

**Louisiana Rehabilitation Services (LRS)
LRS Director’s Quarterly Report
October 2024**

PROGRAM SERVICES

Pre-Employment Transition Services

Louisiana Rehabilitation Services (LRS) provides Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) to students with disabilities between the ages of 16 and 21 with an active Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or who meets the definition of a student with a disability as covered under Section 504 or who is a student who has a documented disability. Pre-ETS include Job Exploration Counseling, Work-Based Learning Experiences, Counseling on Post-Secondary Opportunities, Workplace Readiness Training and Training on Self Advocacy. LRS is currently providing services to approximately **3,840** students statewide.

LRS currently has 19 active Third Party Cooperative Arrangements (TPCA) with local or state education providers to provide Pre-ETS and is continuing to pursue additional TPCA’s with local and state education providers.

Vocational Rehabilitation

Vocational Rehabilitation Consumer Statistics (for current quarter):	
Number of Applications	1,100
Number of Eligibility/Delayed	1,024
Number of New IPEs	768
Number of Closed Rehab (Successful Closures)	140
Total Open VR cases as of September 30, 2024	9,793
Total Open Pre-ETS cases as of September 30, 2024	3,840

Statewide 60 and 90 day Performance Measure (for current quarter):	
% of Eligibilities determined within 60 days	85%
% of New IPE’s approved within 90 days	86%

DD Open VR Cases: As of September 30, 2024

Disability Cause	New Orleans	Baton Rouge	Houma	Lafayette	Lake Charles	Alexandria	Shreveport	Monroe	Total
Autism	288	235	39	102	34	61	82	49	890
Cerebral Palsy	30	52	6	11	7	12	26	5	149
Intellectual Disabilities	165	133	19	51	52	74	97	75	666
Specific Learning Disabilities	286	320	73	44	14	114	65	214	1,130
Total	769	740	137	208	107	261	270	343	2,835

DD Closed Rehabilitated Cases: July 1, 2024 through September 30, 2024

Case Status	Case Type	Disability Cause	Total
Closed-Rehab	VR	Autism	6
		Cerebral Palsy	0
		Intellectual Disabilities	4
		Specific Learning Disabilities	13
Total:			23

**Rehabilitation Employment Development Specialist (REDS):
June 1, 2024 – August 31, 2024**

Region	Number of Referrals	Number of Community Activities or Employer Contacts	Employment Placements	Successful Closures
Region 1	11	85	7	1
Region 4	17	81	4	1
Region 5	5	44	2	1
Region 6	16	125	2	1
Region 8	8	71	5	5
Totals	57	406	20	9

Regions 2, 3, and 7 do not have a REDS.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Louisiana Rehabilitation Council (LRC):

The next LRC quarterly meeting is scheduled for November 7, 2024, and will be conducted at the Hampton Inn & Suites, 11271 Reiger Rd., Baton Rouge, LA. Information for this meeting, and about the Council, can be found on the Boards & Commissions and LWC websites.

Benefits Planning:

Thirty (30) LRS participants have been directly assisted with their SSI and SSDI benefits planning since July 1, 2024, by the LRS in-house Community Partner Work Incentives Counselor. Lighthouse for the Blind and LSU Human Development Center also continue to provide Work Incentives Planning and Assistance.

DIF (Disability Innovation Fund) Projects:

Project STEMM-Up ended on May 31, 2024. The LRS contract with Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS) ended on September 30, 2024, signifying the official end of all programmatic and fiscal activities for Project STEMM-Up. Individuals who were participating in this project will continue to receive services through VR.

Statewide Trainings:

The Training unit has begun conducting a week-long training event in multiple regions throughout the State called “The VR Journey” discussing the vocational rehabilitation process from referral to closure, along with the different vocational rehabilitation services that are available to eligible participants. Dates have been scheduled from October through December 2024 in order for all LRS Counselors, District Supervisors, and some support staff to attend.