

281—56.16(259) Training.

56.16(1) Duration of training. Rehabilitation training is provided according to the actual needs of the individual. It is designed to achieve the specific employment outcome that is selected by the individual consistent with the individual's unique strengths, resources, priorities, concerns, abilities, capabilities, interests, and informed choice.

56.16(2) Types of training. The types of training programs available are as follows:

a. Postsecondary training, which is training in the arts and sciences for which postsecondary credit is given and which is generally considered to be applicable toward an associate's degree, bachelor's degree, or advanced degree.

b. Vocational training, which includes any organized form of instruction that provides the knowledge and skills essential for performing in a vocational-technical area. Such knowledge and skills may be acquired through training in an institution, on the job, by correspondence, by tutors, or through a combination of any or all of these methods.

c. Prevocational training, which includes any form of basic training given for the acquisition of background knowledge or skills prerequisite or preparatory to vocational training or to employment where the primary occupational knowledge and skills are learned on the job.

d. Work adjustment training, which includes any training given for any one or a combination of the following reasons:

(1) To assist individuals with disabilities, if needed, to acquire personal habits, attitudes and skills that will enable them to function effectively.

(2) To develop or increase work tolerance prior to engaging in prevocational or vocational training, or in employment.

(3) To develop work habits and to orient the individual to the world of work.

(4) To provide skills or techniques for the specific purpose of enabling the individual to compensate for the loss of the use of a member of the body or the loss of a functional capacity.

e. Job coaching, which includes, but is not limited to, intensive on-the-job training necessary to teach an employee both the job duties and job-related responsibilities.

f. Supported employment, which means competitive work in an integrated work setting with ongoing support services for individuals with the most significant disabilities for whom competitive employment has not traditionally occurred or has been interrupted or intermittent as a result of significant disabilities. Supported employment also includes transitional employment for individuals with chronic mental illness. Supported employment is limited to a period of 18 months unless a longer period is established in the IPE.

g. Customized training, which is a plan developed by the client's counselor in cooperation with the client and the employer-trainer whereby the employer-trainer accepts the client for training for a specific job or job family, paid or unpaid, that may or may not result in employment with the training employer.

56.16(3) Scope of training. The division may provide training services as long as those services are part of a client's IPE. Training facilities shall be selected to meet the client's health, disability, and program needs. Training facilities within the state are preferred; those outside Iowa shall not be used unless approved for use by the vocational rehabilitation agency in the state in which the facility is located.

56.16(4) Financial assistance for postsecondary training. Calculations of financial assistance for postsecondary training are based on tuition and fee amounts.

a. Tuition and fee-based general assistance.

(1) For community colleges, the division shall pay no less than 40 percent and no more than 60 percent of the per-credit-hour fee charged by the community college, with no limit as to the number of credit hours taken by the client.

(2) For all other colleges and universities, public and private, whether in Iowa or outside Iowa, the division shall pay no less than 40 percent and no more than 60 percent of the per-credit-hour fee charged by the college or university, limited to the amount charged by the least expensive Iowa regents institution.

(3) For other training programs that qualify for federal financial aid, the division shall pay no less than 40 percent and no more than 60 percent of the amount charged by the least expensive Iowa regents institution, limited to the full-time rate, prorated as necessary.

(4) For training programs that do not qualify for federal financial aid, the division shall pay no less than 40 percent and no more than 75 percent of the tuition and fees charged to the client.

(5) For continuing education courses, the division shall pay no less than 40 percent and no more than 75 percent of the tuition and fees charged to the client.

(6) For on-line courses, the level of support shall be determined on a case-by-case basis.

b. Support services for postsecondary training. Unless approved as an exception by the supervisor, the amounts authorized for the items listed herein cannot exceed the amounts that would otherwise be spent on tuition and fees.

(1) Transportation shall be provided only when and to the extent that the cost is caused by participation in a program of vocational rehabilitation services.

(2) Maintenance shall be provided only to support participation in a program of vocational rehabilitation services when the client has no resources to address basic living expenses.

(3) Books and supplies may be provided in lieu of tuition and fees, but the amount provided therefor shall be no less than 40 percent and no more than 60 percent of the amount based on tuition and fees.

(4) Tutoring shall be provided only for courses that are part of the actual degree requirements and only when this service is not available for free through the school attended by the client. Tutoring for program entrance examinations, such as the GRE, LSAT, or MCAT, is not allowed without an exception approved by the supervisor.

(5) Unless approved as an exception, tools and equipment required for participation in a training program shall be provided in lieu of the tuition and fee amount.

(6) Unless approved as an exception, supplies for a course without which the course cannot be successfully completed shall be provided in lieu of the tuition and fee amount.

(7) Unless approved as an exception, fees for specialized equipment or computer programs needed to learn a subject or to access a course shall be provided in lieu of the tuition and fee amount.

(8) Fees for certification tests that are part of a course shall be paid pursuant to the 40 percent to 60 percent range established as the tuition and fees standard. For certifications and licensure fees that are not part of a course, the division shall use the financial needs assessment form to determine the level of division participation.

56.16(5) General guidance regarding postsecondary training is available from the division's case services manual.