

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION  
AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES  
REHABILITATION SERVICES ADMINISTRATION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20202

INFORMATION MEMORANDUM

RSA-IM-91-07

RSM-525 1/

November 27, 1990

TO : STATE VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AGENCIES (GENERAL)  
STATE VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AGENCIES (BLIND)  
CLIENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS  
RSA SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM

SUBJECT : Coordination with State Welfare Agencies on the Family Support Act of 1988

CONTENT: This is to inform you of the Family Support (FS) Act of 1988 and to encourage you to coordinate with the welfare agency in your State in program areas of mutual interest.

The FS Act (P.L. 100-485, enacted October 13, 1988) replaces the Work Incentive (WIN) Program and shifts the emphasis of Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), the nation's primary welfare program, from simply providing support to building strong families and helping them become truly self-sufficient. The major program components include:

- education, training and employment-related services under the Job Opportunities and Basic Skills Training (JOBS) program;
- child care and supportive services for participants in approved education and training activities;
- transitional child care and medical assistance for up to 12 months after an individual loses eligibility for AFDC due to employment; and,
- child support enforcement.

In order to obtain funds for carrying out the program, a State welfare agency must first obtain approval of its JOBS and Supportive Services Plans from the Family Support Administration (FSA) in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The Plans contain information about what education and training components the State offers as well as child care services, work-related supportive services, and work-related expenses related to the JOBS Program.

1/ Under development.

Attachment I shows the status of each State in the approval process related to the JOBS Program.

Attachment II provides a summary of JOBS Program characteristics for each State that has already had its JOBS and Supportive Services Plans approved.

Attachment III contains a summary of some of the major provisions under the final regulations pursuant to Titles II and III of the FS Act of 1988 related to JOBS and supportive services. Under the FS Act, it is incumbent upon the State Welfare agency to consult with the education department of the State in developing the FS State JOBS Plan. In addition, FSA recommends that the Welfare agency coordinate with the vocational rehabilitation and other agencies in the State to arrange for needed client services.

RSA and FSA strongly support close coordination between State welfare and State vocational rehabilitation agencies in areas of mutual concern. Agency contacts should explore areas of services integration and use of comparable services and benefits in joint planning and carrying out of activities which complement respective programs, promote effectiveness, and avoid duplication of services. Program interfacing may occur in such areas as:

- vocational evaluation, planning and career development;
- education, skills and employment training;
- job opportunities, job search, and job placement;
- supported employment, independent living, and personal care;
- transportation and day care; and,
- medical treatment and Medicaid.

In addition, joint agency collaboration can improve the exchange of information between agencies, collocation of facilities and personnel, joint training of personnel, and efficiency of management practices.

We invite your suggestions and experiences concerning joint program coordination. Your respective Regional Office may be contacted to assist you with such activities.

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Nell C. Carney  
Commissioner of Rehabilitation  
Services

cc: Executive Director, CSAVR  
Executive Director, NAPAS