



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)