

FAQ Document: MOU between TWC and TEA

This document was created for the October 2024 Statewide Capacity Building Conference.

1. How long is the MOU in effect?

The agreement is valid from September 1, 2022, to August 31, 2027.

2. What overall purpose and goals do the MOU aim to achieve?

- Enhance coordination for student transitions to post-secondary education and jobs.
- Improve transition planning among VR staff and local education agencies (LEAs).
- Identify areas needing VR transition services.
- Allow VR staff to attend ARD meetings when necessary.
- Clarify roles and responsibilities of each party.
- Strengthen relationships among TEA, TWC, ESCs, LEAs, higher education institutions, and businesses.

3. What are TWC's key responsibilities?

- Provide a list of assigned VR counselors to TEA annually.
- Reach out to students as early as possible before graduation.
- Provide technical assistance to school staff.
- Work with local workforce boards to create job opportunities.
- Ensure outreach to potentially eligible students.
- Identify areas with the greatest needs for transition services.
- Coordinate VR services with IDEA activities.

4. What are the responsibilities of ISDs (Independent School Districts)?

- Collaborate with TWC to support students' transitions.
- Communicate and coordinate with VR counselors.
- Facilitate VR staff participation in ARD meetings.
- Provide necessary documentation for student eligibility for VR services.

5. How does the MOU support VR staff participation in ARD meetings?

The MOU encourages VR staff to attend ARD meetings when invited. LEAs must notify VR counselors at least 30 days in advance and secure necessary consent documentation.

6. Who obtains signed releases for ARD meetings?

LEAs must obtain all required IDEA consent documentation before ARD meetings to ensure VR counselors can participate effectively.

7. How do TEA and TWC ensure confidentiality?

Both agencies comply with laws like FERPA and the Rehabilitation Act by properly managing and sharing confidential student information.