

CBVH ANNOUNCES TELECONFERENCES ON VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AND SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

The New York State Commission for the Blind and Visually Handicapped (CBVH), in conjunction with the State Rehabilitation Council, is developing the State Plan for Vocational Rehabilitation and Supported Employment Services for Federal Fiscal Year 2014 (beginning October 1, 2013). To assist in the development of the State Plan, teleconferences will be held to gather recommendations from people who are blind, their families, advocates and service providers on how CBVH can improve vocational rehabilitation and supported employment services. Comments are also being requested regarding proposed changes to the extended evaluation and trial work experiences policy and policy governing services during the assessment phase of the rehabilitation process. The proposed State Plan for 2014 noted below includes information about these proposed policy changes.

The teleconferences are scheduled for:

Tuesday, February 26, 2013 from 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Thursday, February 28, 2013 from 11:30 AM - 1:00PM

Please let us know which of these teleconferences you would like to join. We will be reserving five minute time slots per person for comments and testimony. To reserve your time slot or to join the teleconference to listen in only, please contact: Maureen Duncan at CBVH (518) 408-4828 or electronically at: Maureen.Duncan@ocfs.state.ny.us on or before Friday, February 22, 2013 for the teleconference telephone number, conference code and further instructions.

The proposed 2014 State Plan for Vocational Rehabilitation and Supported Employment Services will be available for review beginning February 4, 2013 at the CBVH website <http://visionloss.ny.gov/main/cbvh/stateplan/>

Please contact Maureen Duncan if you would like a copy of the proposed State Plan sent to you in print or in an alternate format. In addition to the teleconference, recommendations may also be submitted in writing to the NYS Commission for the Blind and Visually Handicapped, 52 Washington Street, South Building, Room 201, Rensselaer, NY 12144, Attn: Public Comments; or electronically to Mike.Rose@ocfs.state.ny.us. The public comment period extends through March 15, 2013.