

IPE SERVICES

7/1/24

Policy

- Planned services are –
 - services identified on the IPE needed to enable the client to achieve an employment outcome;
 - subject to the comparable services and benefits provision of Rule 72 (Section 003.);
 - subject to the fee schedule and procurement options in Rule 72 (Section 004.);
- The client is an equal partner in deciding on the planned services needed to achieve their IPE employment outcome;
- Planned services noted with an “SA” below require a Service Agreement with the provider;
- Per Rule 72 certain planned services can only be **authorized to the client**, and certain services can only be **authorized to the provider**. These are noted below in **bold** on the service.

Process

- Determine what planned service(s) an individual needs to achieve their employment outcome;
- Search for comparable services and benefits that may address the needed service;
- Identify the planned service(s) on the IPE and enter in QE2;
- Enter a task note justifying the purchase of the planned service(s) at the time of authorization;
- Authorize for the planned service(s).

CAREER SERVICES

SERVICE CATEGORY	Service	
<u>BENEFITS COUNSELING</u> DE268 (SA)	Assistance provided to an individual who is interested in becoming employed, but is uncertain of the impact work income may have on any disability benefits and entitlements being received, and/or is not aware of benefits, such as access to healthcare, that might be available.	
	Planning	Development and review of written Benefits Summary and Analysis (BSA) report and Work Incentive Plan (WIP) provided face to face with client, authorized representative, representative payee. Required for <u>all</u> clients who receive local, state, and/or federal benefits.
	Plan to Achieve Self Sufficiency (PASS)	Assistance with developing a PASS plan, training on PASS. Monitoring including progress reviews and ongoing coordination with SSA PASS Cadre. Provided when identified in the B S & A / WIP as a viable work incentive option or when a client's circumstances change and PASS becomes a work incentive option.
	Management	Assistance with reviewing benefits when problems or crises arise, earnings or work schedule changes affect benefits, or critical transition points affecting benefits are reached
<u>DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT</u> DE219	Diagnosis or treatment of physical or mental impairment needed to eliminate or substantially reduce, within a reasonable period of time, the impediment to employment. See 006.04 – 006.07 of Rule 72. Cannot be used as a health maintenance program or as health insurance.	
	Drugs	Short term assistance for medication prescribed for a physical or mental impairment. <u>Cost not to exceed Rule 72 Fee Schedule.</u> VR cannot authorize to the client. Authorize to the provider only.
	Eyeglasses	Examination, corrective lenses, and/or frames. <u>Cost not to exceed Rule 72 Fee Schedule.</u> VR cannot authorize to the client. Authorize to the provider only.
	Medical Treatment	Treatment of a physical or mental impairment. <u>Cost not to exceed Rule 72 Fee Schedule.</u> VR cannot authorize to the client. Authorize to the provider only.

SERVICE CATEGORY	Service	
<u>HOME MODIFICATION</u>	Home Modification	Modification of home necessary for employment related activity. See 007 of Rule 72. <u>Cost not to exceed Rule 72 Fee Schedule.</u> (Authorize to ATP Only)
<u>INTERPRETER DE329 (SA)</u>	Sign language or oral interpretation services needed to access VR services for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing (including captioning services) or have limited English.	
	Hearing Impaired (SA)	Interpreting provided by a Sign Language Interpreter or Video Remote Interpreter (VRI) Provider licensed in Nebraska. <u>Cost not to exceed the NDE Interpreter Fee Schedule.</u> VR cannot authorize to the client. Authorize to the provider only.
	Foreign Language (SA)	Interpreting in the native language of a client with limited English speaking ability. <u>Cost not to exceed Rule 72 Fee Schedule.</u> VR cannot authorize to the client. Authorize to the provider only.
<u>INFORMATION AND REFERRAL</u>	TEAM SERVICE ONLY. Providing the client resources and activities to 1) address barriers keeping them from becoming employed; and 2) prepare them for work.	
<u>JOB PLACEMENT ASSISTANCE DE240</u>	Job Coaching/ Placement (SA*)	Placement for <i>non-supported employment</i> clients in a job and skill building by skilled job trainer in areas required for acceptable job performance. <u>Cost not to exceed Rule 72 Fee Schedule.</u>
<u>JOB READINESS DE177 (SA)</u>	Training to prepare an individual for work (e.g., work behaviors, timeliness, dress and grooming, increasing productivity, etc.). <u>Cost not to exceed Rule 72 Fee Schedule.</u> VR cannot authorize to the client. Authorize to the provider only.	
<u>SHORT TERM SUPPORTS (JOB RETENTION) DE247</u>	Services provided to an individual who has been placed in employment in order to stabilize the placement and enhance job retention. Includes short-term job coaching for persons who do not have a supported employment goal.	
	Job Coach (SA)	Skill building by job trainer in areas required for acceptable job performance. <u>Cost not to exceed Rule 72 Fee Schedule.</u>
	Interpreting w/ Job Coaching	Skill building and interpreting by a job trainer in areas required for acceptable job performance.
	Employment Success Skills	TEAM SERVICE ONLY. Skill building in appropriate work behaviors, self-esteem, stress management to help to maintain employment.
<u>JOB SEARCH ASSISTANCE DE233</u>	Employment Follow-Up	TEAM SERVICE ONLY. Assistance and support in maintaining stable and successful employment. Service begins once client obtains a job.
	Job Search Assistance	TEAM SERVICE ONLY. Once referral to Placement is made, activities to support and assist an individual in searching for an appropriate job. May include resume preparation, developing interview skills, identifying appropriate job opportunities, and making contacts with companies on behalf of the client. Service ends when client obtains a job.
	Job Seeking Skills	TEAM SERVICE ONLY. Skill building in job seeking skills including resume and cover letter development, filling out applications, interview preparation, Internet job search, and assistance with self-advocacy.
	Plan for Job Development (SA)	Completion of the activities outlined in the <i>Plan for Job Development</i> report. <u>Cost not to exceed Rule 72 Fee Schedule.</u>
	Job Search and Placement (SA)	Individualized service based on the IPE goal and number of work hours desired. Specific job search and placement activities are assigned based off what was identified in the <i>Plan for Job Development</i> report. <u>Cost not to exceed Rule 72 Fee Schedule.</u>

SERVICE CATEGORY	Service	
<u>MAINTENANCE – INCREASED LIVING COSTS</u> DE294 361.5(c)(34)	Additional costs for food, shelter and clothing that are in excess of the normal expenses of the individual, and that are necessitated by the individual's participation while receiving services under an IPE. Not intended to cover normal everyday living expenses.	
	Lodging and Per Diem	Cost of short-term expenses, such as food and shelter required for an individual to participate in planned services. <u>Cost not to exceed Rule 72 Fee Schedule.</u>
	Relocation	Rental of a moving van, use of a mover, shipping of goods, or in-transit meals, lodging and gas expenses necessary to relocate for services or employment. <u>Cost not to exceed Rule 72 Fee Schedule</u>
	Security Deposit	Initial one-time costs for security deposit or rent required in order for an individual to relocate for a job placement. If client is receiving a housing subsidy, VR will pay the difference. <u>Cost not to exceed Rule 72 Fee Schedule.</u>
	Uniform and Clothing	Cost of uniforms or other suitable clothing required for an individual's job placement or job seeking activities. <u>Cost not to exceed Rule 72 Fee Schedule</u>
	Utility Initiation	Initial one-time costs for the initiation of utilities, required in order for an individual to relocate for a job placement.
<u>OTHER SERVICES DE336</u>	VR services that cannot be recorded elsewhere. Includes occupational licenses, tools and equipment, initial stocks and supplies for services under an IPE.	
	Background Check	Background check conducted, if allowed per policy.
	Child Care (In-home)	<u>Increased</u> child care provided in a home while the client is participating in a planned service. <u>Cost not to exceed Rule 72 Fee Schedule.</u> VR cannot authorize to the provider. Authorize to the client only.
	Child Care (out-of-home)	<u>Increased</u> child care provided by a licensed daycare provider or center while the client is participating in a planned service. <u>Cost not to exceed Rule 72 Fee Schedule.</u>
	Employment & Training Medical Supports	Cost of employment or school required physicals, drug screens, and immunizations. <u>Cost not to exceed Rule 72 Fee Schedule.</u> VR cannot authorize to the client. Authorize to the provider only.
	Licenses and Permits	Licenses, permits, registrations, or certifications required for an occupation or employment. <u>Cost not to exceed Rule 72 Fee Schedule.</u>
	Other Assistance	Assistance for unlisted good or service necessary to achieve the employment outcome.
	Tools - Employment	Tools required for on-the-job training, apprenticeship, miscellaneous training, or job placement. List of tools required from employer. <u>Cost not to exceed Rule 72 Fee Schedule.</u>
	Tutor	Instruction and guidance during training or preparing for a licensing or certificate examination. In post-secondary or miscellaneous training, school provided tutoring should be utilized before purchasing tutoring services. VR cannot authorize to the provider. Authorize to the client only.

SERVICE CATEGORY	Service	
PERSONAL ASSISTANCE DE308 361.5(c)(39)	Services designed to assist an individual in performing daily living activities, increase control in life and ability to perform routine tasks, provided in conjunction with other VR services, and are necessary to achieve an employment outcome.	
	Independent Living Skills Training	Skill building in preparing for adult & community living, basic homemaking skills, time management, appearance for employment, financial management, transportation use, and activities of daily living. <u>Cost not to exceed Rule 72 Fee Schedule.</u>
	Personal Care Assistant	Assistance with the performance of self-care and activities of daily living. <u>Cost not to exceed Rule 72 Fee Schedule.</u> VR cannot authorize to the provider. Authorize to the client only.
REHAB TECHNOLOGY DE301 361.5(c)(45)	Technology to meet the needs of, and address the barriers confronted by, individuals with disabilities in education, rehabilitation, employment, transportation, independent living and recreation, home and vehicular modification, other assistive devices including, but not limited to hearing aids, low vision aids and wheelchairs.	
	Assistive Devices – Non-Prescriptive	Items needed to increase, maintain, or improve the functional capabilities, not prescribed by a doctor. The Assistive Technology Partnership assesses the need for, and recommends all assistive devices for a VR client. <u>Cost not to exceed Rule 72 Fee Schedule.</u>
	Assistive Technology Use	Skill building to operate and use assistive technology devices. (Authorize to ATP Only)
	Computer	A desktop system (CPU, Monitor, Keyboard, Modem, Printer, Basic Productivity and Antivirus Software) or laptop if needed for disability related reasons to participate in a planned service or if required for training and/or employment. <u>Cost not to exceed Rule 72 Fee Schedule.</u> The Assistive Technology Partnership assesses the need for, and recommends all computer system or system components required by a VR client.
	Durable Medical Goods – prescribed by Physician	Items needed to increase, maintain, or improve functional capabilities, prescribed by a doctor. <u>Cost not to exceed Rule 72 Fee Schedule.</u>
	Hearing Aids	Hearing aids, ear molds, bluetooth streamer, external devices, or fitting needed to support participation in planned services. This service cannot be provided without first completing the Communication Assessment Form. <u>Cost not to exceed the Rule 72 Fee Schedule.</u> VR cannot authorize to the client. Authorize to the provider only.
	Mobile Technology	Mobile devices, such as an iPad, tablet, or phone only if required by the employer. Does not include laptops. <u>Cost not to exceed Rule 72 Fee Schedule.</u>
	Prosthesis	Prosthetic and orthotic devices.
	Rehab Engineering	Identify needed modifications, assistance with securing necessary plans & quotes, and work with qualified providers to complete modifications.

SERVICE CATEGORY	Service	
<u>REHAB TECHNOLOGY</u> DE301 361.5(c)(45)	Rehabilitation Technology Repair	Repair of a rehabilitation technology item such as eyeglasses, hearing aids, prostheses, durable medical goods, or other assistive technology devices in order to participate in planned services. <u>Cost not to exceed Rule 72 Fee Schedule.</u>
	Vehicle Modification – Existing Modifications	Assistance with existing modifications to enable a person to ride or operate. See 008.02 of Rule 72. <u>Cost not to exceed Rule 72 Fee Schedule.</u> (Authorize to ATP Only)
	Vehicle Modification – New	New modification to a vehicle to enable person to ride or operate. See 008.02 of Rule 72. <u>Cost not to exceed Rule 72 Fee Schedule.</u> (Authorize to ATP Only)
	Worksite Modification	Modifications, adaptations, or accommodations at the worksite not typically made for others in order for a client to enter, leave, or move around in the worksite and/or to perform the essential functions of a job. The Assistive Technology Partnership or AgrAbility assess the need for, and recommends all worksite modifications for VR clients. <u>Cost not to exceed Rule 72 Fee Schedule.</u> (Authorize to ATP Only)
<u>TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE SELF EMPLOYMENT</u> DE315	Consultation and other services provided to conduct market analyses to develop business plans, and to provide resources to individuals in the pursuit of self-employment and small business operation outcomes.	
	Business Plan Implementation /Revision	Services provided for the implementation of the developed business plan, but can also include the development of a capability statement or a business plan-revision.
	Small Business Start Up Expenses	Required business start-up expenses remaining after all assistance and participation from other sources has been applied. <u>Cost not to exceed Rule 72 Fee Schedule.</u>
<u>TRANSPORTATION</u> DE287 361.5(c)(57)	Travel and related expenses necessary to enable eligible individual to participate in a VR service, including expenses for training in the use of public transportation vehicles and systems.	
	Private Vehicle	Mileage for travel to access planned services. <u>Cost not to exceed Rule 72 Fee Schedule.</u>
	Other Transportation	Transportation required to participate in VR services.
	Vehicle Repair	Repair of personal vehicle when essential to enable the client to achieve their employment outcome. <i>008.01 of Rule 72.</i> <u>Cost not to exceed Rule 72 Fee Schedule.</u>
<u>VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION COUNSELING AND GUIDANCE</u> DE226	Vocational rehabilitation counseling and guidance includes information and support services to assist an individual in exercising informed choice and is distinct from the case management relationship that exists between the counselor and the individual during the VR process.	
	VR Counseling and Guidance	TEAM SERVICE ONLY. VR provided vocational counseling and guidance.

TRAINING SERVICES

These services are only for programs that are NOT eligible for federal financial aid. Designed to help the individual improve educationally or vocationally or to adjust to the functional limitations of his or her impairment.

SERVICE CATEGORY	Service	
<u>BASIC ACADEMIC REMEDIAL/ LITERACY DE170</u>	Academic/Literacy Basic	Literacy training or training provided to remediate basic academic skills that are needed to function on the job. <u>Cost not to exceed Rule 72 Fee Schedule.</u>
<u>CUSTOMIZED TRAINING DE205</u>	VR Certificate Programs	A Industry specific training program designed to meet the requirements of an employer who has entered into an agreement to hire individuals who are trained to the employer's specifications.
<u>DISABILITY RELATED SKILLS TRAINING DE184</u>	Disability Related Skills Training	Disability-related augmentative skills training includes but is not limited to:; rehabilitation teaching; speech reading; sign language; and cognitive training/retraining.
<u>MISCELLANEOUS TRAINING DE191</u>	Any training not recorded in one of the other categories listed, including GED or secondary school training leading to a diploma, or courses taken at four-year, junior or community colleges not leading to a certificate or diploma.	
	GED	General Educational Development classes/diploma
	Other Classes	Classes not identified in any other category. Includes training for self employment.
<u>OCCUPATIONAL OR VOCATIONAL TRAINING DE150</u>	Skill Building	Occupational, vocational, or job skill training provided by a community college and/or business, vocational/trade or technical school to prepare students for gainful employment in a recognized occupation, not leading to an academic degree. This would include selected courses or programs of study at a community college, four-year college, university, technical college or proprietary school or program. <u>Cost not to exceed Rule 72 Fee Schedule</u>
<u>ON-THE-JOB TRAINING DE157</u>	On-the-Job Training	Training in specific job skills by a prospective employer. Generally, the trainee is paid during this training and will remain in the same or a similar job upon successful completion. <u>Cost not to exceed Rule 72 Fee Schedule.</u>
<u>REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP DE164</u>	Apprenticeship Programs	Work-based employment and training program that combines hands-on, on-the-job work experience in a skilled occupation with related classroom instruction. Structured apprenticeship programs generally have minimum requirements for the duration of on-the job work experience and classroom instruction, and/or could utilize competency-based elements but should have mechanisms in place to ensure quality and consistency of skills acquisition. The following elements distinguish apprenticeship programs from other work-based efforts including on-the-job training, and internships: supervision and structured mentoring; providing for wage increases as apprentice's skills increase; based on an employer-employee relationship; and providing an industry recognized certificate of completion.

POST SECONDARY TRAINING SERVICES

SEE 010 OF RULE 72

These services are only for programs that ARE eligible for federal financial aid.

SERVICE CATEGORY	Service	
<u>JR/COMMUNITY COLLEGE DE144</u>	Full-time or part-time training above the secondary school level leading to an Associate's Degree, a certificate, or other recognized educational credential. Such training may be provided by a community college, junior college, or technical college.	
<u>FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE DE137</u>	Full-time or part-time academic training leading to a baccalaureate degree, a certificate, or other recognized educational credential. Such training may be provided by a four-year college or university or technical college.	
<u>GRADUATE COLLEGE DE130</u>	Full-time or part-time academic training leading to a degree recognized as beyond a Baccalaureate Degree, such as a Master of Science, Arts (M.S. or M.A.) or Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) or Doctor of Jurisprudence (J.D.). Such training would be provided by a college or university.	
	VR Allowance	Cost of tuition, fees, books and supplies required to participate in college.
<u>Increased Costs:</u>	Child Care-In Home	<u>Increased</u> child care provided in a home needed while the client is participating in a post-secondary service, <u>Cost not to exceed Rule 72 Fee Schedule</u> . VR cannot authorize to the provider. Authorize to the client only.
	Child Care-In Home	<u>Increased</u> child care provided by a licensed daycare provider or center for minor children while the client is participating in a post-secondary service. <u>Cost not to exceed Rule 72 Fee Schedule</u> .
	Private Vehicle	Mileage for travel to college. <u>Cost not to exceed Rule 72 Fee Schedule</u> .
	Other Transportation	Other transportation for travel to college.
	Tools	Tools required to participate in college. <u>Cost not to exceed Rule 72 Fee Schedule</u> .
	Uniforms/Clothing	Cost of uniforms or other suitable clothing required for college. <u>Cost not to exceed Rule 72 Fee Schedule</u>

SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

A service provided by a supported employment provider to individuals 1) for whom competitive integrated employment has not historically occurred, or for whom competitive integrated employment has been interrupted or intermittent as a result of a significant disability; 2) who, because of the nature and severity of their disabilities, need intensive supported employment services and extended services after the transition from support provided by Nebraska VR, in order to perform the duties of their job.

SERVICE CATEGORY	Service	
<u>CUSTOMIZED EMPLOYMENT</u> DE275 (34 CFR 361.5(c)(11))	Customized Employment	Services provided to a client who is employed in customized job based on their individual strengths and current employer needs. On-site job coaching and/or off-site job support are provided to assist the client in achieving stable performance on the job.
<u>SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT</u> DE254 (34 CFR 361.5(c)(54))	Supported Employment	Services provided to assist the client in achieving stable performance on the job. This service is delivered through on-site job coaching and/or off-site job support.
<u>Extended Services</u> DE282 (34 CFR 361.5(c)(19))	Extended Services	Services needed after a client has stabilized on the job to support and maintain employment. VR may provide extended service funding for youth only; up to age 25 or for a period up to four years (whichever comes first, when no other source of extended services funding is available).