Bureau of Rehabilitation Services

Order of Selection
Implementation
What is Order of Selection?

• Order of Selection is a process that is required when a VR agency does not have enough fiscal or staffing resources to serve everyone who is eligible.

• An individual is put into a priority category based on the severity of the disability.

• Serving those with the most severe disabilities first.
Priority Categories

• **Priority Group 1**: Individuals with the most significant disabilities

• **Priority Group 2**: Individuals with significant disabilities

• **Priority Group 3**: All other eligible individuals with disabilities
Why Order of Selection?

Decision process:

• Reduced state funding appropriations

• Increased state employee fringe costs

• Sharp decline in federal re-allotment funding
When will Order of Selection begin?

- **October 1, 2018** Order of Selection will be implemented. This will require BRS to serve those with the most significant disabilities first or Priority Category 1

- All Priority Category 2 & 3 individuals will be placed on a wait list for services

- The wait list will be reviewed and updated quarterly
What is the criteria for Priority Categories?

• **Priority 1:** Individuals with the most significant disabilities. An eligible individual with severe mental or physical impairments resulting in four or more functional areas and who require multiple services over a period of time.

• **Priority 2:** Individuals with significant disabilities. An eligible individual with severe mental or physical impairments resulting in a limitation of one functional area and who require multiple services over an extended period of time.

• **Priority 3:** This includes all other eligible Individuals with disabilities.
What are the 7 Functional Areas?

- Communication
- Mobility
- Self-direction
- Work tolerance
- Interpersonal skills
- Self-care
- Work skills
What is the process?

- Anyone with a disability interested in employment is encouraged to still apply for BRS services.

- An individual’s priority category will be determined at the time of eligibility.
What is the process (cont.)

- Individuals will be served by priority category in order of eligibility date when sufficient funds become available.

- New applicants will receive an oral/written or written explanation of the Order of Selection process.
Will this impact everyone?

No

• If you are currently employed and are at immediate risk of losing your job, *retention services* can be provided. An Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE) can be developed to provide these services

• This will not affect any individual currently eligible prior to/on October 1, 2018
Will this impact everyone (cont.)

• Students age 16-21 with disabilities will still receive Level Up services
• 511 Process will remain the same
• Students who apply and are found eligible for VR services but are placed on a waiting list, may continue to receive Level Up services
• Level Up services include: Job exploration counseling, work-based learning opportunities, workplace readiness training, counseling on opportunities for enrollment in post-secondary education & instruction in self-advocacy
Information and Referral

• In the “meantime”
• Critical to collaborate
• Many will come off Waiting list
Can an individual appeal the process?

Yes

• Any individual has the right to appeal the priority category assignment through informal and formal review as well as through the Client Assistance Program (CAP)