

112TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 604

To amend the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 to authorize grants for the transition of youths with significant disabilities to adulthood, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 10, 2011

Mr. HARPER (for himself and Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

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## A BILL

To amend the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 to authorize grants for the transition of youths with significant disabilities to adulthood, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Transition toward Ex-  
5 cellence, Achievement, and Mobility through Employment  
6 Act of 2011” or “TEAM–Employment Act of 2011”.

7 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.**

8 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

1           (1) Disability is a natural part of the human  
2           experience and in no way should diminish the oppor-  
3           tunity of citizens with disabilities, including individ-  
4           uals with the most significant disabilities, for full  
5           participation in society (including school, work, fam-  
6           ily, social engagement, interpersonal relationships,  
7           and community), independent living, and economic  
8           self sufficiency.

9           (2) Self-determination and informed choice are  
10          essential elements in all program and service op-  
11          tions.

12          (3) Work for pay (employment) is a valued ac-  
13          tivity both for individuals and society. Employment  
14          provides both tangible and intangible benefits. Em-  
15          ployment helps people achieve independence and eco-  
16          nomic self-sufficiency. Employment also gives people  
17          purpose, dignity, self-esteem, and a sense of accom-  
18          plishment and pride as well as an ability to con-  
19          tribute to society as a whole.

20          (4) Individuals with disabilities, including those  
21          with the most significant disabilities, should enjoy a  
22          presumption that they can achieve integrated em-  
23          ployment with appropriate services and supports.

24          (5) More than 30 years of research and experi-  
25          ence demonstrates that all youth, including youth

1 with disabilities, achieve better outcomes when they  
2 have access to—

3 (A) high quality standards-based education  
4 in an inclusive setting;

5 (B) information about career options and  
6 exposure to the world of work, including struc-  
7 tured internships;

8 (C) participation in post-secondary edu-  
9 cation;

10 (D) opportunities to develop social, civic,  
11 and leadership skills;

12 (E) strong connections to caring adults;

13 (F) safe places to interact with their peers;  
14 and

15 (G) support services and specific accom-  
16 modations to allow them to become independent  
17 adults.

18 (6) The diverse and complex needs of today's  
19 youth cannot be met by one's family, school district,  
20 government program, or private organization acting  
21 alone. The successful transition of all youth to adult-  
22 hood and a productive, independent, self-sufficient  
23 life demands coordination and collaboration across  
24 agencies, along with an integrated services approach

1 to serving youth at the Federal, State, and local lev-  
2 els.

3 (b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are the fol-  
4 lowing:

5 (1) To create a systemic focus on cultivating  
6 the high expectations for youth with significant dis-  
7 abilities to transition successfully into adulthood and  
8 be able to work in integrated employment, earn a  
9 liveable wage, and live independently in integrated  
10 communities through public policies that advance  
11 equality of opportunity, informed choice, employ-  
12 ment first principles, and economic self-sufficiency.

13 (2) To promote innovative strategies to foster  
14 academic, professional, and social inclusion, and the  
15 solidification of long-term services and supports re-  
16 quired to ensure full integration into the society (in-  
17 cluding school, work, family, social engagement,  
18 interpersonal relationships, and community living).

19 (3) To better define and coordinate specific  
20 services related to the effective transition of youth  
21 with significant disabilities.

22 (4) To eliminate barriers and provide incentives  
23 for multiple stakeholders to collaborate and improve  
24 transition services for youth with significant disabil-  
25 ities.

1           (5) To create a holistic system across multiple  
2           Federal, State, and local public entities promoting  
3           employment first strategies and the successful tran-  
4           sition of youth with significant disabilities into  
5           adulthood through strengthened coordination among  
6           and between public entities, including the alignment  
7           of planning processes, implementation systems, and  
8           funding streams.

9           (6) To align, enhance, and improve performance  
10          and accountability measures among public entities  
11          involved in the transition of youth with significant  
12          disabilities into adulthood.

13          (7) To provide financial incentives to States to  
14          align their planning processes across and within  
15          public entities involved in transitioning, strengthen  
16          and coordinate regulations to ensure cross-agency  
17          emphasis on the promotion of employment first poli-  
18          cies and practices, and rebalance resources toward  
19          an employment first paradigm to focus on the pre-  
20          ferred outcomes of advancing integrated employ-  
21          ment, economic self-sufficiency, independent living,  
22          and community participation for youth and adults  
23          with significant disabilities.

24          (8) To ensure proper level of professional devel-  
25          opment training of publicly financed service delivery

1 professionals involved in the transition of youth with  
2 significant disabilities into adulthood on evidence-  
3 based promising practices.

4 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

5 (a) ASSESSMENT FOR DETERMINING ELIGIBILITY  
6 AND VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION NEEDS.—Section  
7 7(2) of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 705(2))  
8 is amended—

9 (1) in subparagraph (B)—

10 (A) in clause (iii), by striking “and” at the  
11 end;

12 (B) in clause (iv), by adding “and” at the  
13 end; and

14 (C) by adding at the end the following new  
15 clause:

16 “(v) uses, to the maximum extent pos-  
17 sible, information obtained from experi-  
18 ences in integrated employment settings in  
19 the community and other integrated com-  
20 munity settings, and does not include in-  
21 formation from assessments of experiences  
22 in sheltered workshops and similar seg-  
23 regated settings;”;

24 (2) by adding at the end the following:

1 “Such term shall be based on the presumption that  
2 the individual is capable of attaining post-secondary  
3 education, integrated employment, or both.”.

4 (b) SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT.—Section 7(35) of the  
5 Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 705(35)) is amend-  
6 ed—

7 (1) in subparagraph (A), by striking “, or em-  
8 ployment in integrated work settings in which indi-  
9 viduals are working toward competitive work” and  
10 inserting “or integrated employment”; and

11 (2) by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting  
12 the following new subparagraph:

13 “(B) MINIMUM COMPENSATION AND  
14 OTHER REQUIREMENTS.—Such term includes  
15 placement in individual integrated employment  
16 settings and not in enclave or segregated set-  
17 tings, at the greater of minimum or competitive  
18 wages that are paid for by the employer, with  
19 benefits comparable to benefits of other employ-  
20 ees.”.

21 (c) SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT SERVICES.—Section  
22 7(36) of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C.  
23 705(36)) is amended—

24 (1) in subparagraph (B), by striking “and” at  
25 the end;

1 (2) in subparagraph (C)—

2 (A) by striking “18 months” and inserting  
3 “48 months”; and

4 (B) by striking the period at the end and  
5 inserting a semicolon; and

6 (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-  
7 paragraphs:

8 “(D) maximize integration of the indi-  
9 vidual within the workplace, with emphasis on  
10 facilitating the use of existing natural supports  
11 supplemented as necessary with staff supports  
12 paid for through funds authorized by the des-  
13 ignated State unit; and

14 “(E) allow for activities related to cus-  
15 tomized employment, or a set of activities im-  
16 plemented during the search for employment  
17 leading to an integrated employment outcome  
18 for an individual with a disability, which in-  
19 cludes a negotiated relationship with an em-  
20 ployer that focuses on unmet needs and other  
21 specific value-added to employers rather than  
22 open, demand job slots; and a process of dis-  
23 covery, job seeker exploration, development of  
24 descriptive profile documents, individualized  
25 employment planning, development of innova-



1           tive representation materials, completion of an  
2           employer needs analysis, job negotiation and  
3           representation by a job developer as determined  
4           by the individual.”.

5           (d) TRANSITION SERVICES.—Section 7(37) of the  
6 Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 705(37)) is amend-  
7 ed—

8           (1) by striking “The term” and inserting the  
9 following:

10                   “(A) IN GENERAL.—The term”;

11           (2) by inserting “and customized employment”  
12 after “supported employment”;

13           (3) by inserting “, asset development services”  
14 after “adult services”;

15           (4) by striking “The coordinated set of activi-  
16 ties” and inserting the following:

17                   “(B) COORDINATED SET OF ACTIVITIES.—  
18 The coordinated set of activities”;

19           (5) by striking “objectives,” and inserting the  
20 following: “objectives; school-based preparatory expe-  
21 riences, career preparation, and integrated work-  
22 based learning experiences (inclusive of in-school,  
23 after school and work experiences outside the tradi-  
24 tional school setting where other youth without dis-  
25 abilities are engaged in similar activities); youth de-

1       velopment and leadership; connecting activities;  
2       training in self-advocacy, self-determination skills,  
3       and peer mentoring; family involvement and sup-  
4       ports;” and

5               (6) by adding at the end the following new sub-  
6       paragraph:

7               “(C) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Such  
8       term does not include the use of facility-based  
9       employment and activity settings, such as shel-  
10      tered workshops, day habilitation centers, and  
11      enclave work settings. Additionally, the coordi-  
12      nated set of activities should lead to the attain-  
13      ment of at least one of the following outcomes:  
14      post-secondary education, long-term integrated  
15      employment (including supported employment  
16      or customized employment), asset development,  
17      independent living, and community participa-  
18      tion.”.

19           (e) OTHER DEFINITIONS.—Section 7 of the Rehabili-  
20      tation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 705) is amended by adding  
21      at the end the following new paragraphs:

22           “(40) ASSET DEVELOPMENT.—The term ‘asset  
23      development’ means a strategy to assist low-income  
24      workers and job seekers, including individuals with  
25      disabilities, move toward economic security and

1 greater financial self-sufficiency through income  
2 preservation, effective money and credit manage-  
3 ment, the pursuit of post-secondary education, the  
4 purchase of a home, business startup and growth,  
5 and the setting aside of resources for longer-term  
6 needs and retirement.

7 “(41) ASSET DEVELOPMENT SERVICES.—The  
8 term ‘asset development services’ means services re-  
9 lating to asset development, including services such  
10 as financial education, tax filing assistance and ac-  
11 cess to beneficial tax credits and other provisions,  
12 and use of social security work incentives and indi-  
13 vidual development accounts (IDAs) and coordina-  
14 tion with other savings programs, including family  
15 self-sufficiency programs, college savings accounts,  
16 and home and small business ownership assistance.

17 “(42) INTEGRATED EMPLOYMENT.—The term  
18 ‘integrated employment’ means work compensated at  
19 the greater of minimum wage or competitive wages  
20 with related employment benefits, occurring in a typ-  
21 ical work setting where the employee with the dis-  
22 ability interacts or has the opportunity to interact  
23 continuously with non-disabled co-workers, has an  
24 opportunity for advancement and mobility, and is  
25 preferably engaged in full-time employment.”.

1 **SEC. 4. DEMONSTRATION AND TRAINING PROGRAMS.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 303(b)(1) of the Rehabili-  
3 tation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 773(b)(1)) is amended by  
4 adding at the end the following new sentence: “The Com-  
5 missioner may provide up to 10 grants to or enter into  
6 10 contracts with (or a combination thereof, not to exceed  
7 a total of 10 grants and contracts) eligible entities under  
8 this subsection during a fiscal year. A grant provided or  
9 contract entered into under this subsection shall be pro-  
10 vided or entered into, as the case may be, for a period  
11 of five years. An eligible entity may not receive more than  
12 one grant or enter into more than one contract during a  
13 five-year period.”.

14 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by  
15 subsection (a) takes effect on the date of the enactment  
16 of this Act and applies with respect to grants provided  
17 under section 303(b) of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973  
18 for fiscal years beginning on or after the date of the enact-  
19 ment of this Act.

20 **SEC. 5. GRANTS FOR TRANSITION OF YOUTHS WITH SIG-**  
21 **NIFICANT DISABILITIES TO ADULTHOOD.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title III of the Rehabilitation Act  
23 of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 771 et seq.) is amended by adding  
24 at the end the following new section:

1 **“SEC. 307. GRANTS FOR TRANSITION OF YOUTHS WITH SIG-**  
2 **NIFICANT DISABILITIES TO ADULTHOOD.**

3 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

4 “(1) BRAIDED FUNDING.—The term ‘braided  
5 funding’ means a resource utilization strategy to  
6 maximize the efficient access and use of existing re-  
7 sources through the coordination, sequencing, and  
8 integration of available funding from multiple public  
9 agencies and private sources.

10 “(2) CUSTOMIZED EMPLOYMENT.—The term  
11 ‘customized employment’ means a set of strategies  
12 implemented during the search for employment lead-  
13 ing to an integrated employment outcome for an in-  
14 dividual with a disability, which includes the fol-  
15 lowing components:

16 “(A) A negotiated relationship with an em-  
17 ployer that focuses on unmet needs and other  
18 specific value-added to the employer rather than  
19 open, demand job slots.

20 “(B) A process of discovery, job seeker ex-  
21 ploration, development of descriptive profile  
22 documents, individualized employment planning,  
23 innovative representation materials, employer  
24 needs analysis, and representation by a job de-  
25 veloper.

1           “(3) EMPLOYMENT FIRST.—The term ‘employ-  
2           ment first’—

3                   “(A) means a delivery model of publicly fi-  
4                   nanced supports for individuals with disabilities,  
5                   including individuals with significant disabilities  
6                   and individuals with the most significant dis-  
7                   abilities, that effectuates on a systemic basis  
8                   the presumption of integrated employment as  
9                   the primary or preferred employment outcome  
10                  of such individuals; and

11                  “(B) includes policies, practices, and proce-  
12                  dures promulgated through Federal and State  
13                  governmental entities, including policies, prac-  
14                  tices, and procedures requiring that public sys-  
15                  tems have a statutory responsibility to provide  
16                  services that align their priorities, funding and  
17                  reimbursement practices, and policies and guid-  
18                  ance to promote, encourage, incentivize, and  
19                  prioritize services and supports that lead to in-  
20                  tegrated employment outcomes.

21           “(4) PERSON-CENTERED PLANNING PROCESS.—  
22           The term ‘person-centered planning process’ means  
23           a process that enables and assists a youth with a  
24           significant disability to identify and access a person-  
25           alized mix of paid and non-paid services and sup-

1 ports that will assist such youth to achieve individ-  
2 ually defined outcomes in the most integrated com-  
3 munity setting.

4 “(5) STATE INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOP-  
5 MENTAL DISABILITIES AGENCY.—The term ‘State  
6 Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Agency’  
7 means the primary State agency or subdivision with  
8 administrative, programmatic, and operational re-  
9 sponsibility for the full range of services and sup-  
10 ports furnished to individuals with intellectual and  
11 developmental disabilities.

12 “(6) YOUTH WITH A SIGNIFICANT DIS-  
13 ABILITY.—In this subsection, the term ‘youth with a  
14 significant disability’ means an individual who—

15 “(A) is an individual with a significant dis-  
16 ability or an individual with a most significant  
17 disability; and

18 “(B) has attained the age of 14 but has  
19 not attained the age of 27.

20 “(b) GRANTS.—

21 “(1) IN GENERAL.—For each of the fiscal years  
22 2012 through 2016, the Assistant Secretary for Spe-  
23 cial Education and Rehabilitative Services, in co-  
24 operation with the officials specified in paragraph  
25 (2), is authorized to provide grants to eligible enti-

1 ties to carry out the activities authorized under this  
2 section.

3 “(2) OFFICIALS SPECIFIED.—The officials spec-  
4 ified in this paragraph are the Commissioner of the  
5 Agency on Developmental Disabilities, the Director  
6 of Medicaid Operations at the Centers for Medicare  
7 and Medicaid Services, and the Assistant Secretary  
8 of Labor for Disability Employment Policy.

9 “(3) NUMBER OF GRANTS; DURATION; NUMBER  
10 OF GRANTS PER ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The Assistant  
11 Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative  
12 Services may provide up to 10 grants under this  
13 subsection during a fiscal year. A grant provided  
14 under this subsection shall be provided for a period  
15 of five years. An eligible entity may not receive more  
16 than one grant during a five-year period.

17 “(c) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—To be eligible to receive  
18 a grant under subsection (a), an entity shall be a consor-  
19 tium that—

20 “(1) consists of and is managed by, at a min-  
21 imum, representatives from the State educational  
22 agency, the State Intellectual and Developmental  
23 Disabilities Agency, the State vocational rehabilita-  
24 tion agency, the State Medicaid agency, the State  
25 department of labor and workforce investment



1 board, and the State department of higher edu-  
2 cation;

3 “(2) includes stakeholders who will be involved  
4 in the planning and implementation of funds made  
5 available through the grant, including—

6 “(A) representatives from local or regional  
7 University Centers for Excellence in Develop-  
8 mental Disabilities Education, Research, and  
9 Service, State protection advocacy and client as-  
10 sistance programs, State councils on develop-  
11 mental disabilities, and centers on independent  
12 living; and

13 “(B) representatives from self-advocacy or-  
14 ganizations and family organizations; and

15 “(3) includes additional public and private indi-  
16 viduals and entities with demonstrated expertise in  
17 providing transition services that result in post-sec-  
18 ondary education, integrated employment, and eco-  
19 nomic advancement for individuals with significant  
20 disabilities and individuals with the most significant  
21 disabilities with expertise in the provision of sup-  
22 ported employment services and customized employ-  
23 ment strategies and that—

24 “(A) provide services resulting in inte-  
25 grated post-secondary education outcomes or in-

1           tegrated employment outcomes at the greater of  
2           minimum or competitive wages with access to  
3           related health and employment benefits;

4           “(B) have expertise in person-centered  
5           planning processes; or

6           “(C) have experience operating mentoring  
7           or advocacy training programs for individuals  
8           with significant disabilities and individuals with  
9           the most significant disabilities in culturally  
10          and socioeconomically diverse communities.

11          “(d) APPLICATION.—An eligible entity that desires to  
12          receive a grant under subsection (a) shall submit to the  
13          Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilita-  
14          tive Services an application at such time, in such manner,  
15          and including such information as the Assistant Secretary  
16          may require. Each application shall include—

17                 “(1) an implementation plan, including the  
18                 identification of the lead agency by the State, de-  
19                 scribing the actions the entity intends to take to  
20                 carry out the activities authorized under this sub-  
21                 section;

22                 “(2) assurances that a memorandum of under-  
23                 standing among the participating State agencies will  
24                 be developed outlining key steps to be taken to col-  
25                 laborate and coordinate efforts to institute systemic

1 change related to employment first, including braid-  
2 ed funding and a uniform focus on improving out-  
3 comes in post-secondary education, integrated em-  
4 ployment, and economic advancement for youths  
5 with significant disabilities;

6 “(3) a description of the means and mecha-  
7 nisms by which participating State agencies will co-  
8 ordinate efforts to evaluate and reform existing  
9 State laws, regulations, guidelines, operational pro-  
10 cedures, and funding practices, including braided  
11 funding, to institute systemic change related to em-  
12 ployment first, focused on improving outcomes in  
13 post-secondary education, integrated employment,  
14 and economic advancement for youths with signifi-  
15 cant disabilities;

16 “(4) an evaluation plan describing the strategy  
17 the entity will use to evaluate the use of funds made  
18 available through the grant, with a specific focus on  
19 the collection of data (by age, race, gender, geo-  
20 graphic area, type of disability, income level, commu-  
21 nication level, and use of assistive technology) track-  
22 ing, at a minimum—

23 “(A) the number of youths with significant  
24 disabilities who directly enter integrated em-  
25 ployment opportunities paid at the greater of

1 minimum wage or competitive wages with ac-  
2 cess to related employment and health benefits,  
3 or a post-secondary educational or training pro-  
4 gram that is focused on leading to an inte-  
5 grated employment outcome, upon exiting the  
6 school system;

7 “(B) the wages and number of hours  
8 worked of youths per pay period;

9 “(C) the impact of employment on any  
10 State and Federal benefits received;

11 “(D) indicators on the types of settings in  
12 which youths benefitting from the State grant  
13 primarily reside;

14 “(E) indicators of improved economic sta-  
15 tus and self-sufficiency;

16 “(F) data on those youths with significant  
17 disabilities for whom a post-secondary or inte-  
18 grated employment outcome has not yet oc-  
19 curred, including information on why such out-  
20 come has not yet been attained, and additional  
21 information such as the number of months an  
22 individual has not had a post-secondary edu-  
23 cation or integrated employment outcome, and  
24 the progress made to date on efforts to ensure  
25 that an individual achieves a post-secondary

1 education or integrated employment outcome;  
2 and

3 “(G) location and type of settings where  
4 youths who are receiving services through the  
5 grant are living;

6 “(5) a description of how the eligible entity will  
7 disseminate information about the types of transi-  
8 tion services and the impact of such services on the  
9 lives of youths with significant disabilities who are  
10 served by the project; and

11 “(6) a description of the approaches the eligible  
12 entity intends to use to coordinate activities with rel-  
13 evant service providers in the localities in which the  
14 activities of the grant will be focused.

15 “(e) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—An entity that re-  
16 ceives a grant under this subsection shall use the funds  
17 made available through the grant to carry out the fol-  
18 lowing activities for youths with significant disabilities:

19 “(1) The development of innovative and effec-  
20 tive practices through person-centered planning  
21 processes for attaining integrated employment expe-  
22 riences, including customized employment, supported  
23 employment services, and employment experiences  
24 after school, on weekends, and in the summer  
25 months.

1           “(2) The development of objectives and activi-  
2 ties based upon the highest expectations of youths  
3 with significant disabilities and related to the fol-  
4 lowing areas:

5                   “(A) Academic and school-based pre-  
6 paratory experiences, including access to the  
7 general education curriculum in the least re-  
8 strictive environment.

9                   “(B) Work and career readiness.

10                  “(C) Self-determination and leadership.

11                  “(D) Comprehensive community connec-  
12 tions.

13                  “(E) Life-long learning.

14                  “(F) Family involvement and engagement.

15           “(3) The development of appropriate and effec-  
16 tive curricula and the deployment of professionals  
17 with expertise to provide training to school per-  
18 sonnel, including transition coordinators, and other  
19 personnel connected to the implementation of the  
20 implementation plan of the grantee to enable such  
21 school personnel to develop skills needed to assist  
22 such youths in actualizing their ability to obtain and  
23 maintain integrated employment at the greater of  
24 minimum or competitive wages. Such training shall  
25 be focused on developing the skills in personnel nec-

1        essary to help such youths successfully identify and  
2        complete desired objectives in the following areas:

3               “(A) Academic and school-based pre-  
4               paratory experiences, including access to the  
5               general education curriculum in the least re-  
6               strictive environment.

7               “(B) Work and career readiness.

8               “(C) Youth development and leadership.

9               “(D) Comprehensive community connec-  
10              tions.

11              “(E) Family involvement and engagement.

12              “(F) Integrated employment experiences,  
13              including customized employment, supported  
14              employment services, and employment experi-  
15              ences after school, on weekends, and in the  
16              summer months.

17              “(4) The provision of assistance to youths with  
18              significant disabilities and their families with respect  
19              to determining appropriate services under relevant  
20              Federal and State programs, to include the fol-  
21              lowing:

22                      “(A) An informed decisionmaking process  
23                      leading to an integrated employment or post-  
24                      secondary education outcome and securing on-

1 going services required for sustaining the em-  
2 ployment or post-secondary education outcome.

3 “(B) A benefits planning process in order  
4 to educate youths with significant disabilities  
5 regarding strategies for identifying, optimizing  
6 and managing available resources to support  
7 the youth.

8 “(C) A series of individualized economic  
9 advancement strategies to advance the optimal  
10 self-sufficiency and economic security of a youth  
11 with a significant disability with specific goals  
12 for asset development, including the use of fa-  
13 vorable tax benefits, work incentives, matched  
14 savings plans, and financial education.

15 “(f) PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES.—

16 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Funds made available  
17 through a grant under subsection (a) may not be  
18 used for activities that result in youths with signifi-  
19 cant disabilities being placed in facility-based seg-  
20 regated services as an employment outcome or post-  
21 secondary outcome. In this paragraph, the term ‘fa-  
22 cility-based segregated services’ means rehabilitation  
23 or employment services provided by segregated enti-  
24 ties, such as sheltered workshops, day habilitation,  
25 enclaves, or any other similar settings.



1           “(2) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in  
2 this subsection shall be construed to prohibit any  
3 youth with a significant disability from having ac-  
4 cess to the general education curriculum during the  
5 pursuit of transition services or post-secondary edu-  
6 cation outcomes.

7           “(g) EMPLOYMENT OUTCOMES AND EVALUATION.—

8           “(1) OUTCOMES.—An entity that receives a  
9 grant under this section shall collect data and report  
10 annually on, at a minimum, progress in achieving  
11 specific integrated employment outcomes outlined by  
12 the Assistant Secretary for Special Education and  
13 Rehabilitative Services. Such outcomes shall include  
14 the following:

15           “(A) The number of youths with signifi-  
16 cant disabilities who directly enter integrated  
17 employment or post-secondary education upon  
18 exiting the school system.

19           “(B) The types of positions and employ-  
20 ment sectors the youths with significant disabili-  
21 ties are participating in, as defined by the Bu-  
22 reau of Labor Statistics of the Department of  
23 Labor.

1           “(C) The wages of and number of hours  
2 worked by youths with significant disabilities  
3 monthly.

4           “(D) The impact of employment on any  
5 Federal and State benefits received.

6           “(E) Indicators of improved economic sta-  
7 tus and self-sufficiency.

8           “(F) Data on those youths with significant  
9 disabilities who have not yet entered post-sec-  
10 ondary education or integrated employment,  
11 outlining the reasons that such youths have not  
12 yet entered post-secondary education or inte-  
13 grated employment as well as the progress  
14 made to date in the acquisition of skills, train-  
15 ing, and development necessary to attain an in-  
16 tegrated employment outcome.

17           “(2) CENTER.—There is established a National  
18 Coordination Center on Systems Change and Trans-  
19 formation in the Transition of Youths with Signifi-  
20 cant Disabilities into Adulthood (in this paragraph  
21 referred to as the ‘Center’) to coordinate personnel  
22 training and professional development in evidence-  
23 based best practices resulting in integrated employ-  
24 ment or post-secondary education outcomes. The  
25 Center shall coordinate assistance with the state

1 grantees and their leadership teams and support  
2 grantees in their systems change efforts through the  
3 provision of training, professional development, tech-  
4 nical assistance, data collection, and research.

5 “(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

6 “(1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be  
7 appropriated to carry out this section (other than  
8 subsection (g)(2)) \$50,000,000 for each of the fiscal  
9 years 2012 through 2016.

10 “(2) CENTER.—There are authorized to be ap-  
11 propriated to carry out subsection (g)(2) \$5,000,000  
12 for each of the fiscal years 2012 through 2016.”.

13 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents  
14 for the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 is amended by inserting  
15 after the item relating to section 306 the following new  
16 item:

“Sec. 307. Grants for transition of youths with significant disabilities to adult-  
hood.”.

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