**E. Cooperative Agreements with Private Nonprofit Organizations**

(Formerly known as Attachment 4.8(b)(3)). Describe the manner in which the designated State agency establishes cooperative agreements with private non-profit VR service providers.

OVR maintains agreements with providers of private, non-profit vocational rehabilitation service providers to support achievement of successful competitive integrated employment outcomes for individuals with disabilities. OVR works with Community Rehabilitation Providers (CRPs) through a vendor application process to ensure quality services to agency consumers. OVR currently works with 115 CRP’s. Currently, 69 CRPs provide Employment and Retention services resulting in competitive integrated employment outcomes, and another 91 CRPs provide Supported Employment services resulting in competitive integrated employment outcomes. Of the 115 vendors, 50 provide both Employment and Retention and Supported Employment services. Other agreements with private, non-profit OVR service providers will be made as necessary.

The process for approval of a vendor as a supported employment provider is more involved and is outlined below:

* The vendor obtains an application from the Community Rehabilitation Program (CRP) Branch.
* Upon completion of the application it is returned to the CRP branch.
* The CRP Branch staff reviews the application and seeks additional information when needed. Staff may meet with the provider for further technical assistance.
* The application is approved and vendor status is established.
* The OVR Branch assists the provider with training and other information.
* All vendors are required to participate in the Supported Employment Training Project provided through the University of Kentucky Human Development Institute.
* Monitoring occurs for all vendors during the year by the CRP Branch staff.
* All Community Rehabilitation Programs are audited annually and 15 hours of continuing education units (CEUs) are required annually.
* All CRP Application Agreements will be renewed every two years (current ones are good through 2021).