



[Este mensaje está publicado en línea en Español.](#)

February 7, 2025

To: ODDS and VR employment services providers, Oregon Workforce System partners

From: Keith Ozols, Director, Vocational Rehabilitation (VR); Dana Hittle, Interim Director, Office of Developmental Disabilities Services (ODDS)

Subject: VR Order of Selection planning

---

We are writing to notify you that Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) is making plans to implement an Order of Selection (OOS) service delivery model. This means VR will create a waitlist for applicants who are determined eligible for services.

We are just beginning this process and do not have a start date. **There is no change to how VR delivers services at this time. Current clients will continue to receive services.**

### [What is Order of Selection?](#)

Order of Selection is a service delivery model created by the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA), which provides direction to state VR programs. Order of Selection directs state VR programs on how to deliver services when there are not enough resources to serve everyone who is eligible for VR.

Order of Selection directs VR to create a waitlist to control costs so we do not overspend. The waitlist will allow us to prioritize Oregonians with the most significant disabilities that need us the most.

### Why is this happening?

The number of people VR is serving is higher than it has been in the past decade. However, our federal funding does not increase when we serve more people. In addition, rising costs have made it more expensive to serve each individual.

### When will VR go into Order of Selection?

The first step is to consult with RSA. We will also consult with the State Rehabilitation Council, state and local education agencies, partners and Tribes. In addition, we will hold a public meeting for contractors, partners and clients to learn more and ask questions.

Until we take these steps, there is no change to service delivery.

### What does this mean for contracted job placement services providers?

VR and ODDS will continue to hire job placement services providers. While referrals from VR are likely to go down, contractors may see more referrals from ODDS.

### What does this mean for VR clients?

Nothing changes until the Order of Selection goes into effect. VR staff and contractors will continue to serve all clients currently in plan, and VR will continue to do intakes with new clients.

Once the Order of Selection goes into effect, VR applicants will be put on a waitlist. Clients will be released from the waitlist when resources become available. We will prioritize those with the most significant disabilities first, according to date they apply.

VR will be working closely with other state employment programs, including ODDS and the Oregon Employment Department, to help assist career seekers. Oregon policies allow ODDS to fund job development and related services and VR goes into Order of Selection.

This change in how we deliver services does not change the mission of VR: We are still focused on delivering high-quality services to career seekers with disabilities.

### Next steps

We will begin communicating publicly with service seekers after we have set an implementation date.

We will continue to share information as it becomes available and post updates on our community engagement page.

If you have any questions, please reach out to [vr.directorsoffice@odhs.oregon.gov](mailto:vr.directorsoffice@odhs.oregon.gov).

Sincerely,

Keith Ozols

Director

[Vocational Rehabilitation](#)

[Sign up for VR updates](#)

Dana Hittle

Interim Director

[Office of Developmental Disabilities Services](#) |

[Sign up for ODDS updates](#)

---

You can get this document in other languages, large print, braille or a format you prefer free of charge. Email [vr.info@odhsoha.oregon.gov](mailto:vr.info@odhsoha.oregon.gov) or call 503-945-5880 or 877-277-0513. We accept all relay calls.