



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

James A. Rothrock
COMMISSIONER

Department Of Rehabilitative Services

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March 1, 2011

Dear Community Partner:

The Department of Rehabilitative Services' vocational rehabilitation (VR) program has been in an Order of Selection since 2004 because our fiscal situation has not allowed us to serve all eligible individuals. Unfortunately, we have determined that effective March 1, 2011, we will need to close all client categories under our Order of Selection policy.

This action means that all new clients will be placed on a waiting list for services until such time that there is sufficient funding to provide them with services. Those placed on the waiting list will receive information about and referral to other local and community resources for assistance, including the Virginia Workforce Centers.

We are instituting numerous initiatives to address our budget shortfall and will look forward to addressing the waiting list, most likely those clients who are most significantly disabled, as soon as possible.

We will continue to take referrals, do intake interviews, and complete applications for services. New applicants, regardless of the severity of their disability, will continue to receive diagnostic and assessment services to help determine their VR eligibility and their serious functional limitations—an essential task to assign them to the appropriate category in the Order of Selection. In some instances, these services may be provided at the Woodrow Wilson Rehabilitation Center if the client meets WWRC's admission criteria and can benefit from WWRC's services. The results of this diagnostic and assessment process can be invaluable to the client and your staff involved in the case to better understand the nature of the client's disability, functional limitations, and potential employability.

Thanks in advance for your assistance in responding to the needs of those Virginians with disabilities we all serve.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "James A. Rothrock".

James A. Rothrock