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NEBRASKA

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Dear Superintendents and Special Education Directors,

In an effort to provide optimal support to schools as you begin planning for the 2020-2021 school year, it is essential to address some key partnerships that should continue to be implemented to ensure success for our students with disabilities. The NDE Offices of Special Education and Nebraska VR share responsibility to prepare students with disabilities for successful community employment.

Section 113(b) of the Rehabilitation Act and 34 CFR 361.48 (a) (2) list the five required pre-employment transition services that Vocational Rehabilitation agencies, in collaboration with local educational agencies (LEAs), must make available to students with disabilities in need of these services. These services are-

- Job exploration counseling
- Work-based learning
- Workplace readiness
- Counseling on post-secondary training options
- Self-advocacy

As you plan services for transition aged students, it is important to consider how you will continue to connect currently enrolled and newly referred students with the services of Nebraska VR as well as opportunities for students to access their assigned Pre-Employment Transition Service coordinator. All high schools will be given the opportunity to complete the annual Nebraska VR Partnership Planning Agreement, whereby preferences regarding school contact, the referral process, pre-employment transition service delivery to students, collaboration and information exchange can be settled.

Nebraska VR recognizes the safety of students and staff is the primary concern. Pre-employment transition coordinators will comply with all directed health measures and school specific health guidance in place during the school year for in-person contact with students and will implement flexibility to facilitate remote contact with students during the school day when necessary.

Examples of collaborative partnership to support transition planning include:

- Facilitation of student engagement in pre-employment transition services
- Communicating the process for student engagement with Nebraska VR among school staff
- Alerting Nebraska VR of new or updated directed health measures
- Attendance at IEP meetings (in-person or virtual)
- Sharing student/family updated contact information
- Providing regular updates about student activities

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to continued collaboration in support of transition students with disabilities.

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