

## **Frequently Asked Questions for Providers and Support Coordinators: Employment Preparation Services (EPR)**

### **Section 7: Settings Rule**

**Question:** *We are pretty much confused. As part of DSG, we talk about social skills, potential jobs, and what people are doing for work all the time when we are out and about. Are we able to talk about these things as part of DSG? Settings folk hit hard on that it seems.*

**Answer:** Informed choice conversations about employment, including options and information, are going to occur naturally throughout the day in any service, including in day services. Take advantage of any and all opportunities. If a person expresses interest in working, use Vocational Rehabilitation (VR), EPR, or other DSPD employment services to support their work interests moving forward. If they are not interested in working at that time, any DSPD service can be used to continue informed choice about employment. If after participating in more experiences the person becomes interested, start using EPR or VR to support further exploration of work possibilities. All activities where the person is paid by a provider must fall under either EPR or Supported Employment in a group Daily (SED).

**Question:** *Can a DSG-based site be settings-compliant since there cannot be any CIE pursuit?*

**Answer:** Individuals who receive home and community based services (HCBS) must have opportunities to seek employment and work in competitive integrated settings. All services should be offering informed choice for employment. Providing an opportunity for employment is all about offering informed choice. Informed choice then, related to employment, involves having discussions about what possibilities and support options exist when it comes to employment for that person. This should be followed up with hands-on experiences, connected to the individual interests, to fully investigate possible work options. Day service providers do not need to help the person job develop, obtain skills specific to employment or fill out job applications. These are all supports that should be provided through Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) or through DSPD services like supported employment or EPR. Day service providers do need to have a process of how they support people to make an informed decision about working or not and then how they would connect them to the supports they would need to pursue work if they are interested to be compliant with the Settings Rule.

**Question:** What if I have more questions?

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