

Prevocational Services Criteria

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| Iowa Medicaid Program: | Waiver Prior Authorization | Effective Date: | 10/3/2011 |
| Revision Number: | 2 | Last Review Date: | 10/20/2017 |
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Criteria:

Prevocational services are services that are aimed at preparing a member for paid or unpaid employment, but are not job-task oriented. The purpose of Prevocational services is to provide skill building interventions that have a more generalized result as opposed to teaching job skills for a specific job. These services include teaching the member concepts of job readiness skills, such as following directions, attending to tasks, task completion, problem solving, and safety and mobility training. Prevocational services include more generalized habilitative goals and are reflected in a habilitative plan that focuses on general habilitative rather than specific employment objectives.

Prevocational services must comply with Iowa Administrative Code (IAC) 441-79.9(2). This requires that all services covered by Medicaid shall:

- A. Be consistent with the diagnosis and treatment of the patient's condition
- B. Be in accordance with the standards of good medical practice
- C. Be required to meet the medical need of the patient and for the reasons other than the convenience of the patient or the patient's practitioner or caregiver
- D. Be the least costly type of service which would reasonably meet the medical need of the patient

Initial Services: For prior authorization of initial prevocational services **ALL** of the following must be met:

1. The member is eligible for the Home and Community Based Services Intellectual Disability **OR** Brain Injury Waiver.
2. The member is preparing for paid or unpaid employment.
3. The member is not expected to be able to join the general work force or participate in a transitional sheltered workshop within one year without supported employment.
4. The member has a service plan that includes teaching job readiness skills, such as following directions, attending to tasks, task completion, problem solving, and safety and mobility training.
 - a. The service plan goals must be measurable and time limited.
 - b. The service plan is directed at individual member needs.
5. Compensation for work done by the member as part of prevocational training, if provided, is less than 50 percent of the minimum wage.
6. The following documentation must be submitted:
 - a. Service Plan
 - b. Prevocational Assessment(s), if applicable
 - c. Prevocational Training Plan
 - d. Targeted Case Manager Comprehensive Assessment
 - e. Transitional Plan

- f. Prevocational Goals, Objectives, and Results, if applicable
 - g. IEP, if applicable
7. The following do not support prevocational services and cannot be approved::
- Job task oriented training or specific education directed at teaching specific job skills or explicit employment objectives
 - Vocational training for a specific job or supported employment
 - Services intended to address general behavioral issues
 - Services intended to be a funding source for sheltered workshop
 - Services providing for employment or activity due to lack of other available opportunities
 - Services defined in Section 4(a)(4) of the 1975 amendments to the Education of the Handicapped Act (20 U.S.C. 1404[16] and [17]) that are otherwise available to the consumer through a state or local education agency.
 - Vocational rehabilitation services that are otherwise available to the consumer through a program funded under Section 110 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 730).

Continued Services: For authorization of continued prevocational services **ALL** of the following must be met:

1. The initial service criteria continue to be met.
2. There is demonstrated and measurable progress relative to the prevocational goals.
3. There is demonstrated evidence of movement toward paid or unpaid employment.
4. The services are reflected in the comprehensive service plan and are directed to habilitative goals and objectives rather than specific employment goal and objectives.
5. Submitted documentation includes:
 - Service Plan
 - Prevocational Assessment(s)
 - Prevocational Training Plan
 - Targeted Case Manager Comprehensive Assessment
 - Transitional Plan
 - Prevocational Goals, Objectives, and Results
 - IEP, if applicable

References Used:

Iowa Administrative Code 441-78.43(11)
 Iowa Administrative Code 441-78.41(13)
 Iowa Administrative Code 441-79.9(2)
 DHS Informational letter NO. 408
 42 Code of Federal Regulations 440.180(c)(2)(i)
 Iowa Medicaid Provider Manual

References Used (cont.)

Development of utilization management criteria may also involve research into other state Medicaid programs, other payer policies, consultation with experts and review by the Medicaid Clinical Advisory Committee (CAC). These sources may not be referenced individually unless they are specifically published and are otherwise applicable to the criteria at issue.

Change History:

| Change Date: | Changed By: | Description of Change: | New Version Number: |
|---------------------|--------------------|--|----------------------------|
| 10/17/14 | Medical Director | General reformatting and grammatical changes | 1 |
| 10/9/15 | Medical Director | Formatting changes for clarity and addition of development reference | 2 |



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