

<u>Frequently Asked Questions for Providers and Support</u> <u>Coordinators: Employment Preparation Services (EPR)</u>

Section 1: Budgets

Question: Is EPR also a daily rate?

Answer: Yes. EPR is a daily or quarter hour rate determined using the <u>DSPD Worksheet</u>.

Question: Can EPR be done in a group setting?

Answer: EPR is a daily and quarter hour service that could include both group and one-on-one activities and training during the time period you are using the service. The level of support and time in the service is person-centered. Day services and EPR can be provided in the same location for different individuals as long as the activities and skills each person is working on match the service code they are receiving support under.

Question: How does billing work for an individual who is primarily in day support, but wants to work for an hour per week or per month?

Answer: EPR or Supported Employment in a group Daily (SED) are the only services available to support a person with job coaching in a setting that is not Competitive Integrated Employment (CIE). SED services should be used for enclave work, supported employment services through Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) or DSPD should be used for CIE and EPR should be used for any other non-CIE work situation. Keep in mind that EPR expectations are the same regardless of the number of hours the person is using the service. If a person is doing contract or sub-minimum wage work one hour per week or one hour per month, EPR can be accessed for that hour without an adjustment to the day services worksheet. In this situation the support team should consider if additional EPR time and training would benefit the person or if there is a way to meet the need of the person in that one hour in an alternative service.

Question: How are the budgets going to work if a person uses EPR half day and DSG the other half? DSG is a day rate.

Answer: The answer is unique to each person. Use the service code, your experience, and your judgement to find a service combination that meets the person's needs. It may look like alternating a full day of each service, a few hours of each service in the same day, or a variety of other combination options. Document the decision making process. You have at your disposal a 6 hour daily service, partial day services from 1 up to 10

11/09/2021 Section 1: Budgets Page 1 of 2



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hours per day, and quarter hour EPR. There is also job specific skill training through Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) and DSPD that could be one-on-one or in a group. The combination of services used and requested should be developed using a person-centered approach. Two daily rate codes may be billed on the same day as long as they are billed at different times and do not overlap.

Question: Can an individual have EPR quarter rate and DSG both for the same day? Or should they have EPR one day and DSG for all other days of the week?

Answer: EPR quarter hour and Day Services Group (DSG) can be used on the same day as long as they don't duplicate services or overlap time. These services can also both be authorized for partial days and paired together on the same day. Generally DSG is recommended when the person is in need of 6 hours of day services per day. Day Services Partial day (DSP) and EPR can both be used in a quarter hour option or used between 1 and 10 hours per day depending on the needs of the person. Work with your support team to find a combination of services that best matches what the person would like to do during the day and meets their needs.

Question: What if I have more questions?

More information can be found on the <u>DSPD website</u> under the 'Providers, SCs, & Staff' tab, then under 'Providers' click on 'Employment Preparation Service (EPR)'. If you have further questions feel free to email <u>dspdinfo@utah.gov</u>, or ask your question directly to Bryn Peterson at <u>brynpeterson@utah.gov</u> or (385) 228-3122.

11/09/2021 Section 1: Budgets Page 2 of 2