



# Individual Placement and Support

Individual Placement and Support (IPS) is an evidence-based practice of supported employment for helping people with mental health conditions gain competitive integrated employment. IPS also encourages mainstream education and technical training as ways to advance career paths.

IPS promotes employment as a part of treatment that aids mental health recovery, placing less emphasis on the traditional concept of employment “readiness.” Vocational services are integrated with clinical treatment in a team-based, supportive approach.

Research demonstrates that IPS participants achieve superior employment outcomes, such as double the competitive employment rate, fewer days to first job placement and four times as many weeks worked at follow-up.

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# Florida Vocational Rehabilitation and IPS

Florida Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) partners with community providers who utilize the IPS approach to provide supported employment services for individuals with serious mental health conditions. VR Participants receiving IPS services must have a primary mental health impairment resulting in a most significant disability and require Supported Employment services.

Participants are co-enrolled in services with the provider and VR to maximize available supports. VR contracts with approved service providers to provide supported employment services according to the IPS model, including job placement, stabilization and retention. Other VR services are also available to supplement the services provided by the IPS team, including benefits counseling, education/training and transportation. Long-term job retention supports are sponsored through other partners such as behavioral health managing entities. To learn more, contact [VREmploymentPrograms@vr.fldoe.org](mailto:VREmploymentPrograms@vr.fldoe.org).

## Participants Receive

- Assistance to attain competitive employment aligned with preferences
- Rapid engagement
- Integration of clinical and employment services
- Benefits planning
- Time unlimited supports

## Providers Receive

- Ongoing training and technical assistance from an IPS Trainer
- Annual fidelity reviews
- Support and collaboration from VR Counselors

In Florida, IPS is provided through a collaboration between the Department of Children and Families' Office of Substance Abuse and Mental Health (SAMH), VR, behavioral health managing entities and a growing network of community providers.

IPS in Florida began in Broward County in 2017 in collaboration with Archways, Care Resource, Foot Print 2 Success, Pathways 2 Work, South Florida Wellness Network and Westcare.

The most recent IPS pilot includes collaboration with Citrus Health Network (Miami-Dade County), Helping People Succeed (Martin County) and Carrfour (Brevard County).

VR and SAMH continue to explore IPS implementation and intend to pilot IPS at additional sites as capacity and interest grow. To learn more about IPS, visit [www.ipsworks.org](http://www.ipsworks.org).

# Contact Vocational Rehabilitation



850 - 245 - 3399  
800 - 451 - 4327



[www.Rehabworks.org](http://www.Rehabworks.org)



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