

Washington State Rehabilitation Council

2025

Annual Report



DREAM BIG



Washington State
Rehabilitation Council



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Executive Message

Dear Acting Commissioner Pope and Governor Ferguson,

On behalf of the Washington State Rehabilitation Council, we are pleased to present the 2025 WSRC Annual Report. We appreciate council members for their time and expertise in advancing our mission. We want to extend heartfelt thanks to members who concluded their service to the council: Lesa Dunphy, who served as the Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor representative and served as chair of the Policy committee, and Laurae MacClain, who served as the Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation representative. They are both experienced VR professionals and we will miss their expertise and perspective. We are excited to welcome new members, including Jennifer Tabiando, representing Community Rehabilitation Programs, Jill McCormick, the Parent Training representative, and Liz Gallagher, the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board representative. We are excited about the energy and ideas they will contribute.

We had significant interest in filling the Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor (VRC) position vacated by Lesa Dunphy. Interviews were held with five experienced VRCs, each who would bring unique experience, backgrounds, and strengths. We forwarded candidates for the VR Counselor and Tribal VR representative positions to the Governor's Office of Boards and Commissions for consideration. Outreach continues with our workforce partners to share the opportunity to serve in our open Business representative role.

Highlights for all council members this year was the launch of the Washington State Transition Map in November 2024, a one-page summary to help individuals and families learn about, compare, and connect to key job transition services that students may be eligible for as they prepare to leave high school. In addition, we strengthened our relationships with Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation (TVR) programs. DVR works in collaboration with TVR programs to enhance the independence of individuals with disabilities, facilitate access to Vocational Rehabilitation services, and increase employment opportunities for co-served participants.

Over the last year the WSRC submitted two recommendations to DVR that were advanced by our Policy and Planning subcommittee: Counselor Change Communication and Financial Participation. These recommendations reflect the priorities of the council based on feedback in the Customer Satisfaction Survey and Listening Sessions.

This year, Shelby Satko celebrated seven years as WSRC Executive Director. On behalf of the council, we want to thank and acknowledge Shelby for her leadership and passionate advocacy. In April, she was elected President of the National Coalition of State Rehabilitation Councils (NCSRC). This recognition rightly honors Shelby's outstanding work and leadership, both in Washington and among her peers who lead SRCs nationwide.

The WSRC appreciates our ongoing shoulder to shoulder partnership with DVR with engagement on the planning team for the Comprehensive Statewide Needs Assessment and State Plan progress update as well as conversations on how state budget impacts may affect participant services.

We hope you enjoy our report, which summarizes our activities and successes over the last year.

Respectfully submitted by the Executive Committee



Purpose of the Council

The Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, requires states to establish a State Rehabilitation Council. At the state level, Executive Order 04-04 establishes the Washington State Rehabilitation Council. As established in law and executive order, WSRC membership is comprised of a diverse group of volunteers representing relevant interests and perspectives from a cross section of industries.

WSRC members include previous recipients of DVR services, their family members and loved ones. They are service providers or advocates who work with DVR participants one-on-one to support their success. Members are employers, key agency representatives, and others committed to supporting the successful employment of people with disabilities.

Council members' main role is advocating for participants with disabilities and ensuring participants feel included and considered in all aspects of DVR program development and service delivery. In addition to the constituencies they represent, council members engage DVR participants and various partners and stakeholders to understand the collective needs, concerns, and priorities related to DVR services. The council uses this collective input to work with DVR and advise the agency on shaping programs, delivering effective services, and facilitating meaningful employment outcomes.

The WSRC works in partnership with DVR to review, analyze, and advise on aspects of service delivery and the outcomes achieved by DVR participants. The WSRC also partners with DVR to develop, agree to, and review goals and priorities related to the delivery of vocational rehabilitation services documented in the DVR State Plan.

The WSRC conducts quarterly public meetings, focusing on topics identified by our subcommittees that support their priorities. Throughout the year, the council receives consumer feedback from the Customer Satisfaction Survey and Participant Listening sessions for purposes of improving program outcomes.

The Governor appoints council members. Each member serves two consecutive, three-year terms. The exception being Client Assistance Program and Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation Program representatives, which are agency-appointed representatives.



2025 Council Members

Executive Committee

Jennifer Bean, Council Chair – Client Assistance Program Rep.

Alexandra Toney, Council Vice Chair – Chair of Partnership Subcommittee – OSPI State Educational Agency Rep.

Lesa Dunphy, Chair of Policy & Planning Subcommittee – Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor Rep. (Ex-Officio)

Matt Newton, Chair of Customer Satisfaction & Program Evaluation Subcommittee – Business Rep.

Danna Summers, State Independent Living Council Liaison Rep.

Jennifer Tabiando, Community Rehabilitation Provider Rep.

Laurae MacClain, Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation Rep.

Katrina Simmons, Recipient of DVR Services Rep.

Noelle Green, Recipient of DVR Services Rep.

Liz Gallagher, Workforce Training Rep.

Jill McCormick, Parent Training Rep.

Edward Nicholson, Business Rep.

General Membership

Dana Phelps, Director of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (Ex-Officio)

Aimee Elber, Disability Advocacy Rep.

Michele Stelovich, Labor Rep.

Staff

Shelby Satko, Executive Director

Jolie Ramsey, Executive Assistant



Council Highlights

Dream Big!

At the August quarterly meeting, Shelby Satko shared what an honor it is to work with council members and learn about unique passions that drive them to serve on the council and elevate vocational rehabilitation services. Also, in reflection of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation's 2023 vision statement:

"Students, youth, and adults with disabilities are empowered to dream big and achieve their employment goals."

Shelby hand embroidered a different "Dream Big" pattern for each council member to inspire them to bring their unique voices to this work with the goal of improving quality and access to vocational rehabilitation services.



From left to right: Shelby Satko, Jen Tabiando, Jill McCormick, Michele Stelovich, Jen Bean, Dana Phelps, Lesa Dunphy, Alex Toney, Jolie Ramsey.

WSRC Awarded the DSHS Community Partner Award

DVR Director Dana Phelps nominated the council for the DSHS Community Partner Award for promoting a sense of community and belonging in the workplace and in the communities served by the Department of Social and Health Services. "Council members engage with participants and community partners to understand the collective needs, concerns and priorities related to DVR services. Because one in four people with disabilities live in poverty, the work of the WSRC and individuals that make up the council are important," said Phelps.

The award ceremony took place Jan. 7, 2025, at DSHS headquarters in Olympia. Jilma Meneses, DSHS secretary at that time, presented the award to the council. Receiving the award on the council's behalf were WSRC Chair Jen Bean, Vice-Chair Alex Toney, Executive Director Shelby Satko, and Executive Assistant Jolie Ramsey.



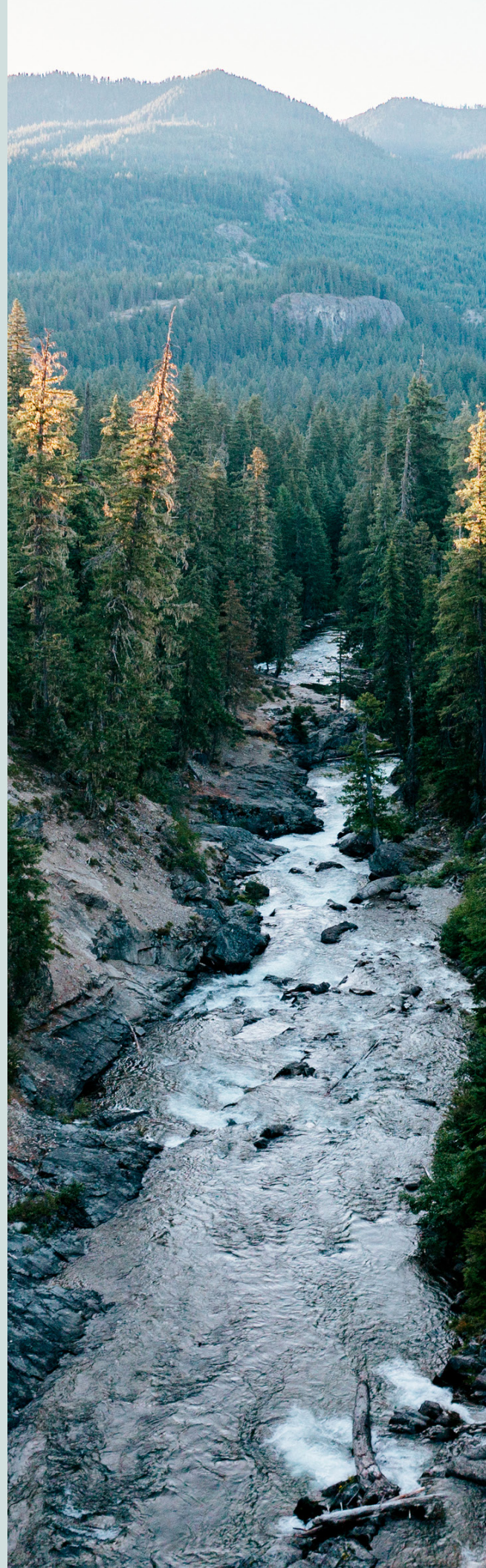
From left to right: Shelby Satko, Jen Bean, Dana Phelps, Alex Toney, and Jolie Ramsey.

WSRC Executive Director Elected to Serve as President of NCSRC

The WA State Rehabilitation Council's Executive Director, Shelby Satko, was elected to serve as the president of the National Coalition of State Rehabilitation Councils (NCSRC).

NCSRC's mission is to, "advocate for and work in partnership with the national public vocational rehabilitation system's continual quest for excellence." Goals include:

- Increasing the capacity of SRCs through education & training.
- Enhancing the NCSRC infrastructure at regional and national levels.
- Establishing partnerships which build a stronger alliance, while advocating on behalf of the public vocational rehabilitation system.





Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation Partnerships

The Governor's Office of Indian Affairs promotes the government-to-government relationship between the State of Washington and Indian Tribes, advocates for the social and economic betterment of all American Indians and Alaska Natives living within Washington State and educates for a greater cultural understanding of the State's first citizens.

This year we continued to strengthen partnerships with Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation programs across the state. As part of our quarterly meetings, we had the opportunity to connect with the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe and the Yakama Nation Tribe Vocational Rehabilitation programs.

Lower Elwha Klallam

At our May quarterly meeting, Jim Allen, Program Manager of the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribal VR, shared highlights of their partnership with DVR Port Angeles office as well as successes, challenges, and history of their program.

Council members who attended the May quarterly meeting in person had the opportunity to visit the Elwha Klallam Heritage Center in Port Angeles and receive a

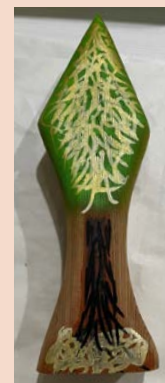
guided tour by Tribal VR staff. The heritage center's walls feature artwork by local tribal artists, and the building's design reflects tribal culture and history.



This summer, the Elwha Tribe hosted the 2025 Canoe Journey Paddle to Elwha, and thousands of Tribal members from other tribes and community members joined Elwha Tribal members who gathered for the event. Part of tribal culture is to give gifts to honor everyone who attends

their activities. Elwha tribal and community members make thousands of hand-made gifts, such as various items embellished with beadwork and wooden fish-shaped rattles. Council members were invited to help in this endeavor by painting wooden fish rattles home with them to paint and decorate and then mailed them back to the tribe for the giveaway.

Featured on this page are pictures of fish rattles painted by council members.



Tour Attendees

Back row left to right: Doug Burkhalter, Jen Bean, Lucinda Heidel, Shelby Satko.
Front row left to right: Jim Allen, Laurae MacClain, Michele Stelovich, Jolie Ramsey, Katrina Simmons, Jen Tabiando, Danna Summers, Aimee Elber, Jill McCormick, Christina Ducotey.

Yakama Nation

In August the council convened in Toppenish at the Yakama Nation at Legends Hotel, located on tribal lands. Ashley Whitefoot, Director of the Yakama Nation Tribal VR program, shared highlights of how their program coordinates with the tribal council, the Native Workforce Development program, and DVR Yakima, Toppenish, and Sunnyside offices to provide training and job placements to their tribal members.

Policy and Planning

Leading the council's contribution to the 2024-2027 State Plan progress update, the Policy & Planning subcommittee centered efforts on researching and submitting two formal letters of recommendation to DVR leadership regarding communication with participants when they experience a counselor change and a review of the financial participation requirements. This work led us into our engagement in the State Plan workgroup that kicked off in September 2025.

Recommendations

Counselor Change Communication

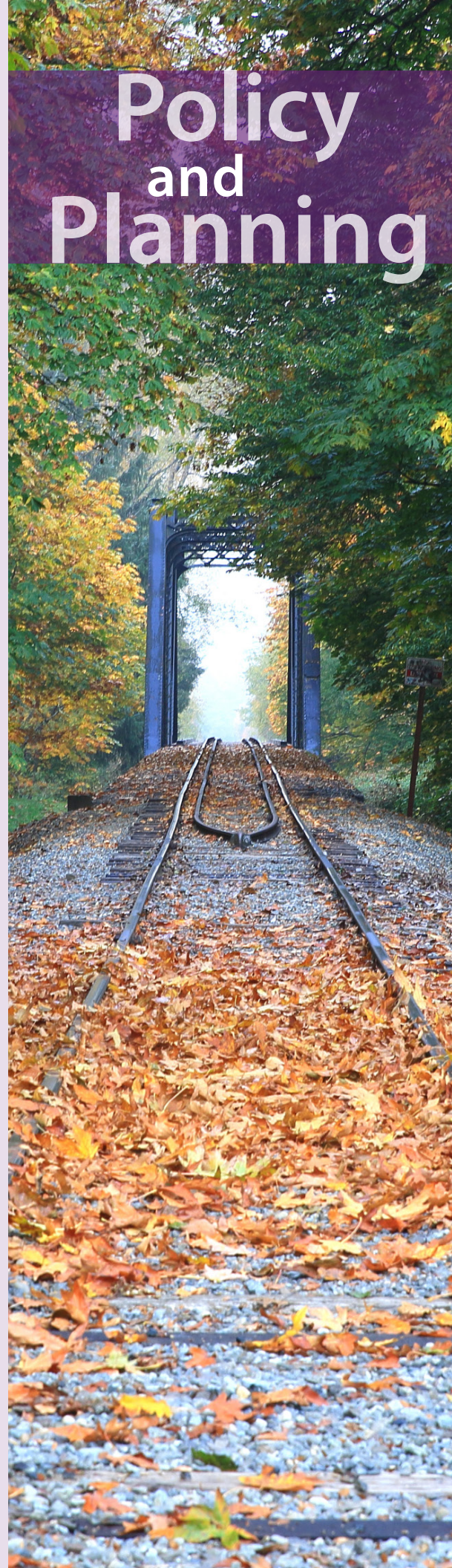
Council members recognized a pattern in participant feedback shared in the Customer Satisfaction Survey over several years that when they experience a counselor change, they are not receiving timely updates about changes that affect their case service. Because of how field staff work, it is essential to maintain clear, timely, and consistent communication with participants as well as partners who provide support throughout the case service delivery process. And during times of change, the quality and frequency of communication is critical to assure participants they will continuously be supported to achieve their employment goals.

The WSRC recommended that DVR implement a statewide approach to contacting each participant, informing them when VR Counselors are connected to their case transitions from their role, and developing a communication strategy that will support ongoing connections to their local office by providing the main phone number as well as the supervisor's contact information. The recommendation included additional steps to consider including setting up auto-forwarding and/or an out-of-office autoreply from the previous staff email for a minimum of two months; proactively contacting all relevant parties connected to the participant's case; ensuring that there is a current summary of participant progress in the case management system; and once a new VRC is assigned, contacting participants on their caseload to inform them of their new counselor assignment using the participant's preferred method of communication.

Financial Participation

Traditionally, financial need statements have been used to assess whether participants can contribute to the costs of their own services as referenced in WAC 388-891A Paying for VR Services section. After an extensive review of federal and state policy, standard operation procedures, and practice in other states, the council recommended discontinuing the financial participation requirement to encourage participation, foster inclusivity and equity, and provide a more holistic assessment of needs.

The council recommended removing the financial participation requirement because the current policy is inconsistently applied, and it is not a federal requirement. This will allow counselors to prioritize individual assessment, counseling, and guidance over financial scrutiny.





Customer Satisfaction & Program Evaluation

This year we were excited to meet with participants in the Port Angeles office during our listening sessions to learn about their experiences working with DVR. Opportunities to engage directly with participants are a highlight for all council members.

In our last annual report, we shared that in partnership with DVR, we identified an opportunity to better understand factors that influence customer satisfaction by cross-referencing Customer Satisfaction Survey results with case service records to gain a deeper understanding of where improvement efforts can be made. Starting with the FFY24 Quarter 3 reporting period, the letter inviting participants to participate in the survey now allows us to match responses with case service records. In Fall 2025, committee members will partner with DVR to identify the factors we want to prioritize in our analysis to support program improvement efforts.

DVR's Monthly Business Review meetings are an opportunity for leadership to review topics that benefit from discussion with subject matter experts for program evaluation. WSRC is represented on the planning team that determines priorities for discussion. Examples of topics covered include: WIOA performance measures, Customer Satisfaction Survey results, Transition Services, and Individualized Plan for Employee.

Participant Listening Sessions

In March 2025, CSPE subcommittee members held listening sessions with 10 DVR participants served out of the DVR office in Port Angeles. These participants represent different ethnicities and live in various cities throughout the Olympic Peninsula. Participants were asked the following questions:

1. On a scale of 1-5, how would you rate DVR services?
 - Tell us why you chose that number.
2. What types of services are you receiving?
3. Do you feel you are making satisfactory progress toward your employment goal?
4. How does your counselor demonstrate they understand your barriers to employment?
5. How have DVR services impacted your life?
6. What has DVR done well?
7. Is there anything else you would like us to hear?

After analyzing their feedback, the council noticed some general themes. Regarding communication, overall, vocational rehabilitation counselors are very responsive with emails and phone calls. Communication gaps are most noticeable during counselor turnover. Consistently notifying participants of counselor changes would improve satisfaction. Regarding timeliness of services, a few participants explained how they have experienced longer waiting times for each step of the process. One participant said, "It seems like you guys have too many clients and it takes so long to set up services. I had delays in accessing tests and assessments."

Multiple participants agreed that DVR does an excellent job at removing barriers to pursuing one's career and life goals. Through the counseling process, counselors identify what individuals need to be successful and include those elements in their Individualized Plans for Employment. (Examples: purchasing an ergonomic sewing machine, clothing for job interviews, better hearing aids, tuition assistance, transportation support.)

Most of the participants we spoke with fall within the age range of 45-60+ and expressed how DVR has given them the resources and the support they needed to reach their lifelong goals, giving them a strong sense of accomplishment and purpose in their "second act" of life. DVR can provide financial support in nearly every needed way to help participants reach their IPE goals. Oftentimes, it is not one's disability that creates a barrier to achieving their dreams, it is their socio-economic status.

DVR evens the playing field by providing opportunities to folks who, for various reasons, cannot afford to access educational pursuits, or the supplies needed to be successful. Nine of the 10 participants we spoke with needed some help, whether it was tuition assistance, technology, or a little money to purchase a nice outfit for a job interview. A participant talked about the holistic approach of VR that made all the difference. Her DVR team members believe in her. The chemistry and synergy she shared with her VRC gave her exactly what she needed.

This is a great return on VR's investment on a state level and federal funding level. The value of VR is evidenced by participants who can attain credentials/training, and other opportunities to enter the workforce and contribute to the economy. Every community greatly needs VR services. The impact that VR makes is huge and not only improves the quality of life for individuals served, but the quality of workplaces and communities where these individuals live.

Customer Satisfaction Survey

We are in our fifth year partnering with Washington State University's Social and Economic Sciences Research Center to administer the DVR Customer Satisfaction Survey. Our survey asks participants the following seven questions, allowing them the opportunity to rate their responses on a five-point Likert scale:

1. My counselor does a good job keeping in touch with me.
2. My counselor understands what is important to me.
3. My counselor understands how my disability affects me.
4. My counselor cares about my input.
5. DVR moves quickly enough for me.
6. Overall, I am satisfied with DVR.
 - a. Open end comment for dissatisfied customers.
7. Comment box with option to share additional comments with DVR

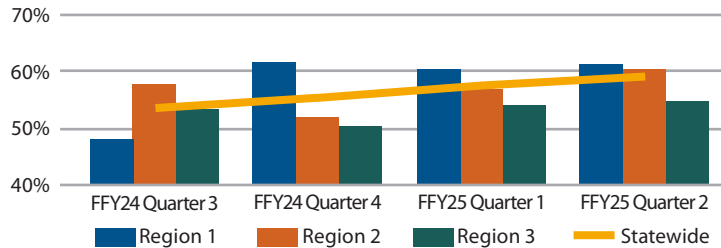
DVR participants receive an invitation by mail and email to participate in our survey via a web portal or a phone-in option. Participants are surveyed in three of the four phases of the vocational rehabilitation process: plan, closed-employed, and closed-other.



Below are two survey questions tied to DSHS/DVR's Strategic Plan and 2024–2027 State Plan. The line indicates statewide satisfaction rating, while also seeing a regional results breakdown in the bar graphs.

Increase the rate of customer satisfaction with service timeliness from 58% to 62% by June 2026.

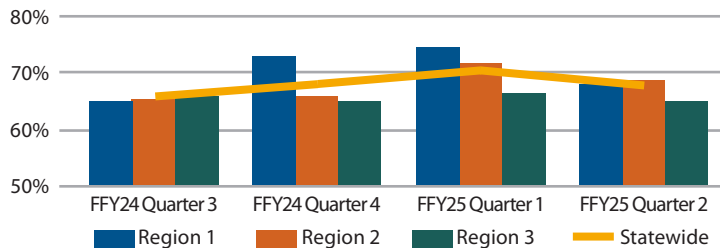
Does DVR moves quickly enough for me



Note: Survey is sent to a random sample of customers on a quarterly basis. Statewide and Region results do not differ statistically, based on margins of error:
 Statewide: +/- 4% in FFY24 Q3 - FFY25 Q2
 Region 1: +/- 7% in FFY24 Q3 - FFY25 Q2
 Region 2: +/- 7% in FFY24 Q3 - FFY25 Q2
 Region 3: +/- 7% in FFY24 Q3 - FFY25 Q2

Increase the overall customer satisfaction rate from 68% to 75% by June 2026.

Overall, I am satisfied with DVR



Note: Survey is sent to a random sample of customers on a quarterly basis. Statewide and Region results do not differ statistically, based on margins of error:
 Statewide: +/- 4% in FFY24 Q3 - FFY25 Q2
 Region 1: +/- 7% in FFY24 Q3 - FFY25 Q2
 Region 2: +/- 6% in FFY24 Q3 - FFY25 Q2
 Region 3: +/- 7% in FFY24 Q3 - FFY25 Q2

Considering relatively flat customer service results for the last couple of years, DVR leadership has taken several initiatives in the last year to address improving customer service identified by engaging staff at all levels of the organization.

- **Individualized Plan for Employment Timeliness Project “Heart of VR”** – This project included work groups that identified root causes of processes that were impeding timely and effective services, resulting in identification of where improvements efforts could be made.
- **Individualized Plan for Employment Improvement Process Waves**– A project led by Ann Martin, Assistant Director of Field Services, included

cross-agency participation from field staff, Compliance, IT, Waves Business Team, Policy and Strategies, and Training to streamline the process of vocational assessment and plan development as a greater reliance on participant informed choice, and professional judgment. Staff training to support this change started in early September 2025.

- **Intake meeting processes change**– A workgroup of field services staff met this year to develop an Application and Intake process that centers the participant by establishing a statewide intake process that is supported by statewide training and the development of the following support documents:

- **Participant Intake Guide** is a reference for participants that shares information about services available, vocational rehabilitation process, expectations, and important things to know.
- **Counselor Guide** is a reference for staff to utilize when completing an intake.
- **Participant Information Form** is a voluntary question that staff can use to prompt additional questions or gather useful information during intake.
- **The Participant Counselor Communication Agreement** provides an opportunity to establish clear expectations and best practices for working together.

- **Participant letters** – Participants may receive several letters during their services with DVR that may be related to eligibility determination, requests for records, and closure of services. The letters have been updated in plain language as well as a friendly tone of partnership to ensure the participant understands the communication, their rights, and have resources available if they would like additional support.

- **Eligibility and Individualized Plan for Employment Data Dashboards** that

allow leadership, staff, and WSRC to review performance measures to ensure the program is in compliance with our federal partner expectations.

- **Governor Executive Order 25-06: Transforming Customer Experience and Service Delivery in State Government Operations** – An Executive Order was issued by the Governor on September 3, 2025, to establish a comprehensive approach to improve customer experience throughout state government, emphasizing accessibility, efficiency, effectiveness, security, accountability, and customer satisfaction in government service delivery. Each agency has 90 days to develop their “key service process and workflow maps.”



Partnership

The Partnership subcommittee continued focusing on opportunities to optimize awareness and systems alignment of transition services statewide. As part of the Comprehensive Statewide Needs Assessment, we focused on workforce system integration to understand readiness to serve people with disabilities. In the upcoming year, we are interested in how the workforce system can support students and youth as they exit the school and move toward the achievement of their employment goals.

The Washington State Transition Map

In November 2024, we launched the Washington State Transition Map. It is the first co-branded statewide resource that includes all agencies that provide transition services, as well as links to county services. This two-page resource includes information about program eligibility, services included, how it will help individuals to get or maintain employment and continued education and training, and information on how to apply.

Over the course of the year, we have heard incredible stories about how this resource has been integrated into the agency, community, and school partner outreach to elevate awareness of services available to support post-school journey employment goals. The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction encourages teachers to share the Transition Map as a companion resource during students' Individualized Plan meetings when they discuss the benefits of the Data Consent. The Data Consent is an authorization for students and their families to have an option to sign that allows state agencies and county partners to reach out about services they may qualify for.

Here are a few more ways the Transition Map has impacted communities across the state:

"The Washington State Transition Map has become an essential tool in my work supporting students with disabilities and their families. It provides a clear, accessible way to visualize the complex systems involved in transition and helps families, schools, and partner agencies understand how DVR, schools, and community programs connect. In the field, I've used it to guide conversations during transition planning meetings, helping everyone see where a student is in their journey and what steps come next. It's made collaboration easier and given families a sense of direction and confidence as they navigate the process toward employment and adulthood." -Sam Blazina, DVR Pre-Employment Transition Services Program Manager

"The Transition Map is impactful to DDCS because it gives students a way to see how we are part of their transition program and gives them an additional way to connect directly with us. It has been impactful to have this as a resource to reference and hand out during meetings and community events to promote early connections. It has also been impactful to show our communities how all these agencies were able to collaborate and work together to produce and share the Transition Map." -Ben Martin, DSHS Developmental Disability Community Services, Community Inclusion and Transition Program Manager

"Congratulations on completing the transition map! That was quite the project you spearheaded, so needed, and the final result looks fantastic. This was a long-standing vision within WSRC, and it's great to see it realized. You all did what many had tried and failed to do before you." - Drew Cassidy, former WSRC Council member

Washington State Transition Map

Purpose: The Washington State Rehabilitation Council has worked with the agencies named within this resource to support the development and publication of the Washington Transition Partnership Map. This resource aims to provide a high-level summary to assist individuals and families in learning about and connecting to transition services for which they may be eligible as students plan for their transition from high school. Additionally, it serves as a valuable tool for disability support resources and agencies to establish meaningful connections with transition services, thereby supporting individuals with disabilities in securing and maintaining employment. It is not intended to include all transition resources, many of which are available through local counties.

Who is eligible?

What does it include?

OSPI

Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction
Individualized Education Program Transition Plan

All students with an Individualized Education Program will have a Transition Plan in place by age 16. Special Education is available to eligible students, pre-kindergarten until the age of 22, based on the results of a comprehensive special education evaluation done at their school.

An Individualized Education Program Transition Plan includes:

- Transition assessment
- Appropriate and measurable post-secondary goals
- Individualized transition services
- Relevant course of study and annual IEP goals
- Coordinated services with adult agencies

DDA

Developmental Disabilities Administration
Job Foundation

Developmental Disabilities Administration eligible clients, age 19, enrolled in high school within a participating county.

Each individual will be connected to a provider who will develop a strength based person-centered report to identify needed supports, key skills and make a meaningful connection to a job. The plan will also help individuals gather critical documents and identify important next steps for their employment goals.

DVR

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
Pre-Employment Transition Services

Pre-Employment Transition Services is for students 14-21 who have a 504, an Individualized Education Program, or a documented disability. They must attend an accredited school, which includes a secondary school, General Education Development program, post-secondary, or a homeschool program.

Pre-Employment Transition Services program: activities on self-advocacy, work readiness, job exploration, work-based learning, and counseling on post-secondary training.

DVR

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
School-to-Work

School-to-Work is for students who live in a county that provides the program. They must be eligible for Developmental Disabilities Administration, in the last year of their transition program and of the ages 20-21.

Individuals will work with an employment provider to establish a job goal, develop skills and tools for employment and then have individualized support during the transition from school to employment.

DSB

Department of Services for the Blind
Transition Services

Blind, Deaf-blind and Low Vision children, students and young adults ages birth through 21.

- Explorers B-13 program: activities to gain self-awareness, confidence and peer social engagement.
- Pre-Employment Transition Services program: activities on self-advocacy, work readiness, job exploration, work-based learning, and counseling on post-secondary training.
- Transition services: post-secondary education, vocational training, job search, supports getting and keeping a job.



Most recent version and language translations of this document available at WSRCWA.org

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Washington State Transition Map (continued)

How does it help individuals to get or maintain employment and continued education and training?

How to Apply?

OSPI

Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction
Individualized Education Program Transition Plan

Special Education supports students who may be eligible through the process of developing and updating annual Individualized Education Programs. By the age of 16, this program must include a Transition Plan which outlines the support a student needs to be ready for their goals after high school.

Transition Support and Services (PDF): ospi.k12.wa.us/sites/default/files/2023-12/transition-support-services-summary.pdf



Learn how to reach out to your school district to start the special education referral process.

Web: ospi.k12.wa.us/student-success/special-education/family-engagement-and-guidance/how-special-education-works



DDA

Developmental Disabilities Administration
Job Foundation

The goal of Job Foundation is to provide a person-centered report that connects them to the next steps for their employment. Many students continue on to receive additional support through Division of Vocational Rehabilitation and counties. Together these two programs can build a student's success for their next steps after high school.

Participating counties do outreach to connect to students.

Email: DDAHQTransition@dshs.wa.gov

Web: informafamilies.org/hj-jobs



DVR

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
Pre-Employment Transition Services

Pre-Employment Transition Services are the earliest form of DVR services and are customized to the individual and community to support students to gain the skills necessary for first steps in employment. Services are provided in coordination with local school staff and external contractors.

Complete the [Request Transition Services or Information form](https://dshs.wa.gov/dvr/request-transition-services-or-information) dshs.wa.gov/dvr/request-transition-services-or-information.

Email: dvrtransition@dshs.wa.gov

Web: dshs.wa.gov/dvr/request-transition-services-or-information



DVR

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
School-to-Work

School-to-Work provides individualized services to address barriers to employment for students. It will include assessment, job placement, benefits planning, and connections to long-term supports.

Email: dvrtransition@dshs.wa.gov to find the contact for the local counties to start the application process.

Web: dshs.wa.gov/dvr/student-and-youth-vr-transition-services



DSB

Department of Services for the Blind
Transition Services

Department of Services for the Blind programs help children, students and young adults gain peer connections, foundational work readiness skills, and work experiences to develop a career pathway and gain employment.

Call: 800-552-7103

Email: info@dshs.wa.gov

Web: dshs.wa.gov/learn-about-out-services/request-more-information



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Washington State
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