



DIVISION OF REHABILITATION SERVICES

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 22, 2016

TO: Parents & Guardians

FROM: Bernie Grimme, Assistant Director

SUBJECT: Employment Reviews

With the implementation of Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), there is a new law called Section 511 that goes into effect on July 22, 2016. This new law implements new requirements for individuals with disabilities who are employed below minimum wage (subminimum wage employment). The main requirements are:

1. Schools can no longer contract with Community Support Providers or arrange for students with disabilities to work in situations below minimum wage;
2. Individuals who are under 25 years old cannot begin subminimum wage employment after July 22, 2016 until they have applied for Vocational Rehabilitation Services and received pre-employment transition services giving them the opportunity for community employment; and
3. Individuals who are working at less than minimum wage will need periodic employment reviews. These employment reviews will be done by a representative from the Vocational Rehabilitation Program providing information on community employment options and Vocational Rehabilitation Services. If there is an interest in seeking employment in the community, you as the guardian will be contacted to discuss our services and program.

If you have any questions on these employment reviews or on Vocational Rehabilitation Services, feel free to contact me at 605-773-6284. Our website is: <http://dhs.sd.gov/drs/>