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Bureau of Special Education FY'18 Memo #28

Date: March 15, 2018

To: Superintendents of Schools
Special Education Directors

From: Office of the Commissioner of Education

Division of Educational Improvement
Bureau of Special Education

RE: Change in NHSEIS question about NH Vocational Rehabilitation

The Bureau of Special Education and the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation is offering joint guidance on a revision in the Individualized Education Program (IEP) offered in NHSEIS. Previously the language in the IEP stated:

Did the IEP Team determine that the student, if age 16 or older, may benefit from New Hampshire Vocational Rehabilitation services (NHVRS) assistance? Yes/No

Date NHVRS notified:

Based upon feedback from various stakeholders, the language within the IEP has been revised:

Did the team inform the student and/or family of how to apply for services that may be available to them through Vocational Rehabilitation? Yes/No

Date Information Shared:

The revision language should encourage IEP teams to begin discussions with parents and students about the application process and the services offered through Vocational Rehabilitation. Application for VR services may begin as early as age 14. Schools are encouraged to use this new language to begin talking about services available to students from VR early. For students who have not yet applied, an annual discussion of the options for applying is encouraged.

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Blank releases of information, application blanks, counselor business cards and information cards are available from regional vocational rehabilitation offices for secondary schools to make available to students and parents when appropriate.

For more information, please contact:

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SB:BJD