Idaho Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
Financial Participation Assessment
Policy Document

Policy Name: Financial Participation Assessment		
Effective Date: 07/01/2026	Revision Date:	Retirement Date:
Review Schedule: Annual	Revision Number:	

1.0 POLICY STATEMENT:

The Idaho Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (IDVR) applies a Financial Participation Assessment (FPA) to select services to encourage shared responsibility and informed decision-making in vocational rehabilitation (VR) planning. This is done in accordance with federal and state regulations to ensure fair and equitable treatment of all participants. The FPA is intended to:

- Promote equitable and nondiscriminatory treatment of all participants.
- Support reasonable costs a prudent person would incur for federal use and compliance with the State of Idaho Department of Purchasing requirements.
- Encourage collaborative decision-making in the development of the Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE).
- Ensure that any participant's level of participation in the cost of services is reasonable, based on financial need, the cost of participation is not so high to deny participants necessary services, and includes consideration of disability-related expenses in financial participation calculations.

2.0 LEGAL AUTHORITY:

34 CFR §361.53
34 CFR §361.54
2 CFR §200.403-405
IDAPA 47.01.01.300
IDAPA 38.05.01

3.0 SCOPE:

This policy applies to all IDVR program participants, applicable household members, and IDVR personnel.

4.0 **STANDARD**:

4.1 IDVR will not fund service costs above the cost determined necessary to achieve the employment outcome, regardless of a participant's SSI/SSDI status or income level.

4.1.1 Costs exceeding necessary service costs are Participant Choice Costs, which are the full responsibility of participants.

4.2 IDVR will assess financial participation on the following plan services:

4.2.1 Hearing Aids;

4.2.2 Post-secondary tuition and training fees, except for on-the job (OJT) training fees;

4.2.3 Post-secondary training books and supplies;

4.2.4 Tools and equipment;

4.2.5 Maintenance; and

4.2.6 Transportation.

4.3 The following are not subject to the FPA:

4.3.1 Assessments needed to determine an individual's eligibility, priority for services, and VR needs;

4.3.2 Counseling and Guidance;

4.3.3 Referral services and other related supports necessary for participation in the VR program;

4.3.4 Job-related services;

4.3.5 Personal assistance services needed to participate in the VR process;

4.3.6 Auxiliary aids and services, such as interpreters or readers, required for an individual with a disability to access and participate fully in the VR program;

4.3.7 Any service not listed in section 4.2.

4.4 Students receiving pre-employment transition services (Pre-ETS) shall not be subject to the FPA for Pre-ETS; however, students with an open VR case may be subject to financial participation for other VR services required to access Pre-ETS.

4.5 The participant's financial contribution:

4.5.1 Is calculated using IDVR's FPA tool;

4.5.2 Is calculated as a percentage of the necessary cost of the service;

4.5.3 Is applied to the cost of each applicable FPA service.

4.6 IDVR will review the FPA as part of the required annual review of the IPE.

5.0 EXCEPTIONS/EXEMPTIONS:

5.1 Participants receiving SSI or SSDI benefits due to their disability are exempt from the FPA policy.

5.2 Low-income exemption, verified by at least one of the following during the FPA time frame:

- 5.2.1 Medicaid recipient
- 5.2.2 CHIP (Children's Health Insurance Plan) recipient, self or dependents
- 5.2.3 TAFI/TANF recipient
- 5.2.4 SNAP (food stamps) recipient
- 5.2.5 WIC recipient
- 5.2.6 Receiving unemployment benefits
- 5.2.7 Unemployment benefits
- 5.2.8 Low-income housing verification
- 5.2.9 Participant is a Pell grant recipient
- 5.2.10 A documented significant loss of income occurred or occurs during the current FPA period
- 5.2.11 The participant's cost share would prevent access to IDVR services and progression towards the established vocational goal.

5.3 Exceptions to policy require supervisor approval and documentation in the participant's case record.