PERSONAL ADJUSTMENT COUNSELING TO BLINDNESS –
Provider Guidelines xx.00 PERSONAL ADJUSTMENT
COUNSELING
(CSPM NONE)

Description of Service

Personal Adjustment Counseling to Blindness (PAC-B) is a service to assist a
person to re-adjust to life after experiencing significant vision loss. It should
be considered when traditional VR counseling, Vision Rehabilitation Therapy
or Orientation and Mobility are not sufficient to overcome the losses
experienced by the individual due to vision loss. This service can also be used
to develop or re-establish personal and social behaviors designed to enhance
an individual’s employability. Services can be provided individually or in
small groups.

Provider Information

PAC-B services may include but are not limited to the following:

- Personal Adjustment Counseling to Blindness
- Health and Medicine Management (diabetes education)
- Interpersonal Skill Development
- Methods of Appropriate Communication
- Sexual Awareness and Appropriateness
- Community Living Adjustment
- Decision Making/Problem Solving
- Understanding of Self and Abilities
- Identifying, planning and providing the supports needed to
  achieve and maintain employment

PAC-B services provide a comprehensive plan utilizing counseling
techniques and activities in small groups or individually and may address:

- Personal attitudes, biases and social skills
- Educating friends and family
- Disclosure
- Decision making in daily life activities
- Work attitudes and skills exploration
- Exercising informed choice
- Community field trips
- Problem solving and resource utilization, including adaptive
equipment
- Knowledge about the rights and responsibilities associated
  with employment
Provider Qualifications

A. Certification from the Academy for Certification of Vision Rehabilitation and Education Professionals (ACVREP) as a Certified Vision Rehabilitation Therapist (CVRT); or

B. Certification from the Academy for Certification of Vision Rehabilitation and Education Professionals (ACVREP) as a Certified Orientation and Mobility Specialist (COMS); or

C. Certification from the National Blindness Professional Certification Board (NBPCB) as a National Certified Rehabilitation Teacher for the Blind (NCRTB); or

D. Certification from the National Blindness Professional Certification Board (NBPCB) as a National Orientation and Mobility Certification (NOMC); or

E. Certification from Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification (CRCC) as a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC) and specialized training in the area of blindness; or

F. Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) with specialized training in blindness; or

G. Teacher of the Visually Impaired (TVI); or

H. Certified Low Vision Therapist (CLVT); or

I. Occupational Therapist (OTR/L) or Occupational Therapist Assistant (COTA/L) with documentation of academic coursework or work history demonstrating ability to work with persons who are blind or severely visually impaired; or

J. Coursework in a health-related field from an accredited institution of higher learning, with extensive knowledge of the subject being taught (e.g., diabetes group counseling and/or diabetes individual counseling for the visually impaired.), with clinical supervision from a professional credentialed as in qualifications – A thru I above.

Note: Qualifying Documentation - Providers will submit documentation to determine if they meet the standards for potential suppliers.

The Provider Relations Specialist is responsible for determining whether providers meet qualifications.
Process for Outsourcing

It is the VRP staff’s responsibility to determine when Personal Adjustment Counseling to Blindness services should be purchased.

General and Specific Standards

A. Timeliness

Provider must notify counselor within five (5) business days from receipt of referral whether they will accept referral. Provider will give counselor an approximate begin date of services. A proposal for time frames and frequency of instruction and progress reports should be included in the report, and should be agreed to before the purchase of services. PAC-B time frames are individualized, and monthly progress reports will be required to show progressive development.

A final report must be received by the VRP staff within ten (10) business days of completion of services.

B. Liability

The provider must present a certificate of insurance as defined in the contract or service agreement as required by the Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency.

C. Criminal Record Investigation

Providers will be required to show evidence that a criminal record investigation has been requested in accordance with DHS/GVRA policy on all staff that provides direct services to VRP clients.

D. General Requirements

Mobility - Consideration should be given to the client’s needs in determining an appropriate location for providing services.

Training/Service Materials - Providers will submit a list of training/service materials that will be used in providing this service.

Sample Product - Providers will submit sample(s) of training reports and action plans.

E. Report

At the end of each month the Provider will provide the Vocational Topics that were taught this month

- Client interest and progress toward adjustment.
- Concerns that need to be addressed.

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• Topics to be covered the following month if additional counseling is required. It is the provider’s responsibility to ensure that the information in the report is easily discernible and accessible to the users, and is staffed with the VRP and the client.

Reports must be signed by the provider.

**Identifying Information**

- Client name
- Date of Birth
- Address
- Telephone Number
- Case Number
- Referring Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor
- Date of Referral, Evaluation, and Report
- Disability(s)

**Interventions** – Initial and ongoing assessment of the individuals progress towards adjustment to their vision loss. Areas identified that the person needs to address and strategies being used to overcome those remaining functional barriers to healthy living and employment.

**Achievement Level** - Based on the individual’s employment objectives, the client should receive only those services which help him/her achieve the desired outcomes.

F. **Fee**

Compensation for services will be negotiated and attached to the contract or service agreement.