

## **NC Division of Services for the Blind Policies and Procedures Independent Living Older Blind**

### **Rehabilitation Center for the Blind Referrals**

Current effective date: 06/19/18

Revision history: 08/19/16

Individuals served by Independent Living Rehabilitation Counselors (ILRC's) may be referred to the Rehabilitation Center for the Blind for the Independent Living (IL) Week program which is held on an annual basis as funds allow. Referral procedures are forwarded by the Independent Living Program Specialist. Individuals may also be referred to the Rehabilitation Center for the Blind on an individualized basis when circumstances warrant and as program funds allow. These referrals must be prior approved by the IL Program Specialist. Any referral must meet all Center admissions criteria to be accepted.

The Rehabilitation Center for the Blind is funded by Vocational Rehabilitation funds and scheduling priority is given to individuals served by the Vocational Rehabilitation program. A daily rate is charged to the referring program for individuals served by ILRC's. The Chief, Rehabilitation Programs and Facilities provides the daily rate for receiving training which is set according to current per diem costs per rule 10A NCAC 63F.0102.

#### Individualized Referrals Procedure:

The ILRC will provide a written justification for why services are needed at the Rehabilitation Center rather than at a Mini Center, with ILRC provided in-home services or with other DSB field-based specialist services. The justification should be forwarded to the IL Program Specialist and the ILRC supervisor copied.

The IL Program Specialist will review the justification and provide a written response to the ILRC, the ILRC's supervisor and the Chief, Rehabilitation Programs and Facilities. The response will include a maximum number of days of training that can be sponsored including any assessment days, if allowed.

The ILRC will add a Case Note with a description of "Center Referral." At a minimum, the case note should include information on the referral reason and time of training which can be sponsored. Once the Case Note is complete, the ILRC will notify the IL Program Specialist and the Chief, Rehabilitation Programs and Facilities.

After the Case Note is complete, the Chief, Rehabilitation Programs and Facilities will add the Center Admissions Team to the BEAM Demographics

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Form, alert the Center to the referral and provide the current rate to be charged.

The ILRC will forward all materials required for Admissions review to the Center. Any required documentation which is not already in BEAM will be faxed or mailed to the Center. Note that any information which is already in BEAM does not need to be faxed or mailed. See the VR Rehabilitation Center for the Blind policy section "Referral Guidelines for all Programs" for specific information on required documentation:

<https://www2.ncdhhs.gov/info/olm/manuals/dsb/VR/man/Rehabilitation%20Center%20for%20the%20Blind.htm>

The Center Admissions Team will determine if the individual can be accepted. The Admissions Chair will notify the ILRC if/when the consumer is accepted and, if accepted, will communicate with the consumer and ILRC regarding attendance dates.

If the referral is accepted, the ILRC will add the BEAM service "Rehabilitation Center Programs and Training" and services "ABLE Assessment" and/or "ABLE Training," as applicable, to the Service Plan.