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| LOCAL COMMISSIONERS MEMORANDUM |
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DSS-4037EL (Rev. 9/89)

Transmittal No: 91 LCM-116

Date: June 14, 1991

Division: Income Maintenance

TO: Local District Commissioners

SUBJECT: Office of Vocational and Educational Services for Individuals
with Disabilities (VESID)

ATTACHMENTS: Attachment A - VESID Services - not available on-line
Attachment B - VESID Offices - not available on-line

The Office of Vocational and Educational Services for Individuals with Disabilities (VESID), within the New York State Education Department, provides services which assist people with disabilities to become placed in appropriate and meaningful employment. VESID provides counseling, educational, and vocational services to those people whose disabilities impose barriers to gainful employment.

Applicants for, or recipients of ADC, HR or VA who have been exempted because of the presence of a disability which interferes with their ability to work may be appropriately referred to VESID for services. In addition, these exempt individuals who are referred to VESID or who are VESID participants may volunteer for the JOBS Program. Finally, if a mandated client's assessment for the JOBS Program indicates a disability which interferes with his or her ability to work, the individual may be referred to VESID. In every instance, the referral should first be discussed with the person and the consent obtained. Whenever possible it would also be helpful to share with VESID available medicals when referring clients.

VESID offers a wide range of services to individuals with disabilities including vocational counseling, vocational evaluations, supported employment, home and vehicle modifications, and adaptive equipment to remove or reduce limitations for employment. See Attachment A for a complete list of services available through VESID.

Although payment for employment related services (e.g., child care, job training programs) will continue to be provided through JOBS, VESID may provide financial support for disability specific services such as attendant care, interpreter services, special transportation for people with disabilities, and specialized equipment when part of a vocational rehabilitation plan for service.

VESID operates on a local level, with fifteen district offices located throughout the State. Attachment B is a listing, by County, of all VESID District offices and their satellites.

Whenever appropriate, please refer individuals whose disabilities impose barriers to gainful employment to the VESID office in your area. VESID can assist these individuals in gaining appropriate and meaningful employment. If you have any questions, please call the Employment Program Technical Advisor for your County at 1-800-342-3715, Extension 3-8744, the VESID District Office Manager for your County, or Johanna Duncan-Poitier at the State Education Department, (518) 473-4389.

Oscar R. Best, Jr.
Deputy Commissioner
Division of Income Maintenance