



# NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT

## Suspension of the Financial Participation Assessment for customers of the Idaho Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

Notice is hereby given that the Idaho Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (IDVR) announces a public comment session in combination with the State Rehabilitation Council's October quarterly meeting.

The Division will be, as of November 1, 2023, suspending customer financial contribution in the cost of necessary VR services. This assessment process is known as Financial Participation Assessment (FPA). Federal regulations (*34 CFR 361.54*) allow a VR program to determine if or when they implement an FPA. The Division believes it is in the best interest of customers of IDVR to suspend the current FPA process.

IDVR will be modifying the current policy in the future and will hold public meetings to solicit public input regarding this and other changes to the Division's policy manual.

No IDVR customer contribution will be required for necessary services (*34 CFR 361.48b*) after November 1, 2023. The Division cannot retroactively apply this action or reimburse those customer contributions which have already been applied to their IDVR services. Customers are still responsible for 100 percent of excess costs above documented need (e.g., choosing a service that has more expensive options than documented need indicates).

Federal regulations (*34 CFR 361.53*) require the Division, collaboratively with the customer, to search for and use available comparable benefits provided by any other program, to include customer health insurance.

The purpose of this period of public comment is to provide information to interested individuals on the Division's action plan to suspend the FPA.

**Comment Period:** October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Mountain Time)

**SRC Meeting location:** Springhill Suites, 424 E Parkcenter Blvd, Boise, ID 83706

**Participate By Phone:**

**Meeting phone number: 1-267-807-9601      Access Code: 437109#**

*Reasonable accommodation available upon request.*

Please contact IDVR at (208) 334-3390 or email [wendy.page@vr.idaho.gov](mailto:wendy.page@vr.idaho.gov) a minimum of 72 hours prior to meeting date for necessary accommodations.