The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) will hold a virtual public hearing on proposed updates to DVR's Existing Business Policy on March 31, 2021, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

DVR's Existing Business Policy was last updated in June 2018. DVR staff uses the policy when working with consumers whose employment goal is to maintain their existing business. The policy allows DVR to provide existing business owners with assistive technologies they need when their disability impacts their ability to perform job tasks.

The proposed policy update will be available before the March 31 hearing. Highlights of the policy update include:

- Changing the name of the required financial assessment from "Profitability Assessment" to "Employment and Wage Assessment".
- Updating language related to comparable wages to reflect federal guidelines that allow DVR to support self-employment that earns a business owner less than minimum wage if those wages are comparable to wages earned by business owners in the same industry who do not have disabilities.
- Removing the requirement for DVR to review past case(s) in which DVR provided an individual services under the Existing Business Policy.

The virtual meeting will be held via WebEx. The meeting can be joined by computer or phone. Those unable to participate virtually may attend from the Marathon County Job Center following COVID-19 protocols. Comments may be submitted by phone, email, or U.S. mail. DVR must receive all comments by 4:30 p.m. on March 31, 2021.

Please contact TJ Jerke, DVR Communications and Policy Advisor, if you have questions about the public hearing or need accommodations to attend.

WebEx Meeting: https://dwdwi.webex.com/dwdwi/j.php?MTID=m0b9755cf0463e2dc0c24a45fe9aaee33

To Join from a Mobile Device:
1-855-282-6330
Access Code: 145 249 6559

Physical Location:
Marathon County Job Center
731 North 1st St., Suite 4000
Wausau, WI 54403

Those who would like to attend the meeting but are unable to participate virtually may attend at the Marathon County Job Center. Individuals accessing the Job Center will be required to wear a face mask and adhere to social distancing guidelines. Interested individuals will not be able to enter the building if:
• They have received a positive COVID-19 test within 14 days of the hearing
• They have come into contact with anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19 within 14 days of the hearing
• They have any of the following symptoms:
  o Fever
  o Chills
  o New Cough
  o Shortness of breath
  o Sore Throat
  o Headache
  o Muscle aches
  o Loss of smell or taste