



**EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT CABINET
OFFICE OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION**

Matthew G. Bevin
Governor

275 East Main Street
Mail Drop 2-EK

Frankfort, KY 40621

(502) 564-4440

Toll Free (800) 372-7172 (V/TTY)

Fax (502) 564-6745

ovr.ky.gov

Beth Kuhn
Commissioner

Hal Heiner
Secretary

Buddy Hoskinson
Executive Director

To Community Partners of the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation:

Last year the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) and its partners assisted almost 40,000 Kentuckians on their path toward gainful employment. However, the continuing demand, escalating costs, and a shortfall in matchable state dollars now further limit our ability to provide services to all persons eligible for our services.

When a public vocational rehabilitation program like OVR cannot serve everyone who is eligible, federal law requires that it invoke what is called an Order of Selection. This means OVR is required to create a wait list for services that prioritizes individuals based on the severity of their disability. Individuals with the most significant disabilities have first priority for services.

We intend to move up in Order of Selection on July 1, 2016. Kentucky OVR has been under an Order of Selection for several years, serving categories 1-5. Under the policy taking affect tomorrow, July 1, 2016, we will only be able to serve category 1. Currently, 45 of the nation's 80 public vocational rehabilitation programs are operating under such an Order of Selection. We hope this will only be temporary until our current financial status changes. Until then, persons with disabilities who do not fall into category 1 and were not deemed eligible by July 1, 2016, will be placed on a waiting list until we can reopen closed categories.

As we implement the Order of Selection we will keep you and our other partners, prospective applicants and consumers informed of the status and effects of the Order. If you have any immediate questions, please contact Buddy Hoskinson, Executive Director or Holly Hendricks, Assistant Director of Program Services, at 800-372-7172.

Respectfully,

Buddy Hoskinson
Executive Director
Office of Vocational Rehabilitation

