



State Directors of Vocational Rehabilitation Study Fact Sheet

Purpose of the study

This survey is part of a larger study conducted by the Vocational Rehabilitation - Rehabilitation Research and Training Center (VR-RRTC) at the Institute for Community Inclusion (ICI) at the University of Massachusetts Boston (UMB). The Center is funded by the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR) and the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA). We seek to collect data on the characteristics of state VR agencies and how they work with other federal, state, and local agencies that provide employment services for people with disabilities. This survey has been reviewed and approved by CSAVR. The findings will be used to develop state-by-state maps of public employment service delivery, highlighting the role of VR within this constellation.

Who else is participating?

The survey is being sent to the VR agency director in each state, as well as the District of Columbia, and the territories (American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands). Directors are asked to respond on behalf of their entire state / territory.

What will I be asked to do?

There will be three rounds of data collection. You will be asked to participate in:

- An online survey (30 – 60 minutes) in January 2011,
- An in-depth qualitative interview (same duration as survey) in mid spring 2011, and
- A phone survey (same duration as survey and interview) in late spring 2011.

Special needs accommodations will be made upon request.

Who should answer the questions?

This survey should be completed by the director of the state VR agency (or a designee).

How the data will be used?

Data from the survey will be analyzed to provide critical information on key characteristics of state VR agencies and their respective programs. The findings will be used to develop state-by-state maps and descriptions of public employment service delivery, highlighting the role of VR within this constellation. You will receive a copy of the final results.

Confidentiality

Participation in the survey is voluntary – you may skip any question you do not wish to answer or that makes you feel uncomfortable. The survey is being sent to the VR agency director in each state – therefore each state will be identifiable in the final results. The answers you provide to these questions will not be kept confidential.

Contact for questions or more information

Please contact Heike Boeltzig, Ph.D., Project Coordinator, via phone at 617-287-4315, via e-mail at: Heike.Boeltzig@umb.edu, or via mail at: Institute for Community Inclusion, UMass Boston, 100 Morrissey Boulevard Boston, MA 02125.