Framework for Aligning Vocational Habilitation Service Delivery with State and Federal Requirements

Home and Community-Based Waiver Services 42 CFR 440.180 (c)(2)(i)			
What does it require?	How can we do it?	What system changes will help make this work?	What tools can we create to make this work?
Prevocational services are for people not expected to join the general workforce within the next year or participate in a transitional sheltered workshop, except for supported employment. People who are paid are paid less than 50% of the minimum wage. The service is not used to teach a person a specific job but is used to help people learn the general skills needed to work in any job. Services are reflected in the persons service plan identifying the skills to be developed, the main objective	 When people receiving Vocational Habilitation/Integrated Prevocational Skill Building (IPSB) are paid, the following guidelines will be used: 1. Compensation will be reviewed at least every 12 months to determine if the person has achieved 50% of the minimum wage threshold. 2. "Minimum wage" is the Ohio minimum wage. 3. The calculation will be based off of the state minimum wage and the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data. BLS 	Develop a guidance document on how to make the annual calculation. Include annual compensation amount. Amend DODD/OOD & DODD/Medicaid Interagency Agreements to reflect. Strengthen relationship with ODE to educate, train, and support local education authorities on the vocational habilitation/(IPSB) service. Fully operationalize the Employment First Transition Framework. Build SSA capacity to review compensation standards, facilitate difficult conversations with	Develop communication and outreach tools to individuals, families, providers, and CB's ongoing throughout the process. Develop Service flow chart that providers/SSA's can use to show the range of adult day and employment services that are available. Develop Employment decision tree that providers can share with families and people with disabilities

for the service cannot be for	per week the average	authorize Voc. Hab/IPSB, and Voc.	
employment.	American work and	Hab/IPSB rule requirements.	
	releases that information		
DODD's prevocational service	monthly.		
is called Vocational			
Habilitation.	Annual wage earnings will		
	be added to the required		
	employment services		
	progress report that is		
	submitted to the SSA once		
	every 12 months.		
	This information will be		
	used to plan for		
	transitioning the person		
	from Vocational		
	Habilitation/IPSB to other		
	needed employment		
	supports.		

Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Settings Rule 42 CFR 441.301 (4)			
What does it require?	How can we do it?	What system changes will	What tools can we create to make
		help make this work?	this work?
Wherever a person receives	Strengths, interests and	Amend DODD/OOD and	Increase communication and
Medicaid-funded waiver	abilities are identified	DODD/Medicaid	outreach tools for individuals,
services has to be part of the	through the person-	Interagency Agreements to	families, providers, and CB's ongoing
community.	centered planning	reflect the HCBS Settings	throughout the process
	process.	Rule and reflect required	
The providers of HCBS		partnership to support	
Medicaid-funded waiver	People are given the	people towards community	
services must support people,	opportunity to be involved	employment.	
as needed, with being	in community activities		
involved in their community	with support, as needed,	Strengthen relationship with	
in ways that are meaningful	by providers of vocational	ODE to educate, train, and	
to them.	habilitation/IPSB services.	support local education	
		authorities on the HCBS	
A person must be given the	SSAs make sure people	Settings Rule.	
choice of receiving services in	are given choices of		
places that are not just for	services available to meet	Build SSA capacity to	
people with disabilities	their needs and in non-	understand the HCBS	
The SSA must document all	disability-specific settings	settings rule, facilitate	
the choices a person was	where those services can	difficult conversations with	
offered.	be provided. These	families, understanding	
	options are documented	when to authorize	
New CMS issued guidance	in the plan.	Vocational Habilitation/IPSB	
indicates that all settings that		and Vocational	
have the effect of isolation do	Monitor ongoing	Habilitation/IPSB rule	
not have to be submitted to	compliance with standards	requirements based on the	
CMS for heightened scrutiny	via monitoring by SSAs	HCBS settings rule.	
if the setting implements	and Department level staff		

remediation to the state's satisfaction by July 1, 2020.

 States may submit to CMS those isolating settings that have not completed remediation by July 1, 2020 if a state determines that these settings can implement remediation prior to the expiration of the transition period (March 17, 2022). using the process outlined for regulatory review of certified providers outlined in OAC 5123:2-2-04.

HCBS Medicaid services rules are updated to reflect settings rule requirements, as needed.

Build provider and SSA capacity to plan, authorize, and deliver services in settings that meet the HCBS Settings Rule.

Set benchmarks in Ohio Transition plan to increase the number of people receiving community based prevocational services.

Gather baseline data of current available community based prevocational services providers by 2019.

a. By 2020, increase community prevocational Identify what funding would be available to provide training and technical assistance to support sheltered workshops to continue to employ individuals with I/DD without Medicaid funding. The funding would be temporary and would only fund technical assistance for strategic planning and implementation.

services providers by 10%. b. By 2022, increase community prevocational service providers by 20%.	
Remediation plans may be required for settings the State determines to have the effect of isolating. Heightened scrutiny may also be requested from CMS.	

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Technical Guide (9/16/2011)			
What does it require?	How can we do it?	What system changes will	What tools can we create to make
		help make this work?	this work?
Prevocational services occur	Develop new HCBS waiver	Develop new HCBS waiver	Develop training and guidance
over a defined period of time	service to be effective in	service to be effective in	materials for SSA's, providers,
(not indefinite/forever).	2020. DODD suggested	2020. Training and TA to	individuals and families regarding this
	name for the new service	occur.	service.
The service must be aimed at	is Integrated Prevocational		
helping people enter the	Skill Building (IPSB).	Strengthen relationship with	Develop a decision tree on how
general workforce.	(Estimated Date: July	ODE to educate, train, and	individuals would transition from
	2020)	support local education	current vocational habilitation service
The service must be tied to		authorities on the IPSB	into the newly identified service.
clear outcomes for the	Vocational Habilitation	service and time limit.	
person.	service will be sunsetted	Increase Pre-employment	Develop decision tree on service
	and there will be no new	transition services for youth.	options and planning process for
The service must be used to	admissions once the new		individuals 18-49. Detailing what
teach or develop general	Integrated Prevocational	Update current Vocational	occurs if services are needed beyond
skills.	Service Skill Building	Habilitation Rule, 5123: 2-9-	the 24 month time limit.
	Service is made available.	14 to retire this service.	
The waiver application must			Outline the details for the County
say where the service can be	Anyone 50 or older who is	Develop new Integrated	Board extension process and the
provided.	currently enrolled at the	Prevocational Skill Building	DODD review process (required for
	time the Integrated	Service OAC.	any extensions beyond 3 years).
The service cannot be used to	Prevocational Skill		
teach specific job skills	Building Service is made	Amend DODD/OOD and	Increase communication and
needed to perform work in a	available, will be able to	DODD/Medicaid	outreach to individuals, families,
facility-based job.	maintain services as they	Interagency Agreements to	providers, and CB's ongoing
	are today. i.e. Remain in	reflect time limit and reflect	throughout the process
The service must be reviewed	facility-based	the required partnership to	
at least annually.		support people to obtain	

prevocational services, if chosen.

Employment First rule would still apply to these individuals but if they choose to remain in a facility-based setting, this would be approved.

The plan must identify the person's outcomes, the general skills intended to be obtained through Integrated Prevocational Skill Building Service, where those services will be delivered, and when they will be reviewed.

Integrated Prevocational

Skill Building may only be authorized for people who express an interest in obtaining competitive, integrated employment.

Integrated Prevocational Skill Building Service can only be authorized for a total of 24 months for and maintain community employment.

Evaluation and revisions to Acuity Assessment Instrument (AAI)

Evaluation and recommendations to align budget limitations for adult day and employment services.

Evaluation and recommendations to align financing for adult day and employment services.

Ongoing evaluation of nonmedical transportation.

Build SSA capacity.

Build provider capacity to deliver prevocational services in alignment with federal requirements. DODD will create resource document and training on how the Adult Day Support Service can be delivered for those individuals whose goals are targeted at retirement. people ages 18 – 49. Effective Date: July 2020

Yearly extensions to this service can be approved as needed. Extensions will only be granted for a oneyear timespan. This will correspond with ISP. County Boards of Developmental Disabilities will be able to authorize the one-year extension up to 3 times.

After the third extension, DODD will develop an authorization process and extensions beyond 3 times could only be authorized by DODD.

There will be no limit to the number of available extensions.

A person's place on the Path to Community Employment is identified in the plan.

The Employment First	
Rule, 5123-2-2-05 will be	
amended requiring	
County Boards of	
Developmental Disabilities	
to report yearly	
individuals' Place on the	
Path to Community	
Employment. Rule	
amended by July 2020.	
Data collection will be	
required starting October	
2020.	

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)			
What does it require?	How can we do it?	What system changes will help make this work?	What tools can we create to make this work?
disabilities should be able to have the option and exposure to working in competitive, integrated employment. Places limits on the payment of subminimum wages to individuals with disabilities. Sets requirements for youth 24 and younger and adults. Sets requirements for VR and schools.	Youth 24 and younger, must: 1. Be provided with PreETS 2. Apply for VR services and has been found ineligible or had their case closed without an employment outcome 3. Provided career counseling Adults being paid subminimum wage must receive: 1.Career counseling at least once a year 2.Provided with information on self- advocacy, self- determination, and peer mentoring opportunities	 Employment First Taskforce Joint Guidance document created and distributed. Vocational Rehabilitation is the lead agency for parts of WIOA. Developed and administer career counseling. Developed and authorizing PreETS ODE has distributed guidance, forms, and reference materials. Added to Employment First Transition Vision Work Plan. Increase of Pre-Employment Transition Services. Ongoing joint training regarding IEP outcome of competitive, integrated 	Ongoing development of communication and outreach tools to individuals, families, providers, and CB's ongoing throughout the process. Muli-system case management training requirements regarding community employment.

Target towards all school districts but initial outreach to current county board operated schools.

Fully operationalizing the Employment First Transition Framework.

Build SSA capacity.

Build provider capacity.

Multi-system required employment competencies for case managers in OOD, DODD, ODE, ODJFS, and ODM regarding employment resources for individuals with I/DD.

Multi-system core competencies for employment providers across OOD, DODD, ODE, ODJFS, and ODM.

Increase access for youth exiting school to multi career pathways, including post-secondary options

Department of Labor (14c subminimum wage certificate)

A person must be paid for all hours worked.

A person must be paid minimum wage, in accordance with state and federal standards, unless:

a. The person is doing work for an employer who has a 14c certificate from the Department of Labor; AND

b. The person's disability impairs his ability to do earn and produce the work being performed at the same rate as non-disabled workers.

If paid below minimum wage, the person's wage is based on the worker's ability to produce work, as compared with nondisabled workers doing the same work, and must be reevaluated at least every 6 months.

Employers must keep track of daily and weekly hours worked and time spent not doing paid work, as defined by the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA).