

Louisiana (LA) WIOA Matrix

Employment First State Leadership Mentor Program (EFSLMP)

LRS continues to participate with OCDD in the “Employment First” initiative, which was designed to provide employment as a first option for persons with developmental disabilities, as an alternative to institutionalization, and to provide integration/independence in the community.

LRS participates in roundtable discussions hosted by OCDD to inform their staff and providers of new requirements related to integration of individuals with developmental disabilities into their communities as a result of new Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) rules, as well as how to better collaborate with LRS to achieve goals set forth in WIOA. (Page 240)

Customized Employment

No specific disability related information found.

Braiding/Blending Resources

No specific disability related information found.

Section 188/Section 188 Guide

Section identified but no detailed information specifically addressing implementation on disability. (Page 103)

DEI/Disability Resource Coordinators

With support of the Disability Employment Initiative (DEI) grant (2012 –2015), LWC worked to ensure the physical, communication and programmatic accessibility of all One–Stop Career Centers by conducting specialized training for all center staff on topics including accessibility for all, disability etiquette and awareness, and identifying and assisting job–seekers with hidden disabilities. LWC will continue to maintain these investments in staff training and technology to make certain One– Stop Career Center staff serve adult job–seekers with disabilities effectively.

LWC will incorporate accessibility criteria as part of the One–Stop certification criteria in collaboration with its disability partners and advocacy groups. Additionally, all One–Stop Centers will be monitored onsite annually to ensure compliance with this requirement. (Page 103)

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Other State Programs/Pilots that Support Competitive Integrated Employment

No specific disability related information found.

Financial Literacy/Economic Advancement

No specific disability related information found.

Benefits

Upon reviewing survey information of individuals receiving SSI/SSDI, the top needs identified by respondents included job placement (47%); job readiness skills (32%); job coaching (32%); and benefits planning (30%). They identified barriers to employment as being the fear of losing their government dues to renew and revise existing local cooperative agreements, as applicable, with the 70 school districts and 104 Charter Schools in Louisiana. As part of the State Transition Plan, the Department of Education (DOE) and LRS continue to work together to establish Regional Core teams throughout the state. The LRS' Transition Program Coordinator continues to collaborate and partner with DOE, Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD), Work Incentive Planning Program, Office of Community Services, LWC, and the Office of Youth Development in an effort to network, share information and utilize comparable benefits to enhance VR services to transition students. The primary focus of LRS' collaboration is to identify and address barriers (e.g. policies, eligibility process, resource allocation); assure effective service provision through the support of local interagency core teams, provide cross-agency training, outreach, engage in capacity building of young adults and family outreach efforts; provide continued support of innovative models and practices related to transition; and provide information and technical assistance. The Program Coordinator provides guidance and information to the Rehabilitation Counselors regarding specific transition issues. The Program Coordinator worked collaboratively with CURRENTS' Coordinator, Peggy Hale, using monthly conference calls, to discuss transition topics and provide information to LRS' field offices. The Training Unit developed a School-to-Work Job Readiness curriculum and has trained staff to implement the curriculum with eligible students. Training will continue to be provided statewide. VR Counselors are encouraged to provide services at least once a month, when feasible, to students determined appropriate for job readiness training. (Page 240)

School to Work Transition

LRS Transition Counselors conduct outreach by hosting transition meetings at area high schools to provide information about VR services and to accept referrals. Information disseminated at these meetings includes agency brochures, client handbooks describing the VR processes/services, and referrals to other community resources students may need to access. Counselors work with the students, parents and educators to plan services needed for successful transition from school to work from the point that the student with a disability is identified. (Page 193)

Some examples of collaborative efforts include Transition Core Team meetings held statewide attended by the DOE, the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities, Families Helping Families, and other interested individuals. These meetings are held to assist agencies who serve transition students as they exit from school to work. (Page 209)

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Incentive Planning Program, the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), the Disability Employment Initiative (DEI), and the Office of Youth Development in an effort to network, share information and utilize comparable benefits to enhance VR services to transition students. The primary focus of LRS' collaboration is to identify and address barriers (e.g. policies, eligibility process, resource allocation); assure effective service provision through the support of local interagency core teams, provide cross-agency training, outreach, engage in capacity building of young adults and family outreach efforts; provide continued support of innovative models and practices related to transition; and provide information and technical assistance. The Program Coordinator provides guidance and information to the Rehabilitation Counselors regarding specific transition issues. The Program Coordinator is working collaboratively with the Transition Learning Collaborative using video conferencing calls hosted by Laurie Ford, to discuss transition topics and provide information to LRS' field offices. Technical support is provided to staff in the field offices to enhance transition services. The Transition Coordinator works closely with the school districts that have Third Party Cooperative Arrangements to assist the Transition Specialist as needed. Training will continue to be provided statewide. VR Counselors are encouraged to provide services at least once a month, when feasible, to students determined appropriate for Job Readiness training. Pre-Employment Transition Services are made available statewide to students with disabilities by LRS' Community Rehabilitation Programs (CRPs) to provide workplace readiness and establish work based learning experiences. (Page 245)

Data Collection

The LRC/LRS liaison participated in several workgroups to develop the model, methods of research and data collection. Once the surveys were developed, the liaison distributed the draft survey instruments to LRC members soliciting their input. Comments and suggestions received contributed to the final development of the survey. As exhibited above, the CSNA is the result of a joint effort between LRS and the LRC with technical assistance provided by Region VI TACE. (Page 212)

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Small Business/Entrepreneurship

Employment and training programs administered by the Social Security Administration, including the Ticket to Work and the Self-Sufficiency Program.

- Employment and training programs carried out by the Small Business Administration.
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) employment and training programs.
- Other programs authorized under the National and Community Service Act of 1990.
- In addition to these specified additional partners the law and plan allows boards to include other partners as part of the one-stop delivery system -- local employers and community-based, faith-based, and/or non-profit organizations, as well as employment, education and training programs provided by public libraries or the private sector. (Page 53)

Career Pathways

Goal 1: Establish Career Pathways as a model for skill, credential and degree attainment for Louisiana citizens to secure jobs that provide opportunities for economic independence and family stability. This goal will be accomplished by executing the following objectives:

1. Workforce development system partners will develop a shared vision and strategy for industry sector-based career pathways for youth and adults. Career pathways must be diverse, with multiple entry and exit points allowing individuals of varying abilities, including low-skilled adults and youth with multiple barriers to employment, to have realistic access to pathways.
2. Engage employers and integrate sector strategy principles to ensure multiple employers, business associations and organized labor are partners in creating demand-driven career pathways. (Page 35)

Employment Networks

Section identified but no detailed information specifically addressing disability or implementation. (Page 196, 267)

* 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>