



To: Provider Associations
Voluntary Provider Agency Executive Directors
DDSOD Directors
DDRO Directors
IBR Director
Commissioner's Advisory Council
DDPC Consumer Caucus
OPWDD Required Regulations Mailing List

From: OPWDD Counsel's Office, Bureau of Policy and Regulatory Affairs

Date: May 26, 2016

Re: Final Regulations – Changes to the Pathway to Employment Service

Effective Date: June 1, 2016

Suggested distribution:

Agency Administrators and Managers
Agency Financial Officers
Service Coordinators and Supervisors

Purpose:

Effective June 1, 2016, OPWDD is adopting regulations that make changes to requirements for service delivery and reimbursement of the Pathway to Employment service. Specifically, the final regulations make changes to requirements concerning activities allowed under the service, group size and billable service time, and the development and dissemination of the career vocational plan. The amendments also clarify that delivery of the Pathway to Employment service and prevocational services in sheltered workshops (certified by OPWDD as day training programs) is prohibited. Lastly, the amendments remove the fees for the Pathway to Employment service, and make other minor changes to ensure consistent usage of terminology throughout the regulations.

There are no substantive changes to the final regulations in comparison with the proposed regulations.

The full text of the final regulations and an assessment of public comment are posted on the OPWDD website at www.opwdd.ny.gov. Look under "Regulations & Guidance."

For questions regarding specific application of these regulations, please contact Ceylane Meyers Ruff by telephone at 518-473-9697 or email at ceylane.meyersruff@opwdd.ny.gov.

Thank you.