

# Chapter 309: Service to Family Members

---

Vermont Division of Vocational Rehabilitation  
Policy and Procedures Manual

Revision Date: December 2009

## Table of Contents

<b>Section I.</b>	<b>Definitions .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Section II.</b>	<b>General Policy .....</b>	<b>2</b>
	Guidance – Examples of services to family members.	2

## Section I. Definitions

- A. **"Family member"**, for purposes of receiving vocational rehabilitation services, means a person:
1. Who either –
    - a) Is a relative or guardian of an applicant or eligible person; or
    - b) Lives in the same household as an applicant or eligible person;
  2. Who has a substantial interest in the well-being of that person; and
  3. Whose receipt of vocational rehabilitation services is necessary to enable the applicant or eligible person to achieve an employment outcome.

## Section II. General Policy

- A. As appropriate to the vocational rehabilitation needs of each person and consistent with each person's informed choice, vocational rehabilitation services to family members of an applicant or eligible person may be provided if necessary to enable the applicant or eligible person to achieve an employment outcome.
- B. Services may be delivered without restriction as to age of the family member(s).
- C. Cost of services to family members must be in accordance with any Division policies and spending guidelines existing for a specific service. If guidelines do not exist, cost must be reasonable as determined by the counselor. Duration shall be limited to accomplishing (or failing to accomplish) the objective for which the service is needed.
- D. The record of services must show the service needed, its relationship to the person's ability to reach an employment outcome, its anticipated cost, duration, and how the service provider was chosen.

### Guidance – Examples of services to family members.

*Examples of services to family members are:*

- *Marriage counseling in which a spouse may benefit and be able to better support the person with a disability in becoming employed;*
- *Childcare services to enable a person with a disability to participate in training and consequently be able to become employed. Childcare is a common service for a family member. Reasonable cost should be negotiated with the person and the provider. Factors to be considered are:*
  - ⊕ *Age of child or children; and*
  - ⊕ *Number of children; and*
  - ⊕ *Long term ability of consumer to sustain childcare costs.*

*Rates for child care vary considerably based on such things as licensing and accreditation. Expect to pay a day rate of \$5 per hour per child and a night rate of \$7 per hour per child.*

**End Guidance.**