

NOTE: This memo was sent via email from DBH to the BH Regions and is effective 7/3/18. The memo continues payment of SE milestones by DBH until further notice.

DBH Paying for Milestones while VR is Under Order of Selection for Category 1

Effective immediately, during the time period that Nebraska VR is under Order of Selection with all priority groups closed, DBH will allow Regions to pay for Milestones 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 for persons who are categorized by VR as Priority One.

A person who is designated as Priority 1 by VR must have a severe physical or mental impairment resulting in a rating of very low in two or more functional areas. The functional areas assessed are: Communication, Interpersonal Skills, Mobility, Self-Care, Self-Direction, Work Skills, and Work Tolerance. For the purpose of DBH Supported Employment, the impairment must be based on mental illness.

Process:

Once a person self refers or is referred by a service provider to supported employment, they should go to VR, have an eligibility determination and a priority status review. If determined VR eligible and Priority One status, they will be placed on the waitlist. They should return the SE provider.

1. The SE provider will assist the individual to confirm via email from VR that they are on the VR waiting list;
2. Register the person in the CDS;
3. The SE provider will create an Employment Plan using the attached template
4. Following creation of the Employment Plan, the SE provider may bill the Region 1 for Milestone One.
5. The provider will continue using the same process as described in the SE manual to bill the Region for Milestone 2.
6. The Division will reimburse for Benefits Services for those verified to be on the VR waiting list for up to 10 hours at the \$50.
 - a. Benefits services must be provided by a person certified or otherwise qualified to provide these services.
 - b. Benefits services will be billed as a line item in the EBS.
 - c. A need for additional benefits services beyond 10 hours must be approved by the Division of Behavioral Health
 - d. The Region must keep a list and the number of hours for each consumer for who benefits services are billed, and use this for services purchased audit use.
7. The provider may bill the Region for Milestone 3 upon job stabilization.
8. The provider may bill the Region for Milestone 4 after no less than 90 continuous days of employment and completion of related duties including development of a job retention plan
9. The provider may bill the Region for long term supports as described in the Supported Employment Manual.

Once VR begins serving individuals on the VR waitlist in priority order by date of application, providers will follow protocol developed by DBH/VR to bill VR for subsequent VR Milestones, as appropriate.

This agreement is effective until further notice. VR funding is projected to resume October 1, 2018 given current projections and availability of federal funds.