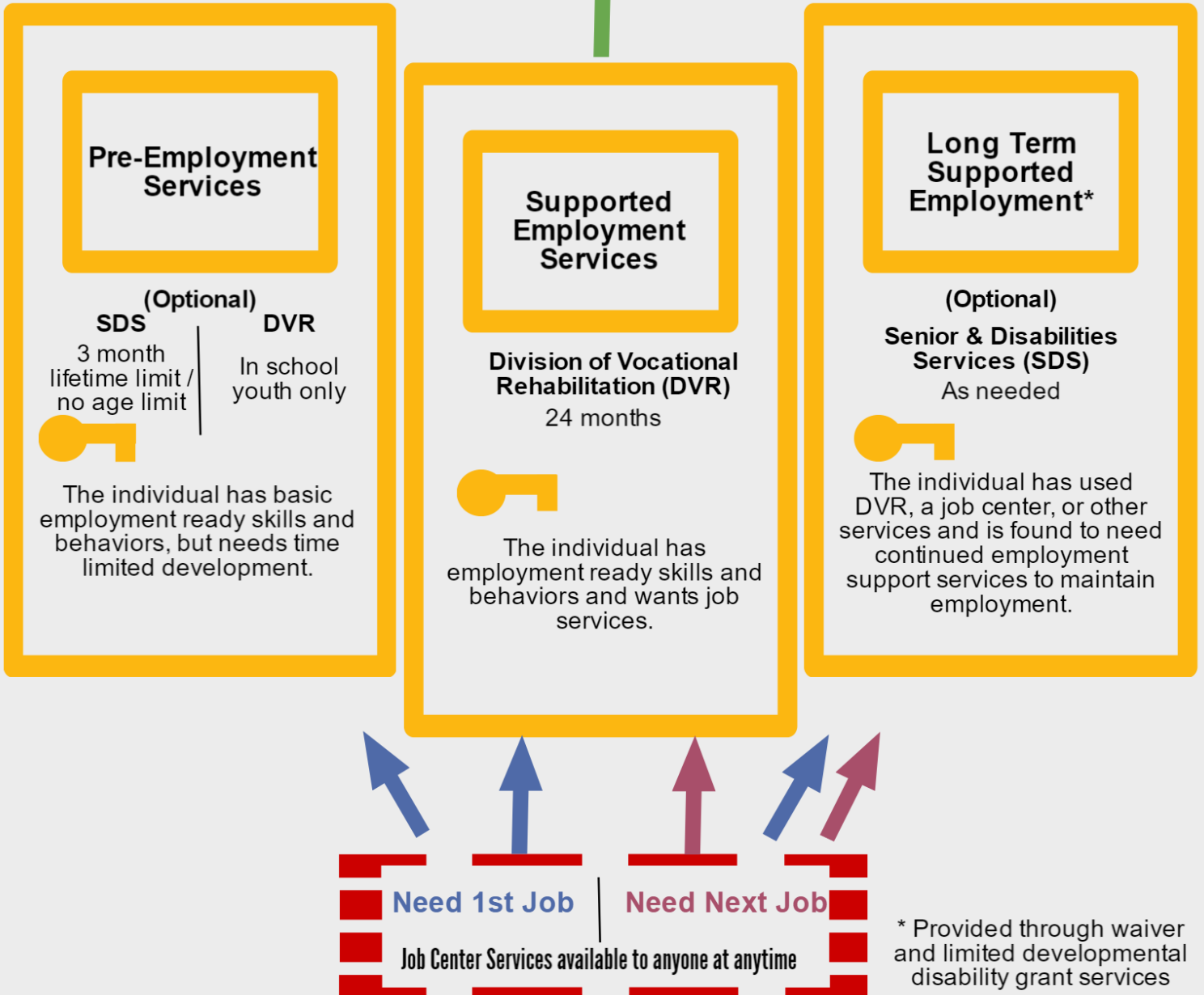


Alaska Employment Services Guide for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities

Purpose: As an Employment First state, in Alaska the goal is to support working age individuals with developmental disabilities in moving quickly into integrated and competitive employment, with a common definition and sequence for employment services.



Additional Considerations

Public School Transition Services:

- ▶ Eligibility: all students eligible under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) beginning at age 16, younger if determined appropriate by Individual Education Program (IEP) team.
- ▶ Services include: identification of post-secondary goals, based on transition assessments, relating to training, education, employment and, when appropriate, independent living skills.
- ▶ Bring SDS providers and vocational rehabilitation, including tribal VR as applicable, into the IEP process early to assist in planning for employment and transition from school to adult life, and to obtain school support for job experiences prior to graduation.



Disability Resource Coordinators:

Alaska Job Centers around the state have disability resource coordinators who can assist with employment services and they can help anyone, not requiring a disability determination.



Emerging work ready skills:

For those individuals who need more time to develop work ready skills, SDS waiver day habilitation services can include goals and objectives for the annual plan of care around becoming ready for employment.



For those individuals not on waiver services with SDS:

If an individual was determined DD eligible by SDS, grant money may be available for SDS supported employment services.

Employment first is:

Competitive Employment:

Minimum wage or above

20 hours or more per week

Paid the same amount as an individual without disability

Integrated Employment:

Working alongside individuals without disabilities

Working in the community

Resource Links:

Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education

Website: <http://dhss.alaska.gov/gcdse/>
Main phone number: 1 (888) 269-8990

Division of Senior and Disabilities Services

Website:
<http://dhss.alaska.gov/dsds/Pages/default.aspx>
Main phone number: 1 (800) 478-9996

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

Website: <http://labor.alaska.gov/dvr/home.htm>
Main phone number: 1 (800) 478-2815

Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation (TVR)

Website: <http://www.canar.org/Map/tribal-vr-programs>

Department of Education and Early Development
Special Education

Website: <https://education.alaska.gov/TLS/SPED/>
Main phone number: 1 (907) 465-8693

Microenterprise Grant (Self-employment resource)

Website: <https://www.uaa.alaska.edu/academics/college-of-health/departments/center-for-human-development/megrant/index.cshtml>

Disability Benefits 101 (Understand benefits and work)

Website: <https://ak.db101.org/>

Alaska Job Center Network

Website: <http://jobs.alaska.gov/offices/index.html>
Main phone number: 1 (877) 724-2539



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