

# Pre-employment Transition Services

NEW PETS Delivery Model- OVR's formal system for providing Pre-employment Transition Services (PETS) to students with disabilities in a documented, efficient, and cost-effective manner.

Goal: To ensure OVR serves as many students with disabilities as possible in a long term sustainable manner using data based need assessments

## What are Pre-Employment Transition Services?

Self-Advocacy Instruction  
Counseling On Postsecondary Options  
Job Exploration Counseling  
**Work Based Learning**  
Workplace Readiness Training

- PETS provide a generalized early start to job exploration.
- PETS assist students with disabilities in identifying career interests that may ( *or may not* ) be further explored through individualized Vocational Rehabilitation services (*based on individual student need / VR eligibility determination*).
- PETS must be provided or arranged in collaboration with LEAs.
- The goal of both PETS and individualized Vocational Rehabilitation services is assisting individuals with disabilities to prepare for and achieve competitive integrated employment.

- WIOA and PETS in 2014: **Spend down** new PETS federal allocation with limited infrastructure and federal guidance.
- WIOA and PETS in 2019: **Assess and serve the most students possible** in the most cost effective manner, **consistent with most recent guidance from RSA.**

## VR Case Services

**OVR Staff  
Conducts  
Outreach to  
Schools**

**OVR Assesses  
School Resources  
and Plans for  
Service Provision**

- School Profile

**Collection of  
PETS Releases**

- Consent for services
- Disability documentation

**Service  
Delivery  
and  
Reporting**

## **PETS via *Internal* OVR Staff:**

- VR Counselors
- Early Reach Coordinators
- Business Services Staff
- BBVS Social Workers
- Specialized Services Staff

## **PETS via *Outside* Agreements:**

- Community Rehabilitation Providers
- K-12 Local Education Agencies/Schools/IU
- Universities
- Accessibility Providers (i.e. interpreters)
- Community Agencies (i.e. CIL)
- Employers (i.e. OJTs)

- Requested services based on OVR assessment of school needs
- Consideration of internal staff availability first for requested services
- Expansion of work-based learning experiences
  - Includes Unpaid AND Paid Work Based Learning Experience
- Updated PETS Work Flow -OVR PETS Continuum

- School Profile (*assessment of school needs*)
- Service Assignment (*request to conduct PETS group services*)
- 2019 PETS Provider Agreement (*Allows OVR staff to direct services based on needs / Providers do not market to LEAs*)
- Group Services Progress Reports (*Evaluate Progress*)



- We are currently reviewing School Profiles that have requested PETS Group Services and we are assessing the school needs.
- We are considering internal OVR staff availability first for requested services.
- Schools will hear from their PETS Supervisor about the PETS School Profile Outcome, which will include the determination for providing the requested services.
- PETS Supervisor will schedule an in person or over the phone meeting to discuss the outcome and plan for OVR services. The OVR team will be present for this meeting
  - OVR supervisor, OVR counselor, Early Reach (if requested), and Business Services (if requested)

# Early Reach- Group PETS

- As stated on the previous slide, we are currently reviewing School Profiles that have requested PETS Group Services and we are assessing the school needs. This includes ERC group services.
- Schools will hear from their PETS Supervisor about the PETS School Profile Outcome, which will include the determination for providing the requested group services.
- In the meantime,
  - Schools can continue to collect PETS releases for students they anticipate needing OVR services.
  - ERCs can provide OVR 101s.
  - ERCs can attend IEP Meetings.
  - Schools can register their students for our PETS 1 day events when it becomes available. See our 2020 PETS Programming Save the Dates Flyer for more information.
- If it has been determined that an ERC is unable to fulfill the schools group need for various reasons, we will consider assigning all or a portion of the request for group services to one of our PETS Providers.



New PETS Provider Agreements were submitted back in October 2019.

- As of today, we have received most, if not all, agreements from previous PETS providers and have some new providers on board as well.

Erika Kauffman and Jim Lilley will split PETS provider assignments, and they will work with their assigned providers by providing:

- Technical support and training regarding PETS Provider Agreement and Services
- Service Assignment for Group services (replaces RAP):
  - Erika and Jim will be responsible to coordinate and authorize the group services with the assigned provider (*based on school profile/outcome*).
- Coordinate and Communicate with schools and providers (group services only)
- PETS billing, invoicing and reporting (monitoring timeline)

Both supervisors will also provide supports to OVR Staff:

- Technical support regarding providers, referrals, and etc.
- Providers and their approved services (group and individual services)
- PETS billing, invoicing, and reporting
- Address concerns and questions regarding assigned provider.

# Approved PETS Providers



- ACHIEVA
- AHEDD
- AIU
- Auberle
- Barber National Institute
- Beaver County Rehabilitation Services
- Bender Leadership Academy
- BJ Rayburg
- BVRS-Pittsburgh
- Citizen Care
- Community Options
- DiCenzo
- Evolve
- Goodwill Industries
- Life's Work
- LifeSteps
- PA Connecting Community
- Pittsburgh Public Schools
- Rivers Therapy
- The Watson Institute
- Wesley Family Services
- WPSD
- Youth Advocate Program



## Pittsburgh OVR Pre-Employment Transition Services

### PETS Provider Meeting

January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020

1-3pm

@ OVR, 531 Penn Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Please RSVP by replying directly to me by January 10<sup>th</sup>, with number of staff attending. Thank you!

OVR Management, PETS Supervisors and Business Service Supervisor will host a meeting with approved PETS providers:

- PETS Provider Agreement
- School Profile/Outcomes
- Group Services: Service Assignment (replaces RAP), Coordination with each school based on Outcome
- Individual services- VRC
- Q&A



- Work Based Learning, as defined by WIOA, is very broad set of experience (see next slide) NOT A SPECIFIC SERVICE
- NOT ALL Work Based Learning is (OR Should be) a Paid Student Experience
- Students may receive Work Based Learning that is provided by their LEAs
- OVR Staff provided OVR Funded Work Based Learning should not supplant LEAs existing Work Based Learning

## Examples of Paid AND Unpaid Work Based Learning (WBL) on School Profile:

- Individual Job Shadow
- Paid Work Experience
  
- Workplace Tours
- Employer Mock Interviews
- Informational Interview
  
- Community Work Instruction
- Group Job Shadow

## Individual Job Shadowing

- **Must have applied for OVR services**
- **15 hours**
- **Unpaid**

Onsite experience at a community workplace that allows a student to observe work being done, to learn from people currently practicing in an occupation, and to explore areas of vocational interest.

Job Shadowing experiences should be in an occupation of interest and at more than one integrated community worksites.



## **Paid Work Experience**

- **Must have applied for OVR services**
- **40 hours**
- **Paid experience – \$10.35/hour**

An opportunity for a student to do real work at a community integrated worksite to connect school experiences to real-life work activities and future career opportunities.

Experiences may include in-school or after school opportunities, temporary jobs, summer jobs, or jobs outside the traditional school setting and/or internships.

# Show BST Employer Outreach Flyers

## Paid Work Experience (PWE) and Individual Job Shadow

- **NO BST Involvement in PWE OR Individual Job Shadow**
- Individual PETS Service facilitated by PETS Provider at VRCs direction
- Continues to be authorized based on VRCs evaluation of the individual student need
- Provides potential for most intensive PETS supports but the level of support BUT is not equal to SE supports

### NEW Unpaid Group Work Based Learning Opportunities (Listed on School Profile)

- Workplace Tours
  - Employer Mock Interviews
  - Informational Interview
- 
- 3 New Group Services that **only Internal OVR Staff can provide** (in collaboration w/ LEAs)
  - In PGH, the **BST will take lead on facilitating these facilitating these Group Services**
  - LEA may already provide these opportunities. **Can not supplant.** Can assist to grow
  - BST has broadly **been developing these opportunities w/ Employer Partners** (flyer to come)
  - Limited Opportunities 2019/2020. October 2019 NEW PETS Delivery Model implementation
  - Targeted Sector and Regionally based opportunities next year (based on **WBL Request Form data**)

Show Unpaid WBL Referral Form

Show VRC/LEA Employer Outreach Folder

- These services have been underutilized statewide
- Many LEAs have requested the service but not all LEAs understand CWI (4 to 1)
- Pgh CWIs were BST developed and Provider assisted
- CWIs should enhance OVR / Provider /Employer Partnership
- CWIs ideally are reoccurring and can serve multiple LEAs
- When CWI is BST developed, Employer will interview PETS Providers (CAPACITY)
- CWIs May be developed by PETS Providers, but OVR staff must approve Worksite and share CWI with VRCs to Identify best student candidates
- LEA CWIs & Group Job Shadow Request Form allows BST to target Sectors/Region
- BST focus this year will be CWI Development and CWI Provider Collaboration
- Limited Group Job Shadow Implementation this year / 2 BST / Employer Group Job Shadows in development

## Show CWI Request Form

## Show LEA as OJT Provider Form



# Questions?

