# Vocational Rehabilitation Services Manual A-300: Specific Customer Populations

Revised April 1, 2022

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## A-305: Students and Youth with Disabilities

Under final §361.28(a)(2), which remains unchanged from previous regulations, VR services provided under a third-party cooperative arrangement are only available to applicants for, or recipients of, services from the VR program. Given amendments made by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), particularly new provisions in §103(b)(7), regarding transition services to groups of students and youth with disabilities, and §113, regarding the provision of pre-employment transition services (Pre-ETS) to students with disabilities, it is possible that some of these services will be provided to youth or students with disabilities who have not yet applied or been determined eligible for VR services. This means that these students and youth with disabilities would be considered "recipients" of VR services for purposes of final §361.28. As such, designated state units can enter third-party cooperative arrangements for the provision of these group transition services or Pre-ETS as long as all requirements of final §361.28 are satisfied.

Under WIOA, TWC is charged with expanding and improving VR services, including Pre-ETS, for students with disabilities who are transitioning from high school to postsecondary education and/or employment, and improve coordination with state and local secondary and postsecondary educational entities.

WIOA also charges TWC with providing supported employment services to youth and other individuals with the most significant disabilities who require extended support to achieve and maintain an employment outcome.

Additionally, the memorandum of agreement (MOA) with the Texas Education Agency enables data sharing to more accurately assess the number of students with disabilities who may be eligible or potentially eligible to receive Pre-ETS. VR continues to conduct active outreach and recruitment to ensure that Supported Employment Assessment personnel, local education agencies, community partners, and students are aware of the availability of Pre-ETS and the ways in which VR can partner with schools to provide Pre-ETS services that complement services available under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

For more information, see [C-1300: Transition Services for Students and Youth with Disabilities](https://twc.texas.gov/vr-services-manual/vrsm-c-1300).

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