

# Vocational Rehabilitation Financial Need Criteria

## Financial Need Criteria

- Must specify which services will be subject to financial need
- Must consider disability-related expenses
- Must not be so high as to effectively deny an individual a necessary service
- Exempt services
  - Diagnostic services
  - Counseling, guidance, and referral services
  - Job placement
  - Personal assistance services
  - Auxiliary aids and services such as interpreters and readers
- SSDI and SSI recipients, including 1619(b) Medicaid are exempt. They should not be required to participate in the cost of VR services.

## Comparable Benefits

- VR agencies are considered the payer of last resort for many services.
- VR will not pay for a service if a similar or comparable benefit is available through another provider.
- For example, if person qualifies for services through Medicaid, VR will not provide the service.
- The comparable benefit must be available at the time needed.

## Exemptions From Comparable Benefit Requirements

Student loans which must be repaid

Scholarships and awards based on merit

SSI's Plan for Achieving Self-Support (PASS)

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