PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF

EMPLOYMENT, TRAINING AND REHABILITATION

LCB File No. R229-05

May 16, 2006

EXPLANATION - Matter in italics is new; matter in brackets [omitted material] is material to be omitted.

AUTHORITY: §§1-13, NRS 615.150 and 615.280.

A REGULATION relating to vocational rehabilitation; establishing procedures for resolving disputes concerning vocational rehabilitation services; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

- **Section 1.** Chapter 615 of NAC is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 to 13, inclusive, of this regulation.
- Sec. 2. As used in sections 2 to 13, inclusive, of this regulation, unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in sections 3, 4 and 5 of this regulation have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.
 - Sec. 3. "Administrator" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 615.023.
 - Sec. 4. "Bureau" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 615.031.
- Sec. 5. "Vocational rehabilitation services" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 615.140.
- Sec. 6. 1. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, a person applying for or receiving vocational rehabilitation services who is aggrieved by a decision of the Administrator or Bureau may, not later than 60 days after he receives notice of the decision, submit a written request to the Administrator or his designee for a hearing conducted pursuant to NRS

- 615.280. The Administrator or his designee may, upon good cause shown, allow a person to file a request for a hearing more than 60 days after he receives notice of the decision.
- 2. In addition to, or in lieu of, submitting a request for a hearing pursuant to subsection 1, a person who is aggrieved by a decision of the Administrator or Bureau may, not later than 30 days after he receives notice of the decision, submit a written request to the Administrator or his designee to resolve the dispute by using alternate means of dispute resolution in accordance with the Client Assistance Program as specified in 29 U.S.C. § 732(g)(3)(A) or by mediation pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 722(c).
- 3. The provisions of this section do not prohibit a person applying for or receiving vocational rehabilitation services who is aggrieved by a decision of the Administrator or Bureau from engaging in informal discussions with the Administrator or his designee concerning the dispute or reaching a settlement of the dispute.
- Sec. 7. 1. The Administrator or his designee shall, after receiving a request for a hearing pursuant to subsection 1 of section 6 of this regulation, immediately submit the request to the Hearings Division of the Department of Administration for assignment of a hearing officer.
- 2. The hearing officer shall, not later than 60 days after the Administrator or his designee receives a request for a hearing pursuant to subsection 1 of section 6 of this regulation, conduct a hearing at a time and place that is acceptable to the parties.
- 3. With the approval of the hearing officer, the parties may agree in writing to continue the hearing.
- Sec. 8. The hearing officer may require each party to submit, at least 5 days before the hearing, a statement that includes:

- 1. The facts of the dispute;
- 2. The issues of law presented in the dispute;
- 3. A list of the names of the witnesses who may testify at the hearing; and
- 4. A list of exhibits that the party intends to use at the hearing.
- Sec. 9. The aggrieved party may be represented at the hearing by an attorney or any other person designated by the aggrieved party.
- Sec. 10. The hearing officer is not bound by the technical rules of evidence. Decisions concerning the admissibility of evidence must be made in accordance with the provisions of NRS 233B.123.
- Sec. 11. Each party may present his case, examine and cross-examine witnesses, and rebut evidence. The aggrieved party shall present his case first, followed by the case of the Bureau, followed by such rebuttal evidence as the hearing officer may allow.
- Sec. 12. 1. Not later than 30 days after the hearing, the hearing officer shall issue a written decision in accordance with the requirements of chapter 233B of NRS.
- 2. The decision of the hearing officer is a final decision for the purposes of judicial review, and any appeal of the decision must be filed within the period established by paragraph (c) of subsection 2 of NRS 233B.130.
- Sec. 13. Upon the request of a party, the Bureau will provide a transcript of the oral proceedings of the hearing. The Bureau may require payment of the cost to provide the transcript.