 NC DHHS Notice of Funding Availability

Reporting Form

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**DHHS Division/Office issuing this notice**: Division of Employment and Independence for People with Disabilities

**Date of this notice:** April 23, 2024

**Program Name:** Pre-Employment Transition Services

# Purpose:

The purpose of this Request for Applications for Community Rehabilitation Partnership (RACRP) is to solicit agencies or organizations to provide pre-employment transition services (Pre-ETS) in order to increase the Divisions’ capacity for reaching and serving students with disabilities across North Carolina.

**Description:**

Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) are a set of activities defined by the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) of 2014 (Public Law 113-128) intended to expose students with disabilities at an early age to self-advocacy, postsecondary training, and employment skills and options. WIOA requires that the vocational rehabilitation program provide a continuum of services to students and youth which begins with Pre-ETS and, for individuals who are eligible for the vocational rehabilitation program, continues with vocational rehabilitation transition and employment services. The Division of Employment and Independence for People with Disabilities (EIPD), formerly the NC Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (NCDVR), and the NC Division of Services for the Blind (NCDSB) seek applications from organizations and agencies that will provide pre-employment transition services to students with disabilities in North Carolina.

**Funding Availability:**

The Divisions will award up to $17,000,000 for approved Pre-ETS projects, contingent on funding availability. The actual number of awards will be dependent on the number of submitted applications that meet the requirements defined in the RACRP.

# Eligibility:

As part of their response to the RACRP, eligible applicants must meet minimum qualifications: (1) demonstrate that the organization’s direct service staff have three or more years of related experiences with students or youth in Pre-ETS or similar services for which the Applicant is applying OR provide evidence that the organization will recruit for direct service staff with this minimum experience OR provide evidence that direct staff will be supervised by individuals who have this minimum experience; (2) be registered as a business in the state of NC by the NC Secretary of State; (3) provide evidence that the organization conducts criminal background checks and manages abnormalities in a manner consistent with that outlined in the RACRP; and (4) provide evidence of financial soundness and stability as outlined in the RACRP.

# How to Apply:

Agencies and organizations that are currently under contract to provide Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) are required to send a [***Pre-ETS Renewal Application for Community Rehabilitation Partnership***](https://www.ncdhhs.gov/pre-ets-renewal-application-community-rehabilitation-partnership/open) by the deadline in order to have an executed contract in the next renewal cycle. All other Applicants must submit a [***Pre-ETS Application for Community Rehabilitation Partnership***](https://www.ncdhhs.gov/pre-ets-application-community-rehabilitation-partnership/open)***.***

**ALL applicants** must also submit the following application documents:

* [***Cover Page***](https://www.ncdhhs.gov/3-pre-ets-racrp-1062cover-page/open)
* [***Pre-ETS Standard Milestone Selection Page***](https://www.ncdhhs.gov/pre-ets-standard-milestone-selection-page/open)

Detailed instructions for applying are found in the RACRP.

# Deadline for Submission:

The deadline for initial awards for an award to begin September 1, 2024 is 5:00 PM, May 7, 2024. Any applications received after the initial deadline shall be consideredon an ongoing basis for future awards based on funding availability.

**How to Obtain Further Information:**

Direct all inquiries concerning this RACRP to [dvr.vrPRE-ETSRACRP@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:dvr.vrPRE-ETSRACRP@dhhs.nc.gov).

Additional information is available: [Pre-ETS Request for Applications for Community Rehabilitation Partnership (RACRP) #1062](https://www.ncdhhs.gov/pre-ets-request-applications-community-rehabilitation-partnership-racrp-1062/open)