Quality Assurance (QA)
Information Session

June 29, 2021

Washington State Department of
Labor & Industries

Meeting Objectives:
Prepare firms for reporting AWA QA data elements and set expectations for the remainder of the year.

Agenda

- Ability to Work Assessment (AWA) Reporting
- Changes to Validation Meetings
- Updates and Reminders
- Coming Soon
- Questions

AWA Reporting

- Begins July 21
- New VR/AWA reporting template (online by 7/12)
- Includes the following data elements:
  - Initial meeting with worker within 15 days
  - AWA work products completed and discussion with worker within 30 days
  - Engagement with worker and Next Steps plan
  - Engagement with medical providers
  - Exit Meeting with the worker

The Validation Cycle
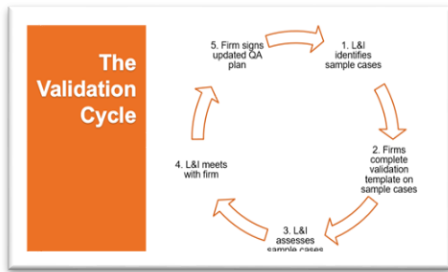
Changes to Validation Meetings

- Every firm will have had at least two validation meetings by the end of October
- Vocational services specialists (VSS) will begin joining the validation meetings to observe/learn
- We will begin testing AWA in validation meetings in November
- Validation meetings will be supplemented with interim check-ins

Updates and reminders

- Our team is growing
  - Welcome Woody Sutherland, Courtney Stanley, and Jaycee Evinger
- New policies
  - 6.49 Retraining Plans and the COVID-19 Pandemic
  - 6.03 Payment Policy (use the vocational professional code, which rolls into fee cap)
- VR fee cap/billable hour increase – 0800/0801 billing codes
  - If an extension was approved for 0802/0803 prior to July 1, return to billing under the 0800/0801 codes. Once these funds are expended, the VRC/intern can begin billing using the 0802/0803 codes. Once expended, or if already expended, (in light of the reduced 802/803 fee cap) consider an ADMX request.

Updates and reminders

- Changes to closing codes (SNA1, SNA3)

- Background Checks

- Worker Surveys – We're getting a terrific response

- Updates to VR web page – see What's New

- Complete the vocational firm QA adoption survey, by July 20

- Email VocRecoveryProject@lni.wa.gov identifying the branch office that should be used as the referral hub for each service location, by July 23

- ADMX closure criteria and guidance
- New VR closing reports
- Certified retraining plans
- New firm application process and QA requirements
- Intern supervisor best practices
- ProviderOne

Over the next six months…

July	August	September	October	November	December
Round 2 of validation meetings				Check-in meetings	
Determine which branch in each service location will be the referral hub. Begin reporting AWA QA data (7/21) *NEW VR closing reports	Aged AWA reports QA data due 8/21 *NEW Certified retraining plans *NEW ADMX closure criteria	Authentication QA data due 9/21 New Firm/New to VR Orientation	Begin tracking PD/PI QA data QA data due 10/21 *NEW Intern Supervisor Best Practices	Aged AWA reports QA data due 11/21	Begin reporting PD/PI QA data QA data due 12/21 Annual Firm Agreement **Due**

*Dates are subject to change

L&I appreciates your partnership!