



Using Utah Defendant Offender Workforce Development (UDOWD) to Increase Opportunities for Competitive, Integrated Employment for Students and Youth with Disabilities

What is the level of evidence?

This practice was identified by Rehabilitation Research & Training Center for Evidence-Based Practice in Vocational Rehabilitation (RRTC -EBP VR), and has been labeled by NTACT as a Promising Practice. *More information on NTACT's process for identifying effective practices is available here: [NTACT's Effective Practices](#).*

What is the practice?

Utah Department of Corrections (UDC) implements the UDOWD in collaboration with the Utah State Office of Rehabilitation to provide job development and offer direct assistance under the jurisdiction of UDC. Each ex-offender served by the program receives a thorough assessment with regard to employment goals, individual needs, and recidivism risks. Additionally job readiness training and employment assistance are provided.

Where is the best place to find out how to do this practice?

The Special Issue from the Journal of Vocational Rehabilitation is available through the website of the RRTC-EBP-VR here:

<http://content.iospress.com/download/journal-of-vocational-rehabilitation/jvr708?id=journal-of-vocational-rehabilitation%2Fjvr708>

Additional information from the program is available here:

<http://corrections.utah.gov/images/udowd%20snap%20shot.pdf>.

You may also correspond with the RRTC-EBP-VR <http://research2vrpractice.org/contact/> to request more detailed information from the original author regarding implementation of this practice.

References used to establish this evidence base:

Del Valle, R., Leahy, M. J., Sherman, S., Anderson, C. A., Tansey, T., & Schoen, B. (2014). Promising best practices that lead to employment in vocational rehabilitation: Findings from a four-state multiple case study. *Journal of Vocational Rehabilitation, 41*, 87-98.

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