

6 FAST FACTS

Collaboration Between Educators and Vocational Rehabilitation

1

Research indicates that interagency collaboration is a critical predictor of post-school employment for students with disabilities.

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The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA, 2004) and the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA, 2014) require schools and Vocational Rehabilitation agencies to collaboratively provide transition services for students with disabilities.

3

Barriers to effective interagency collaboration include poor communication, administrative policies, confusion about procedures, time constraints, and insufficient support for collaboration.

4

Communication processes can be enhanced by having regular structured meetings, defining and documenting roles and responsibilities, and establishing clear communication protocols.

5

Providing educators and rehabilitation providers with joint training is recommended as a strategy for improving partnerships.

6

Successful collaborators report administrative support for engaging in collaboration and describe interagency partners as valuable resources.

This fact sheet was developed by the Illinois Center for Transition and Work at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign through a contract with the Illinois State Board of Education. Information presented may not reflect the position or policy of the Illinois State Board of Education.

