



Idaho State Rehabilitation Council (SRC) QUARTERLY MEETING MINUTES

Holiday Inn Airport Conference Center, Boise, Idaho

October 21, 2025 - 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Note: The Meeting was streamed through a virtual platform to allow for public viewing and Council member participation.

Present

SRC Chairman, Tim Blonsky, Disability Groups Representative
SRC Vice-Chair, Diana Colgrove, Business, Labor and Industry Representative

Amber Maxwell, Disability Groups Representative

Brandon Dopf, Former VR Recipient Representative

Danielle Larsen, Community Rehabilitation Provider (CRP) Representative

Donna Butler, Workforce Development Council Representative

Feather Holt, Native Tribal Representative

Jami Davis, State Independent Living Council Representative

Janice Carson, Disability Groups Representative

Jeff DeForest, Business, Labor and Industry Representative

Kyanna Fahey, Disability Groups Representative

Mark Reinhardt, Former VR Recipient Representative

Nancy Grant, Disability Rights/Client Assistance Program Representative

Randi Cole, State Department of Education Representative

Stephanie Taylor-Thompson, Former VR Recipient Representative

Ex Officio Members

Judy B. Taylor, IDVR Interim Administrator

Kara Whitehouse, VR Counselor Representative

Absent

Lucas Rose, Business, Industry and Labor Representative

A Quorum was established.

Guests

Darrell Quist, IDVR Field Services Chief

Lauren Noble, IDVR Transition Manager

MiKayla Monaghan, IDVR Stakeholder Relations Manager

Heidi Smith, IDVR Business Analyst

Review of Meeting Minutes

The Meeting Minutes for the SRC July 22, 2025 meeting were reviewed.

MOTION: Mark Reinhardt made a motion to approve the July 22, 2025 Meeting Minutes as written. Diana Colgrove seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Membership Nomination

Sarah Gornik, Family Resource Specialist at Idaho Parents Unlimited nomination was considered for SRC membership as representative of Parent Training and Information Center.

MOTION: Mark Reinhardt made a motion to approve the nomination of Sarah Gornik as a member of the Idaho State Rehabilitation Council. Nancy Grant seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Interim Administrator Updates

Judy B. Taylor, IDVR Interim Administrator, provided an update on the recruitment of a new IDVR Administrator. Applications are being reviewed and the top nine have been identified. Screening interviews will be conducted by a committee. The State Board of Education is responsible for the hiring process.

There has been a change in leadership supervision within IDVR. Lauren Noble, who is currently the IDVR Transition Manager, will be managing Business Services and Transition Services. MiKayla Monaghan, will be managing Internal Operations and Stakeholder Relations.

Vaybrant Consulting has been continuing to review and support management of processes to ensure that IDVR meets federal compliance. The contract will be completed at the end of November 2025, and the processes that they are supporting will be completely be managed internally within the Agency.

The Corrective Action Plan (CAP) deliverables have not been returned by the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) due to the current federal government shutdown.

On October 27, 2025, IDVR will begin serving the first group of participants from the wait list within the Most Significant Disabilities category.

Budget and Financial Update

MiKayla Monaghan provided the fiscal update on behalf of the agency's fiscal officer. The IDVR Quarterly Budget to Actual Comparison report and the SRC Expenditures Detail reports were shared.

The Comprehensive Statewide Needs Assessment (CSNA) needs to be completed as of September 30, 2026. Historically the Agency has contracted this required assessment; however, IDVR will likely move this process in-house.

State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2026 budget was at 79% remaining as of the last quarter ending September 30, 2025. Austerity measures have included salary savings from vacancies that have not been immediately filled. Operating has 84.6% remaining against the budgeted amount, which is an area where austerity measures have also been applied by reducing Agency travel and conference attendance.

Capital Expenditures reflect 75% remaining in the budget.

Trustee and Benefits (T&B) reflect 92% of the budget remaining, which is how serving individuals from the waitlist has been justified. There have been changes in how authorizations for services are being issued to ensure that they are allowable under the federal grant.

IDVR did not meet the 15% Pre-ETS requirements for FFY24 due to increased spend requirement with the additional \$10 million in federal reallocation funds.

General Fund Budget Recissions

SFY26 Current 3% = \$145,000

- \$31,600 Personnel (already planned as part of CEC Reversion)

- \$56,700 Operating
- \$56,700 Trustee & Benefit

SFY27 Budget Request and ongoing

- \$48,300 Operating (1%)
- \$48,700 Trustee & Benefit (2%)

Programmatic Reports

General VR Program Updates

General VR Program updates were shared by Darrell Quist.

The updates included Treasure Valley office changes and personnel information.

The appeals processes were explained, and it was reported that there were no formal hearings for State Fiscal Year 2025.

Counselor capacity affects the number of people that can be served from the waitlist in addition to the funding piece.

Stakeholder Relations

Business services data for the most recent quarter was shared by MiKayla Monaghan.

Outreach Communications: 1879

Services Provided: 457

Business Information and Support Services: 200

Accessing Untapped Talent: 192

Workforce Recruitment: 27

Business Training and Education: 20

Workforce Training: 18

Corrective Action Plan Update: provided information related to the monthly Order of Selection data update and the 90-day cycle for responding to the identified CAP deliverables.

Outcome Data Report

Heidi Smith presented the FY26 1st Quarter data highlights including

Measurable Skill Gain performance, Credential Attainment rates and 2nd/4th Quarter After Exit wages and employment rates.

Outcome Data Continued

Applications:

PY24: 1036

PY25: 437

Received Planned Services:

PY24: 2173

PY25: 2049

Successful Employment Outcomes:

PY24: 187

PY25: 96

Median Hourly Wage:

PY24: \$17.00

PY25: \$15.00

*IDVR Entered OOS reducing cases for maintaining employment that factor into this calculation and historically increase average wages.

Employers Hiring VR Participants:

PY24: 219

PY25: 62

Training Dollars Spent:

PY24: 863,399.22

PY25: 287,728.27

(\$588,087.06 still outstanding on open authorizations with begin date in the quarter)

Total Funds Expended:

PY24: \$5,707,399.75

PY25: \$596,967.41

(\$50,622.52 still outstanding on open authorizations with begin date in quarter)

Order of Selection Data was also presented by Heidi Smith showing the waitlist statistics by disability priority category.

Authorizations and amounts paid by disability priority category were also shared with council members for State Fiscal Year 2025.

Participant Satisfaction Survey

Detailed survey responses from July 2025 to September 2025 were reported which included a handout showing the participants' comments.

Pre-ETS Update

Lauren Noble provided the updates for Pre Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS).

Pre-ETS Service Delivery positions have been reclassified statewide. The historic positions of VR Specialist and VR Assistant have been replaced with VR Coordinator and Technical Records Specialists.

Pre-ETS Data reports included the current percentages. IDVR expended 11.64% of the budget for Federal Fiscal Year 24 due to the additional funds received from RSA. The requirement of 15% increased from \$2.9 million to \$4.4 million. The reason that the required percentage was not reached was due to the number of services being provided that were not allowable under the Federal Grant.

State Fiscal Year 2026 expenditures are at 7.3% of the 17%. Legislative intent language has mandated a ceiling of 17% for SFY26

A detailed report explained how costs for Pre-ETS are determined for what is included within the Pre-ETS floor (15%) or ceiling (17% for SFY26) for spending.

The Pre-ETS team has launched an application, which is a resource for students, parents, and educators who may be potentially eligible or eligible for VR services. The URL is <https://padlet.com/idvrPreETS>.

Pre-ETS Program Data Collection was shared.

Pre-ETS Spending Projection – State Fiscal Year 2026

Lauren Noble reported that the bulk of the expenditures, which are currently at 7.3%, are mostly due to the staff-provided services directly to students. Invoices from the previous fiscal year continue to be received and reflect the data provided.

If a student requires a supportive service to engage in a Pre-ETS service, those services have to be provided through an IPE service. The Order of Selection process that utilizes a waitlist delays when the students are able to participate when supportive services are necessary to engage in the Pre-ETS service.

Pre-ETS Expenditures explanation was provided as follows:

Pre-ETS Required - direct staff time – including preparing and arranging, travel and documentation, supplies necessary for services, Auxiliary & Aids, purchased services from a vendor

Pre-ETS Coordination – 4 specific activities (IEP attendance, PCP meetings, working with employers to set up potential WBLE options, working with schools)

Pre-ETS Authorized – 9 specific activities – determined by Transition Manager in alignment with federal requirements.

It was noted that around 23,000 students in Idaho are on an IEP. This does not include those on a 504, private schools, or homeschooled students who would also qualify for Pre-ETS which could bring the number to around 30,000 students who would be potentially eligible for Pre-ETS.

Projected personnel costs of \$1,249,500 were shared by position.

Council Recommendations

After reviewing various detailed options on how strategies for Pre-ETS expenditures impact the delivery of services to those individuals on the waitlist as well as students, council members made a recommendation on the spending of Pre-ETS funds.

MOTION: Diana Colgrove made motion for Pre-ETS Expenditures not to

exceed 19.5% for State Fiscal Year 2027 (SFY27). Mark Reinhardt seconded the motion. The motion passed without abstention.

Success Stories were shared featuring Pre-ETS direct services provided by the IDVR Pre-ETS team to groups of students.

Annual Report Update

Tim Blonsky shared that the Annual Report is not ready for voting. Once the Annual Report is completed a virtual SRC meeting will be scheduled to be reviewed and make a vote on the 2025 IDVR/SRC Combined Annual Report.

Member Updates

Tim Blonsky shared that Deep AI started the public health setting in our development. He has partnered with his sister to focus on individuals with ADHD and neurodivergence through various types of coaching. Together they are partnering with a large company that will be providing this as a benefit to employees.

Brandon Dopf explained that the deaf community is nationwide and international but at the same time, small and strong knitted. He works as a Vice President of 360 Direct Access who partners with large companies providing customer support in sign language, so that a deaf person can go to a company's website and request tech support and get that support directly from a trained deaf customer representative. This is a tremendous opportunity to create jobs, hire and train more people. AI technology is evolving. Brandon shared that he is a proud Idahoan. Brandon stated that VR Services gave him the opportunity for education and is looking forward to ways that he can work with council members.

Nancy Grant explained that she wears the Client Assistance Program (CAP) hat but also worked for the Idaho Protection and Advocacy Authority, which is a non-profit law firm for the State of Idaho. They provide free legal and administrative services to people with disabilities. She shared that they wear a lot of hats as the policy watchdogs state agencies including adult protection, Vocational Rehabilitation, Health and Welfare, special education, mediation for IPE's. They conduct investigations in hospitals, developmental disabilities agencies, group homes, nursing homes, as well as legal services. Any entity that provides services to people with

disabilities is when they can provide help. They also do death investigations for deaths that occur in facilities.

Mark Reinhardt is working on a couple of journalism projects, including one article focused on psychiatric artificial intelligence. He plans to work on a documentary on the disability independent living movement in the 21st Century year 2025.

Amber Maxwell shared that she provides private vocational rehabilitation services, primary disability evaluations and vocational evaluations for court cases. Her husband is the Veterans Readiness Employment Officer for the State of Idaho. The VA VR Program is furloughed but still working at 30% capacity providing training related services to veterans. Veterans who are service connected continue to receive disability payments and healthcare services.

Kara Whitehouse shared that IDVR Counselors in the treasure valley went to a training at the Idaho Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired (ICBVI) and remarked that it was a great training. Statewide Case Management Training is being provided internally to support counselors to be better prepared for balancing caseload management needs with new participants coming off of the waitlist.

Janice Carson Janice is the Associate Director for the University of Idaho, Center of Education and Excellence (UCEDD), University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities. In the workforce area, they do a variety of activities through Idaho Competitive Integrated Employment (ICIE) to assist students in preparing for their future careers. The ECLIPSE grant is focused on serving individuals with developmental disabilities in higher education. Under the Pathways to Partnership Grant, they collaborate with the Department of Education. They are planning their annual Tools for Life conference at Boise State University in February.

Diana Colgrove talked about how on the Washington border, wages are over \$17, which affects wages in Idaho. Costs are going up and wages keep going up, this is having an impact on the jobs that are carved out for people with VR services. Employers are requiring more in less time, causing hours to be cut and jobs to change. With VR being in Order of Selection, people are stuck in jobs, with no hope of making a change. Her

daughter is in her dream job and has been there for five years. Recently her hours were cut back from 3-4 hours per day to only 1.5 hours per day. She relies on her parents for transportation to and from work so the 1.5-hour shift causes extra hardship for the whole family.

Stephanie Taylor Thompson

She will be providing clarification for those under the care of the Department of Corrections with VR updates.

Jami Davis

Jami reported that the Treasurer's Office has officially signed the documents to join the ABLE Program (Achieving a Better Life Experience). The target date to have Idaho implemented is January 1, 2026.

Other Business

The next SRC meeting is scheduled for January 27, 2026.

Council members were encouraged to present or make suggestions of someone that has information that would be informative for the council to hear for future meetings.

The meeting was adjourned without opposition.

Attachment A:

Questions from SRC Members Not Formally Raised During the October 2025 SRC Meeting

Order of Selection Questions

- From Sept 2024 until Sept 2025 it appears that there were a total of 3190 case closures from the data reported in the closure column. However, the number of people served went from 3637 to 1783 for this same time period. This is a change of 1854 less people. How are case closures tracked vs. number of receiving service?
 - The 3190 is a sum of the closures for the entire year data from the handout, while the 3637 and 1783 numbers are for the month of September. The total number served in FFY25 was 3698.
 - Closures are tracked from all case status types including application, eligibility, and service (successful versus unsuccessful case closure).
 - Individuals receiving a service is tracked by participants with an IPE that received either a direct service from VR or an authorized service after their plan was signed.
- What services did the 1783 people served in 2025 receive by category (training, CRP, Pre-ETS, medical or physical restoration, adaptive devices, etc.)? Does this number include Pre-ETS students? If so, how many are Pre-ETS and how many are adults?
 - Below are all the services provided either through an authorized service with a vendor or a staff provided service from 10/1/2024 to 9/30/2025. These only count Pre-ETS services that were provided to VR participants, not students under a pre-case. The total number of participants with an IPE (not including students under a pre-case) served in FFY25 was 3698.

Service_Category_Desc	Participants
Counseling & Guidance	2342
Job Search Assistance	708
Information and Referral	418
Assessment: Staffing	321
Training: Four-Year College or University	241
Supported Employment - Job Coaching	206
Training: Four-Year College: Books and Supplies	179
Training: Occupational or Vocational	161
Transportation	136
Job Supports - Short Term	131
License/Certification	101
Training: Occupational; Books and Supplies	96
Training: Junior or Community College	79

Maintenance: Clothing	73
Benefits Summary & Analysis (BS& A)	69
Assessment: Medical Examination	67
Job Placement Assistance	65
Pre-ETS Job Exploration Counseling	55
Training: Junior College; Books and Supplies	51
Training: Miscellaneous	50
Pre-ETS Counseling on Enrollment Opportunities	48
Pre-ETS Workplace Readiness Training	47
Pre-ETS Instruction in Self-Advocacy	46
Hearing Aids	43
Computer Equip/Repair/Software	35
Training: Truck Driving	35
Rehabilitation technology	34
Training: Graduate College or University	34
Other Services	32
Tools and Equipment	32
Assessment: Medical Records	31
Training: Graduate College; Books and Supplies	31
*Assessment: CBWE Report Writing	30
*Assessment: CBWE Site Development	30
*Assessment: CBWE	29
Benefits Planning - General Benefits Consultation	26
Interpreter Services	26
(Exempt) CDL Alcohol & Controlled Substance Tests	22
Training: Apprenticeship	17
Vision Aids	13
Psychotherapy/Counseling	12
Training: Miscellaneous; Books and Supplies	12
Benefits Planning - Hourly	10
Pre-ETS Work Based Learning Experience	10
Training: Apprenticeship Books and Sup.	9
Medical Treatment	8
Child Care	6
*(Exempt) Tires/Tire Services	5
(Exempt) Cell Phone/Cell Phone Service	4
Foreign Language Interpreter Services	4
Benefits Planning - Contractor Travel	3
Maintenance: Food and Housing	3
Medication and Supplies	3
Training: Job Readiness	3

Training: On-the-Job	2
(Exempt) Copier/Printer	1
Assessment: Background Check	1
Dental Work	1
Medication Monitoring	1
Training: Basic Academic Remedial or Literacy	1
Training: Disability Related Skills	1

*Service categories that have since been determined unallowable after RSA review under route payment reviews.

- In the last quarter- July-September \$1,296,118.38 were authorized for services- what services? Of this the amount paid was \$558,012.17. It is recognized payment and authorization timelines are not necessarily aligned where payment may have been for previous services or billing has not been received for authorizations issued however, it does appear a significant amount of authorized services were not provided. What is the current balance of authorized services?
 - Altogether, during the quarter \$737,129.35 or 63.41% of what was authorized has been paid, this is aligned with historical data trends for authorized versus paid amounts.

Row Labels	Sum of Original Authorized	Sum of Current Authorized	Sum of Total Paid	% Paid
(Exempt) CDL Alcohol & Controlled Substance Tests	170	85	85	100.00%
(Exempt) Cell Phone/Cell Phone Service	360	360	360	100.00%
Assessment: Medical Examination	15492	13228.06	10452.06	79.01%
Assessment: Medical Records	32680	31353.48	1808.01	5.77%
Assessment: Staffing	3294	3186	2700	84.75%
Benefits Planning - General Benefits				
Consultation	2100	1750	1750	100.00%
Benefits Summary & Analysis (BS& A)	10200	6800	4370	64.26%
Computer Equip/Repair/Software	7860.94	7626.74	7386.74	96.85%
Foreign Language Interpreter Services	171	171	0	0.00%
Hearing Aids	8242.88	8242.88	3600	43.67%
Interpreter Services	6568.8	5702.76	2758.7	48.37%
Job Search Assistance	127885.5	100372.5	70551	70.29%
Job Supports - Short Term	25812	20074.5	14296.5	71.22%
License/Certification	6106.3	5732.3	4527	78.97%
Maintenance: Clothing	484.23	391.16	391.16	100.00%
Maintenance: Food and Housing	2162.02	997	997	100.00%

Medical Treatment	1800	1800	0	0.00%
Other Services	1909.97	1909.97	1739.79	91.09%
Pre-ETS Work Based Learning Experience	140	140	140	100.00%
Psychotherapy/Counseling	80	80	0	0.00%
Rehabilitation technology	16470.47	15489.74	13089.74	84.51%
Supported Employment - Job Coaching	176580	136404	126684.5	92.87%
Tools and Equipment	2011.47	1932.13	1932.13	100.00%
Training: Apprenticeship	2234	2234	2234	100.00%
Training: Apprenticeship Books and Sup.	888	859.7	859.7	100.00%
Training: Disability Related Skills	5000	5000	5000	100.00%
Training: Four-Year College or University	445971.17	436298.7	247772.63	56.79%
Training: Four-Year College: Books and Supplies	29171.89	26806.6	9538.86	35.58%
Training: Graduate College or University	121657.9	113457.55	66689.63	58.78%
Training: Graduate College; Books and Supplies	5120.81	4722.84	1907.17	40.38%
Training: Junior College; Books and Supplies	5394.07	5034.87	3054.31	60.66%
Training: Junior or Community College	89011.72	80065.72	66370.27	82.89%
Training: Miscellaneous	7472	7472	7052	94.38%
Training: Miscellaneous; Books and Supplies	95.25	95.25	95.25	100.00%
Training: Occupational or Vocational	103725.47	97268.97	43755.08	44.98%
Training: Occupational; Books and Supplies	13426.42	9322.56	6567.05	70.44%
Training: Truck Driving	12330	4553.09	2103.09	46.19%
Transportation	4979.2	4445.06	3581.18	80.57%
Vision Aids	1058.9	1058.9	929.8	87.81%

- What is the balance of the FY 26 budget appropriation?
 - Please refer to the "IDVR Quarterly Budget to Actual Report by Fund" that is provided to each member as part of the SRC meeting packet.
- What is the amount of available federal funds?
 - Currently (as of 1/2/2026), there is \$13.4M of federal funds available between FFY25 and FFY26. The full FFY26 award amount is unknown at this time. Typically, there are 3-4 award notices per federal fiscal year.
- Will this be sufficient to fulfill the current IDVR client's plans?
 - Yes, the agency is managing its budget by utilizing the waitlist as a

financial management tool.

- What is the average length of time a VR client is in service?
 - 20.8 months
- Were there any “new” VR clients in SFY 25? Is so, how many?
 - As outlined on the OOS Dashboard presented during the meeting, IDVR did not serve any individuals off the waitlist during SFY25.

Satisfaction Survey Questions

- How many surveys were sent out and who were they sent out to? Only positive case closures or those currently in service or closed for other reasons?
 - 2659 Surveys were sent out in PY2024. Of those surveys sent out, only 189 responses were received.
 - IDVR sends a satisfaction survey to all individuals with their case closed regardless of case status prior to case closure.
- Of the sample- how many are non-CRP participants vs. CRP participants? Is this reflective of the total VR clients? Example, if the total VR client group has 30% participating in CRP services, was the response provided on the survey reflective of this same percentage? If not, what was the percentage?
 - Of the 2659 Surveys sent in PY24, 661 of those participants worked with a CRP. We received 52 responses from participants with a CRP.

	Sent	Responses	
Total Surveys	2659	189	7.11%
Used CRP	661	52	7.87%
Percentage			
CRP	24.86%	27.51%	

- Based on the date, participants who used CRPs tended to have a slightly higher response rate.
- How is the satisfaction score calculated?
 - The satisfaction score is calculated based on the four response options (Strongly Agree, Agree, Disagree, and Strongly Disagree). For example, the question: “VR staff treated me with respect.” Participants that marked Strongly Agree or Agree would be considered a “satisfied” answer. Participants that marked Disagree or Strongly Disagree would be considered “dissatisfied.” The score is a percentage of ‘satisfied’ responses out of the whole of responses.
- How will this data be used by IDVR or the SRC to drive positive changes to service delivery?
 - This data will be utilized to support the Comprehensive Statewide Needs Assessment (CSNA) and State Plan that outlines the goals and objectives for IDVR’s strategic plan to increase employment outcomes for individuals with disabilities.
- How does this survey compare to the previous year survey?

- The data provided was for a single quarter in the current SFY. The comparison against the same quarter from the prior SFY is as follows:

Question	2024 – Satisfaction Score	2025 - Satisfaction Score
VR Staff Treated Me with Respect	88%	50%
VR Responded to My Needs (questions/request) in a Timely Manner	50%	50%
I Understood From the Start that Employment was the Goal of VR	100%	50%
I had the opportunity to work together with my VR Counselor to develop my plan	75%	67%
The services outlined in my plan for employment were provided in a timely manner	50%	67%
I had the opportunity to make decisions regarding which service provider(s) would be used to deliver planned services (N/A if not applicable).	33% (only 3 responded)	67%
I would recommend the Community Rehabilitation Provider(s) that assisted me to others in my community who need similar services.	38%	75%
I had a choice when picking a Community Rehabilitation Provider.	50%	67%
I am satisfied with the communication and interaction I had with the Community Rehabilitation Provider(s) that assisted me with looking for work.	50%	75%
I would recommend VR to friends with disabilities who are looking to find work, keep work, or advance in their careers.	50%	75%
Overall, I am satisfied with my experience with IDVR	50%	67%

*As stated in the presentation, these are small samples sizes. 2024 had 8 responses and 2025 had 4 responses for the corresponding quarter.

On the power point there are positive comments reports but no negative comments. Were there any? If so, what since these should help identify where change is needed.

- The totality of the participant comments received for the timeframe presented were provided to SRC members in their meeting packet.

Attachment B: Pre-ETS Slides as requested by SRC Member