

CHAPTER 268A

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

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268A.03 POWERS AND DUTIES.

The commissioner shall:

(a) certify the rehabilitation facilities to offer extended employment programs, grant funds to the extended employment programs, and perform the duties as specified in section 268A.09;

(b) provide vocational rehabilitation services to persons with disabilities in accordance with the state plan for vocational rehabilitation. These services include but are not limited to: diagnostic and related services incidental to determination of eligibility for services to be provided, including medical diagnosis and vocational diagnosis; vocational counseling, training and instruction, including personal adjustment training; physical restoration, including corrective surgery, therapeutic treatment, hospitalization and prosthetic and orthotic devices, all of which shall be obtained from appropriate established agencies; transportation; occupational and business licenses or permits, customary tools and equipment; maintenance; books, supplies, and training materials; initial stocks and supplies; placement; on-the-job skill training and time-limited postemployment services leading to supported employment; acquisition of vending stands or other equipment, initial stocks and supplies for small business enterprises; supervision and management of small business enterprises, merchandising programs, or services rendered by severely disabled persons. Persons with a disability are entitled to free choice of vendor for any medical, dental, prosthetic, or orthotic services provided under this paragraph;

(c) expend funds and provide technical assistance for the establishment, improvement, maintenance, or extension of public and other nonprofit rehabilitation facilities or centers;

(d) maintain a contractual or regulatory relationship with the United States as authorized by the Social Security Act, as amended. Under this relationship, the state will undertake to make determinations referred to in those public laws with respect to all individuals in Minnesota, or with respect to a class or classes of individuals in this state that is designated in the agreement at the state's request. It is the purpose of this relationship to permit the citizens of this state to obtain all benefits available under federal law;

(e) provide an in-service training program for division of rehabilitation services employees by paying for its direct costs with state and federal funds;

(f) conduct research and demonstration projects; provide training and instruction, including establishment and maintenance of research fellowships and traineeships, along with all necessary stipends and allowances; disseminate information to persons with a disability and the general public; and provide technical assistance relating to vocational rehabilitation and independent living;

(g) receive and disburse pursuant to law money and gifts available from governmental and private sources including, but not limited to, the federal Department of Education and the Social Security Administration, for the purpose of vocational rehabilitation or independent living;

(h) design all state plans for vocational rehabilitation or independent living services required as a condition to the receipt and disbursement of any money available from the federal government;

(i) cooperate with other public or private agencies or organizations for the purpose of vocational rehabilitation or independent living. Money received from school dis-

tricts, governmental subdivisions, mental health centers or boards, and private non-profit organizations is appropriated to the commissioner for conducting joint or cooperative vocational rehabilitation or independent living programs;

(j) enter into contractual arrangements with instrumentalities of federal, state, or local government and with private individuals, organizations, agencies, or facilities with respect to providing vocational rehabilitation or independent living services;

(k) take other actions required by state and federal legislation relating to vocational rehabilitation, independent living, and disability determination programs;

(l) hire staff and arrange services and facilities necessary to perform the duties and powers specified in this section;

(m) adopt, amend, suspend, or repeal rules necessary to implement or make specific programs that the commissioner by sections 268A.01 to 268A.10 is empowered to administer; and

(n) contact any person with traumatic brain injury or spinal cord injury reported by the commissioner of health under section 144.664, subdivision 3, and notify the person, or the person's parent or guardian if the person is a minor or is mentally incompetent, of services available to the person, eligibility requirements and application procedures for public programs, and other information the commissioner believes may be helpful to the person to make appropriate use of available rehabilitation services.

History: 1991 c 292 art 2 s 69; art 10 s 3

268A.05 REPORTS, DISCLOSURE.

[For text of subd 1, see M.S.1990]

Subd. 2. [Repealed, 1991 c 292 art 10 s 4]

268A.06 REHABILITATION FACILITIES.

[For text of subds 1 and 2, see M.S.1990]

Subd. 3. **Rehabilitation facilities: salary adjustments; grants.** The commissioner shall increase grants, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1991, for each rehabilitation facility by a salary adjustment figured by multiplying the total salaries, payroll taxes, and fringe benefits for personnel below top management by three percent. All increased revenue produced by this calculation must be used for salary and related costs of personnel in positions below top management. The commissioner shall ensure that all increased revenue produced by this calculation is used for salary and related costs of personnel in positions below top management.

History: 1991 c 292 art 3 s 39