities in service delivery for Alabama's students and young adults with disabilities, and to seek and implement new and better ways of providing secondary special education and transition services. At the local level, the ADRS has procedures in place to ensure the agency is actively involved in the transition of students with disabilities from school to work. (Page 171)

ADRS will collaborate with local school systems to develop and implement transition initiatives; ensuring students who are appropriate for SE services have access to providers earlier in the secondary settings. SE providers will be active in the local high schools to present information regarding their programs to parents, students and staff. Students will also have the opportunity to participate in community-based assessments before they exit schools, to facilitate a seamless transition to Supported Employment Services. (Page 210)

### Data Collection

No disability specific information found regarding this element.

### Small Business/Entrepreneurship

With regard to business and entrepreneurship opportunities for veterans, recent AJC training has resulted in new partnerships with organizations having resources to assist veterans open their own businesses and qualify for state tax breaks. A new American Express OPEN State of the Women-Owned Business Report ranks Alabama No. 8 in the nation in the growth of women-owned businesses over the past 17 years. Alabama is among the state's leading the nation in deploying funds from the Small Business Credit Initiative offered by the U.S. Treasury. A study commissioned by USAA Insurance and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation's Hiring Our Heroes program says Huntsville and Montgomery, Alabama, are two of the best medium-sized metro areas for job-seeking veterans of the Post 911 era. This is an important finding, given that since 9/11, the Alabama National Guard has called more than 21,000 personnel to active duty. (Page 272)

## Alabama (AL) WIOA Matrix

### Career Pathways

No disability specific information found regarding this element.

### Employment Networks

Section identified but no detailed information specifically addressing disability focused implementation. (Page 230)

\* All enclosed information is cited directly from final state plan as of February 23, 2017

Find your local state plans here: <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/osers/rsa/wioa/state-plans/index.html>