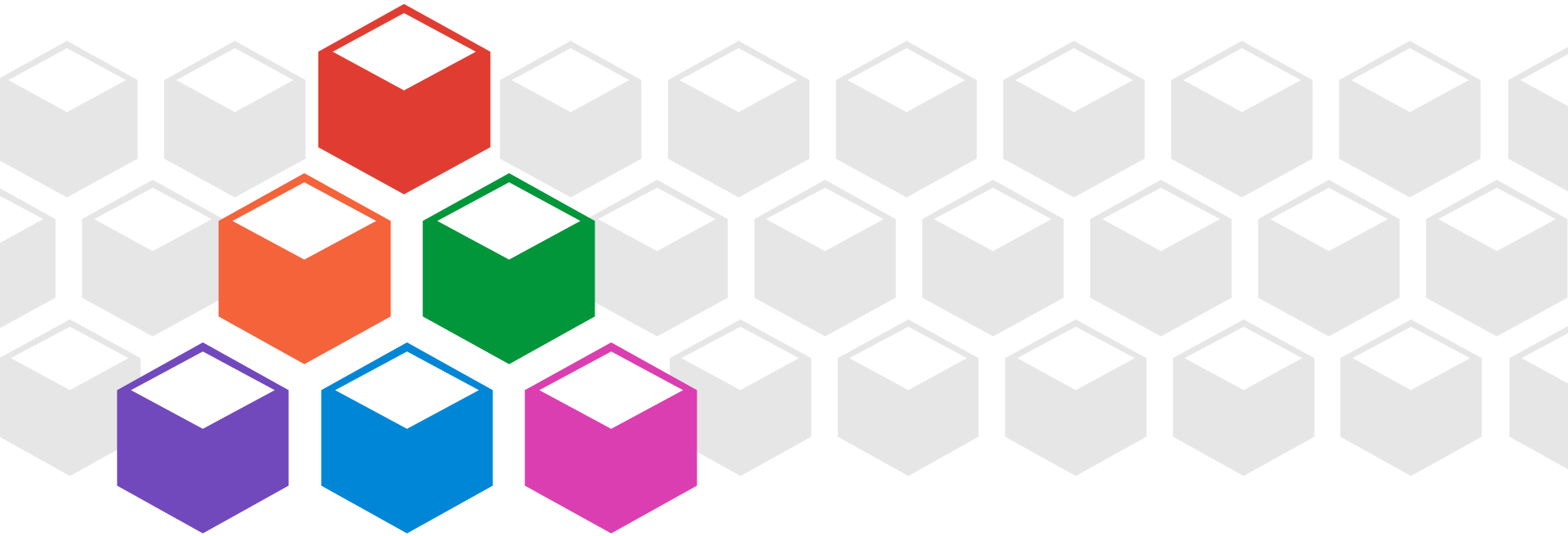




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Moving Beyond the Interagency Agreement - 21st Century Collaboration



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Definition

- Interagency collaboration has been operationally defined as “a clear, purposeful, and carefully designed process that promotes cross agency, cross program, and cross disciplinary collaborative efforts leading to tangible transition outcomes for youth” (Rowe et al., 2014, p. 10).





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The Old

Formal interagency agreement -a mechanism that describes criteria for determining financial and programmatic responsibilities that may include:

- Purpose of the service;
- Customary services; and
- Eligibility for services.





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The New

The SEA agreement must include information that addresses the following new requirements:

- Pre-employment transition services;
- Option to provide consultation and technical assistance to educational agencies through alternate means;
- Coordination to satisfy documentation regarding to students with disabilities who are seeking subminimum wage employment





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Required Information

Describe how the VR agency is coordinating and facilitating the provision of pre-employment transition services with the LEAs and SEA, taking into account the following considerations:

- a. Has a process for determining programmatic and fiscal responsibilities been developed and implemented? If so, describe.
- b. How are the agencies determining responsibility for those services that may be both a special education or related service under IDEA and a VR service under the Rehabilitation Act?





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Discussion Questions

Has joint guidance, consultation and technical assistance, and or training been provision of pre-employment transition services?





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Where Are you Now

Has the formal interagency agreement between the SEA and VR been revised?

If so, what process was used to begin revisions?

If so, describe the revisions made to the formal interagency agreement with the SEA?



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Discussions

How has the process of collaboration changed within your state as a result of SSIP/WOIA and other agencies?

What changes still need to take place to move from surface, technical collaboration to deep collaboration?

What challenges and barriers exist to deep collaboration in your state





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Moving into Deeper Waters

**Some suggestions/ considerations for
deep collaboration**



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Collaborate in Advocacy & Advancement

- Outreach
 - Getting the word out
 - Communicate thru established and expanded feedback loops
- Build awareness thru training
- Provide Key consistent messages
- Building capacity- cross stake holders needs assessment
- Evaluate strategies linked to specific outcome goals



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Develop Collaborative Budget Strategies

- Allocation of resources – who is paying for/towards what
- Shared resources
- Resource leveraging



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Embedded Collaborative Strategies

- Shared vision and goal
- Increase number of SWD engaged in Pre-employment transition services
- Design and development of PD and TA transition activities
- Data collection, analysis and sharing
- Resource mapping



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Personal Commitments

- Expectations
- Understanding multiple perspectives
- Ask questions
- Learn to listen
- Clear messages