**RAISE Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Fact Sheet**

**Financial Considerations**

**Financial Need Criteria**

* Must specify which services will be subject to financial need
* Must take into account disability-related expenses
* Must not be so high as to effectively deny an individual a necessary service
* Exempt services
	+ Diagnostic services
	+ Counseling, guidance, and referral services
	+ Job placement
	+ Personal assistance services
	+ Auxiliary aids and services such as interpreters and readers
* SSDI and SSI recipients, including 1619(b) Medicaid are exempt
	+ They should not be required to participate in the cost of VR services

**Comparable Benefits**

* VR agencies are considered payer of last resort for many services
* Will not pay for a service if similar or comparable benefit available through another provider
* For example, if person qualifies for services through Medicaid, VR will not provide them
* Must be available at the time needed

**Exemptions From Comparable Benefit Requirements**

* Student loans, which must be repaid
* Scholarships and awards based on merit
* SSI’s Plan for Achieving Self-Support (PASS)