



# BESTBUDDIES® Jobs Getting Started

Matches skilled, qualified individuals with IDD with businesses seeking enthusiastic and dedicated employees. Through the Jobs program, Best Buddies develops partnerships with employers, assists with the hiring process and provides ongoing support to the employee and employer.

## Criteria for Admission

### All individuals served by Best Buddies Jobs must

- Have a primary diagnosis that is an intellectual or developmental disability
- Have a desire to work in the community

### Best Buddies Jobs is not designed to serve individuals who

- Have a major mental illness that is not controlled by medication
- Have any severe behavior problems
- Are active substance abusers
- Lack the legal right to work

### How JOBS is different from Friendship Programs

State government DOES regulate supported employment programs, and when we start our Jobs program in a state, we need to become what is called a provider agency.

### Who Funds What?

There are typically two state agencies involved, the vocational rehabilitation agency and the developmental disabilities agency. These reimbursements cover between a third and a half of all Jobs program costs.

#### 1. Vocational Rehabilitation (VR)

- Funding is for Phase 1 or initial placement and stabilization in a job, typically up to 90 Days
- Amounts usually vary between \$1-2k up to 90 days of employment

#### 2. Developmental Disabilities Agency (DD)

- Funding is for Phase 2 or long-term follow-along services, also called maintenance
- Usually pay a quarter hour or hourly rate – based on authorization from the agency (most states have a waiting list so this funding is not guaranteed)

### Accreditation

#### CARF International

- CARF accreditation signals a service provider's commitment to continually improving services, encouraging feedback, and serving the community