

The Legislature intends that the Department of Human Services, in conjunction with the Department of Workforce Services and the Utah State Board of Education, develop a comprehensive plan to ensure the effective transition of students with disabilities from public education to appropriate non-segregated employment and to provide the plan to the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst no later than October 1, 2018. The Legislature intends that this effort should be collaborative across agencies and each agency shall delegate appropriate resources and staff to satisfy this request. The Division of Services for People with Disabilities shall act as the lead agency. The plan shall include:

(1) identification of the current status and effectiveness of transition services for students with disabilities in public education as they transition to employment;

(2) identification of all known barriers to access for needed transition and employment services;

(3) identification of services needed to provide employment appropriate for individuals with disabilities based upon their unique abilities and needs;

(4) identification of needs to ensure that the demand for those services can be met by private contract providers and state agencies;

(5) a description of how to maximize state and federal funds and other funding sources that may be available to help implement the plan;

(6) a report on the number of individuals with disabilities both currently enrolled in public education and those who have already transitioned from public education and their currently projected employment or their current employment status;

(7) a report on the various types of needed transition and employment services, including an estimate of the number of individuals with disabilities who need appropriate employment and support services but are not currently receiving them;

(8) an estimate of the number of people who would become eligible for transition from public education to employment each year for the next ten years;

(9) a proposal for ways to target available funds to maximize appropriate transition and employment services;

(10) any limitations that need to be considered, such as federal requirements;

(11) steps that could be taken to make sure that individuals with disabilities are considered on an individual basis in accordance with federal and state disabilities policies;

(12) a schedule of needed funding;

(13) a discussion of innovative and creative ways that private partners and charities could work with the program to meet those needs; and

(14) any other considerations needed to work towards the goal that by FY 2021 all individuals with disabilities transition from public education to employment in an appropriate job in an integrated setting.