

Using the Resource Guide

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Improving the employment outcomes for persons with disabilities is the primary goal of State Medicaid Infrastructure Grant (MIG) projects. Enhancing the probability of achieving that goal is to enable states to share their ideas, program efforts, and results. The Center for Workers with Disabilities has developed the following resource guide which identifies, categorizes, and briefly describes states' MIG project activities and related employment initiatives.

This resource guide also identifies research reports, multi-state analysis, policy analysis papers and other Technical Assistance Centers that are related to the various categories of state employment initiative activities and are referenced as they relate to a category of state activities.

The resource guide is in the form of five tables and is intended to facilitate one of the cornerstones of the Medicaid Infrastructure Grant program – state-to-state technical assistance.

Developing a Framework for Sharing Ideas, Program Innovation, and Results

The states' MIG projects and other employment initiatives are involved in a broad range of activities. As shown in the table of contents, those activities have been organized into five broad sections and include 60 categories of activities.

Those categories and sections were developed as a means to provide a framework for state-to-state communication, technical assistance, and for multi-state analysis of policy and program development activities. The actual development of the categories of activities was also intended to provide a framework for states to possibly utilize in developing and organizing their activities. It is also meant to be used in states to stimulate the development of new initiatives but to enable states to draw on other state's experiences and not have to "reinvent the wheel."

A state that conducted or is planning to carry out an activity that fits within a category is identified and then an endnote is referenced that briefly describes that state's activity. Where further information about the state's activity is available, links to that information are also provided.

Sources of Information for State Activities

States are required to report quarterly on the development of their states Medicaid Buy-In programs and related comprehensive employment initiatives to CMS. The Resource Guide is based on the reports by state Medicaid Infrastructure Grant reports to CMS and other material on state activities. It began with the 2003 annual report and now includes information through 2004 and through the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd quarters of 2005. In addition, a number of research reports, multi-state analysis, and policy analysis papers are referenced.

Periodic Updates of Information and Categories

This tool is not designed to be a static document, but rather one that is updated on at least a quarterly basis. Suggestions are welcomed on the categories of activities and for information to be included. In developing these tables, the Center does not purport to try and represent a complete description of all state activities since MIG projects began. In addition, a number of states have been actively involved in developing comprehensive employment initiatives for persons with disabilities under other various federal and state projects and initiatives since the mid-90s.