

Texas Workforce Commission

A Member of Texas Workforce Solutions

Joe Esparza, Chairman
Commissioner
Representing
Employers

Alberto Treviño III
Commissioner
Representing
Labor

Brent Connett
Commissioner
Representing
Public

Randy Townsend
Interim Executive Director

Guardian Cover Letter

This packet of documents pertains to recently passed federal legislation, the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), Public Law 113–128, passed by Congress in July 2014, **and directly affects the individual for whom you hold guardianship.**

The WIOA requires individuals who wish to continue, or start to earn subminimum wage or piece rate, to receive Career Counseling and, depending on their age, certain other services from Texas Workforce Solutions-Vocational Rehabilitation Services (TWS-VRS). TWS-VRS is the state agency that assists individuals with disabilities in achieving competitive, integrated employment.

Please review the documents in the Career Counseling packet. If you are comfortable with the information, please sign and date next to “Guardian” and return to the Sheltered Workshop, Day Habilitation, or Facility that sent you the packet. If you have questions about the Career Counseling session, the documents, and TWS-VRS’ role in this new federal law, please contact Jason Peters at (512) 534-6277.

TWS-VRS welcomes you to attend the Career Counseling session if you are available. To find out when the session is scheduled, please contact the Sheltered Workshop, Day Habilitation, or Facility where the individual is currently working.

As per WIOA, you, or the individual for whom you are the Guardian, can refuse to participate in Career Counseling or other mandated activities in WIOA, but the individual will not be able to earn subminimum wage or piece rate. **Refusal to sign these documents will mean that TWS-VRS cannot do Career Counseling, and the individual for whom you hold guardianship will not be able to continue to earn subminimum wage.**

To find out more about TWS-VRS, copy this URL into an Internet browser, <https://twc.texas.gov/jobseekers/vocational-rehabilitation-services>, or call the Texas Workforce Commission Vocational Rehabilitation Inquiries Line at (800) 628-5115.

If you have questions about WIOA and its requirements, please contact the [local Department of Labor Wage and Hour Division](#) office nearest you. These offices can be located by copying this URL into an internet browser, <https://www.dol.gov/whd/america2.htm>, or by calling the Department of Labor’s Wage and Hour Helpline at (866) 487-9243.