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| Quarterly Transition Newsletter |

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| **Transition News***A quarterly newsletter brought to you by the DORS' Office of Transition & Supported Employment* |
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| **Vol 4, Issue 1, Spring 2020**  **IN THIS ISSUE:*** Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)
* Upcoming Dates
* What’s New
* Helpful Tips: Virtual Services
* Self-Care
* Spotlight On…

 **UPCOMING DATES:*** 05.25.20  HOLIDAY
* 07.03.20  HOLIDAY

 **Spotlight on Christopher House and Elyse Sedlander in Region 5**

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Elyse and Chris do everything in true teamwork fashion, so it would only make sense to spotlight the both of them!  As transition counselors in region 5, Elyse and Chris work together to provide outreach to school systems by offering DORS presentations/training to both school staff and students/families.  They reach out to school systems at the beginning of each school year to identify presentation needs and plan for the school year.  When asked why they prioritize presenting DORS information to schools, students, and families, Elyse and Chris stated, "kids often miss the opportunity to connect with DORS if we don't meet them where they are, where they are comfortable."  Elyse and Chris also noted the importance of keeping school staff and parents informed of DORS resources.Hats off to Elyse and Chris for taking the initiative to connect students to DORS and keeping schools informed!  Have questions or need tips about presenting DORS information to school partners?  Reach out to Elyse and Chris for their best practices!

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Chris enjoys studying American history and Elyse enjoys researching and theorizing about unsolved mysteries!Do not forget to keep your [educational goals](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDAsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDA0MTcuMjAzMDIzMjEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwOi8vaW50cmFuZXQuZG9ycy5ocS9yc19tYW51YWxzL3JzbTIvcnNtMl8wMzAwLTIuZG9jIn0.9Gu1XeEaDwrUBGWamja5IsX-IdnssFB3ontkYXeFwkk/br/77548437940-l) up-to-date in AWARE!  Keeping them up-to-date will help you access PreETS funding for students and manage your measurable skills gains.                       QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS!? jill.pierce@maryland.gov   |

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**Q.  Can Pre-ETS be provided virtually to referred students?**A.  Yes, previously approved Pre-ETS programs may be provided virtually, with the exception of work-based learning experiences (WBLE).  *All*WBLE activities have been suspended until further notice.  Providers/partners should be following [Pre-ETS Temporary Operational Procedures](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDIsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDA0MTcuMjAzMDIzMjEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL2RvcnMubWFyeWxhbmQuZ292L2NycHMvRG9jdW1lbnRzL1ByZUVUUyUyMFByb3ZpZGVycyUyMC0lMjBUZW1wb3JhcnklMjBPcGVyYXRpb25hbCUyMFByb2NlZHVyZXMucGRmIn0.sAxzXnOssMDSoVHvpnR6RuM_GoHclWmDDMZr5JIiGEA/br/77548437940-l) until further notice. **Q.  How long will providers/partners be allowed to deliver Pre-ETS virtually?**A.  DORS Pre-ETS virtual delivery will follow [Maryland State Department of Education’s school closure guidelines](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDMsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDA0MTcuMjAzMDIzMjEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwOi8vbWFyeWxhbmRwdWJsaWNzY2hvb2xzLm9yZy9QYWdlcy9kZWZhdWx0LmFzcHgifQ.y6XdOuC4dZFCxGoDuEqKfSNf1beDEeY0tVIhCiLOluM/br/77548437940-l) (MSDE).   These services may be provided virtually, if an authorization is provided by DORS, ***only*** while Maryland’s local school systems are closed due to COVID-19. **Q.  Can students participate in Pre-ETS in-person if the provider is willing?**A.  No!  Pre-ETS should ***not*** be provided in-person until MSDE physically reopens school systems. **Q.  Can students continue to participate in a WBLE with essential businesses?**A.  No, *all* WBLE activities are suspended until further notice. **Q.  With Pre-ETS WBLEs suspended, can DORS staff still send providers authorizations to begin WBLE development virtually?**A.  No, *all* WBLE activities are suspended until further notice. **Q. Can the DORS funded portion of Project Search be provided virtually during DORS current operational procedures?**A.   No, Project Search is considered a WBLE.  Staff should not be authorizing virtual DORS funded Project Search activities.

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* [Pre-ETS Temporary Operational Procedures](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDQsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDA0MTcuMjAzMDIzMjEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL2RvcnMubWFyeWxhbmQuZ292L2NycHMvRG9jdW1lbnRzL1ByZUVUUyUyMFByb3ZpZGVycyUyMC0lMjBUZW1wb3JhcnklMjBPcGVyYXRpb25hbCUyMFByb2NlZHVyZXMucGRmIn0.M_zRMhikLw7wxCVVRboCCDlXOUi-W9NZn9SiFJKkt3o/br/77548437940-l)
* [Guidance for CRPs for DORS Employment Services](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDUsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDA0MTcuMjAzMDIzMjEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL2RvcnMubWFyeWxhbmQuZ292L2NycHMvRG9jdW1lbnRzL0NSUF9FbXBsb3ltZW50X1NlcnZpY2VzX0d1aWRhbmNlLnBkZiJ9.T0Qo-16jFdbQGTlAiogDarZ4wqhC3GHzwLoYAtL8g6U/br/77548437940-l)
* [Guidance on Use of Teleconferencing to Provide Services](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDYsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDA0MTcuMjAzMDIzMjEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL2RvcnMubWFyeWxhbmQuZ292L2NycHMvRG9jdW1lbnRzL0NSUF90ZWxlY29uZl9ndWlkbGVsaW5lcy5wZGYifQ.nWOudclLql-cqpSKRF9GXMJRQ4XGnfJcukKr0J44gEs/br/77548437940-l)
* [MDH Guidance: Telephone Services Authorized During State of Emergency for SE Services](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDcsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDA0MTcuMjAzMDIzMjEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL2RvcnMubWFyeWxhbmQuZ292L2NycHMvRG9jdW1lbnRzL01ESF9UZWxlLUhlYWx0aF9TZXJ2aWNlcy5wZGYifQ.d9OXTI0eah9kkrEN_k3x0iObQaLJGz_7LHQXvEgW8yk/br/77548437940-l)
* Measurable Skills Gains Training (and survey to be completed post-training)
* Actual Service Records Training (and survey to be completed post-training)
* Educational Goals Training (and survey to be completed post-training)
* WBLE Desk Reference has been updated
* Welcome new DORS Transition Counselors Ivonne Salas, Sarah Canter, and Valarie Pridgeon!

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Below are a few tips for consideration when working with students in a sudden virtual world:* Maintain communication with your school partners
* Maintain communication with local Pre-ETS providers to find out which providers are continuing to provide services
* For students with the most significant disabilities, reach out to your school partners regarding recommendations on how to engage the students
* For students with accessibility issues, reach out to your school partners to find how they are engaging students virtually
* Prioritize soon to be graduating/ exiting students and those for whom you have been planning to set up WBLEs this summer to equip them with job readiness skills

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Unfortunately, this pandemic knows no bounds and impacts everyone in some way, shape, or form.  As DORS continues to have a responsibility of serving students and young adults, do not forget to take care of yourself first!  See below for a few resources on self-care:* [Guide to Well-Being During Coronavirus](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMTUsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDA0MTcuMjAzMDIzMjEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL2dyZWF0ZXJnb29kLmJlcmtlbGV5LmVkdS9hcnRpY2xlL2l0ZW0vZ3JlYXRlcl9nb29kX2d1aWRlX3RvX3dlbGxfYmVpbmdfZHVyaW5nX2Nvcm9uYXZpcnVzIn0.H8fbIFUYEaCJ9fB-hEAkIOM_GJgmUGVMpY-J_wHV51E/br/77548437940-l)
* [Coronavirus Sanity Guide](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMTYsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDA0MTcuMjAzMDIzMjEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL3d3dy50ZW5wZXJjZW50LmNvbS9jb3JvbmF2aXJ1c3Nhbml0eWd1aWRlIn0.ah5pTYm9CohFlR6yFwwg8ZlWNvLm3ktBSvCFu3Unl6I/br/77548437940-l)
* [Pandemic Care Resources](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMTcsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDA0MTcuMjAzMDIzMjEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL3d3dy50YXJhYnJhY2guY29tL3BhbmRlbWljLyJ9.ga8jj0oKQsAfgzFy2jMWpeOfiYoqzjpA_3kq4nR6_zE/br/77548437940-l)
* [Taking Care of Your Emotional Health](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMTgsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDA0MTcuMjAzMDIzMjEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL2VtZXJnZW5jeS5jZGMuZ292L2NvcGluZy9zZWxmY2FyZS5hc3AifQ.wl70aimZ2895eubP6ea17HVpxyOrrL-meZc40C9fkbg/br/77548437940-l)
* [Coronavirus: Mental Health Coping Strategies](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMTksInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDA0MTcuMjAzMDIzMjEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL3d3dy5uYW1pLm9yZy9CbG9ncy9OQU1JLUJsb2cvTWFyY2gtMjAyMC9Db3JvbmF2aXJ1cy1NZW50YWwtSGVhbHRoLUNvcGluZy1TdHJhdGVnaWVzIn0.5gigTBfRat7KbOUIu9RxIMocRNCmKY5f7wFDXudb84E/br/77548437940-l)
* Coping With Traumatic Events [Webinar](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMjAsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDA0MTcuMjAzMDIzMjEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL2JsaS53ZWJleC5jb20vcmVjb3JkaW5nc2VydmljZS9zaXRlcy9ibGkvcmVjb3JkaW5nL3BsYXliYWNrL2JhMjRlNDRlMzU5YTQ2NGFiMWY2ZWM0ZjI0MjJhY2FlP3JjZEtleT00ODMyNTM0YjAwMDAwMDA0NmJkYWFhMjI2YjYyYjMxYjMxMTcxMDE3NmNhNmE4OWYyYzQzYzc1MzA0YzcwYzc3OTE3ODgwYzhhMzhlZDBhNyZ0aW1lU3RhbXA9MTU4NTg0MzIyOTM2MyJ9.9LyIdKpeqrN_ZOix4Vw5jwSx4cIvA0FNY48KJpBOwFQ/br/77548437940-l)
* Get the Best of Stress [Webinar](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMjEsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDA0MTcuMjAzMDIzMjEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL2JhbGFuY2luZ2xpZmVzaXNzdWVzLndlYmV4LmNvbS9yZWNvcmRpbmdzZXJ2aWNlL3NpdGVzL2JhbGFuY2luZ2xpZmVzaXNzdWVzL3JlY29yZGluZy8wYjMwZmRhNmRlM2U0ZWJhOTUzODU3MjYxZWRkZjZkYSJ9.lZG5U9G8_IRaTwBoFAN4v9BdgOLfh0xz8qRtPfXlO7k/br/77548437940-l)
* Optum Free Emotional Support Line (available to everyone and answered 24/7): 866.342.6892
* The Happiness Lab (Yale University) [Podcasts](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMjIsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDA0MTcuMjAzMDIzMjEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL3BvZGNhc3RzLmFwcGxlLmNvbS92bi9wb2RjYXN0L3RoZS1oYXBwaW5lc3MtbGFiLXdpdGgtZHItbGF1cmllLXNhbnRvcy9pZDE0NzQyNDUwNDAifQ.VtZndWBh9pF7Mh_psq0vuSJe8FGnWffPmbRGwoP7Beo/br/77548437940-l)- Updated for coping with the stress of COVID-19
* [Feeling Anxious?](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMjMsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDA0MTcuMjAzMDIzMjEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL3d3dy5ucHIub3JnLzIwMjAvMDIvMDMvODAyMzQ3NzU3L2EtY29udmVyc2F0aW9uLXdpdGgtdGFyYS1icmFjaC1taW5kZnVsbmVzcy10b29scy1mb3ItYmlnLWZlZWxpbmdzIn0.DNA4M_2DEdoMzlvJEqCN5hubVcTPbz5o5hZKI-qjRaI/br/77548437940-l)
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| The Vocational Rehabilitation program receives 78.7 percent of its funding through a grant from the U.S. Department of Education. For Federal fiscal year 2018, the total amount of grant funds awarded were $44,234,054. The remaining 21.3 percent of the costs $11,971,860 were funded by State appropriations. Click to edit this placeholder text. |

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