

**Louisiana Rehabilitation Services (LRS)
LRS Director’s Quarterly Report
January 2025**

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 **4,065** 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	1,035
Number of Eligibility/Delayed	955
Number of New IPEs	625
Number of Closed Rehab (Successful Closures)	279
Total Open VR cases as of December 31, 2024	9,535
Total Open Pre-ETS cases as of December 31, 2024	4,070

Statewide 60 and 90 day Performance Measure (for current quarter):	
% of Eligibilities determined within 60 days	90%
% of New IPE’s approved within 90 days	92%

DD Open VR Cases: As of January 9, 2025

Disability Cause	New Orleans	Baton Rouge	Houma	Lafayette	Lake Charles	Alexandria	Shreveport	Monroe	Total
Autism	266	240	43	101	46	57	82	39	874
Cerebral Palsy	26	46	6	11	6	13	24	4	136
Intellectual Disabilities	151	131	19	52	46	74	87	67	627
Specific Learning Disabilities	262	305	78	42	11	108	56	181	1,043
Total	705	722	146	206	109	252	249	291	2,680

DD Closed Rehabilitated Cases: October 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024

Case Status	Case Type	Disability Cause	Total
Closed-Rehab	VR	Autism	11
		Cerebral Palsy	1
		Intellectual Disabilities	14
		Specific Learning Disabilities	19
Total:			45

**Rehabilitation Employment Development Specialist (REDS):
October 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024**

Region	Number of Referrals	Number of Community Activities or Employer Contacts	Employment Placements	Successful Closures
Region 1	6	68	7	3
Region 4	3	68	6	0
Region 5	2	38	1	0
Region 6	8	70	1	3
Region 8	7	72	0	3
Totals	26	316	15	9
Regions 2, 3, and 7 do not have a REDS.				

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Louisiana Rehabilitation Council (LRC):

LRC Chairperson, Mrs. Lynn Stevens, unexpectedly passed away late November 2024. The LRC will conduct their next quarterly business meeting on January 23, 2025, at the Hampton Inn & Suites located at 11271 Reiger Road, in Baton Rouge, LA. Information regarding LRC business meetings, and about the Council, can be found on the Boards & Commissions and LWC websites.

Benefits Planning:

Thirty-three (33) LRS participants have been referred for Work Incentives Planning this quarter and received assistance with their SSI and SSDI benefits from the LRS in-house Community Partner Work Incentives Counselor. Several of these referrals still need additional information from SSA, so their Work Incentives Planning services will continue through the next quarter.

Statewide Trainings:

The LRS Training unit concluded providing a series of week-long training sessions called “The VR Journey” for all LRS staff statewide. These sessions were conducted from September through December in Baton Rouge, Lafayette, and Shreveport, and discussed the entire vocational rehabilitation process from referral to closure.

LSU-S INAR Agreement:

The agreement between LRS and LSU-S Institute for Non-profit Administration and Research (INAR) was approved by all parties for activities to begin on the development of the 2025 LRS Comprehensive Statewide Needs Assessment. This report will help guide LRS to identify and implement appropriate goals and priorities for planning purposes.