

877—33.4(259) Referral and application for services.**33.4(1) General.**

a. The division has established and implemented standards for the prompt and equitable handling of referrals of individuals for vocational rehabilitation services, including referrals of individuals made through the one-stop service delivery systems under Section 121 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. The standards include timelines for making good faith efforts to inform these individuals of application requirements and to gather information necessary to initiate an assessment for determining eligibility and priority for services.

b. A referral for a student with a disability requesting preemployment transition services (pre-ETS) includes completion of the pre-ETS agreement.

c. Once an individual has submitted an application for vocational rehabilitation services, including applications made through common intake procedures in one-stop centers under Section 121 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, an eligibility determination must be made within 60 days, unless exceptional and unforeseen circumstances beyond the control of the division preclude making an eligibility determination within 60 days and the division and the individual agree to a specific extension of time.

d. An individual is considered to have submitted an application when the individual or the individual's representative, as appropriate, has completed an agency application form including written consent; has completed a common intake application form in a one-stop center requesting vocational rehabilitation services or has otherwise requested services from the division; has provided to the division information necessary to initiate an assessment to determine eligibility and priority for services; and is available to complete the assessment process. The division ensures that its application forms are widely available throughout the state, particularly in the one-stop centers under Section 121 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

e. The division will refer applicants or eligible individuals to appropriate programs and service providers best suited to address the specific rehabilitation, independent living and employment needs of the individual with a disability. Individuals with the most significant disabilities who are working at subminimum wage in a nonintegrated setting are provided information about competitive integrated employment and support from the division, once known to the division, by qualified personnel and partners with the goal of assisting said individuals to pursue competitive integrated employment.

f. The division will inform those who decide against pursuit of employment that services may be requested at a later date if, at that time, they choose to pursue an employment outcome.

33.4(2) Individuals who are blind. Pursuant to rule 111—10.4(216B), individuals who meet the department for the blind (IDB) definition of “blind” are to be served primarily by IDB. Joint cases are served pursuant to any applicable memorandum of agreement executed between the division and IDB. [ARC 6481C, IAB 8/24/22, effective 9/28/22; Editorial change: IAC Supplement 8/23/23]