Utah State Office of Rehabilitation
Disability Classification *and* Order of Selection Overview

ELIGIBILITY FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

All applications for the Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Program are reviewed by a qualified rehabilitation counselor who makes an eligibility determination on a case-by-case basis. To be found eligible, a person must demonstrate that:

- **She/he has a verifiable disabling condition**
- **The condition results in an impediment to employment**
- **She/he requires VR services to obtain or retain employment**

The individual must also express a desire to become employed, and the VR counselor must believe that the individual can reach an employment outcome with the assistance of VR services.

DISABILITY CLASSIFICATIONS

Individuals who are determined to be eligible for VR services are assigned by their counselors to a disability category. Disability category classification is based on three factors:

- **The number of significant functional limitations a person has**
- **The number of services required**
- **The length of time that services will be necessary**

Disability classifications are not based on the type of disability a person has, but rather the effect of that disability on a person's ability to function and the level of services needed for him/her to become successfully employed. Disability classifications are used to determine which individuals are served first when the agency does not have the resources to serve all eligible individuals.

THREE DISABILITY CLASSIFICATION CATEGORIES

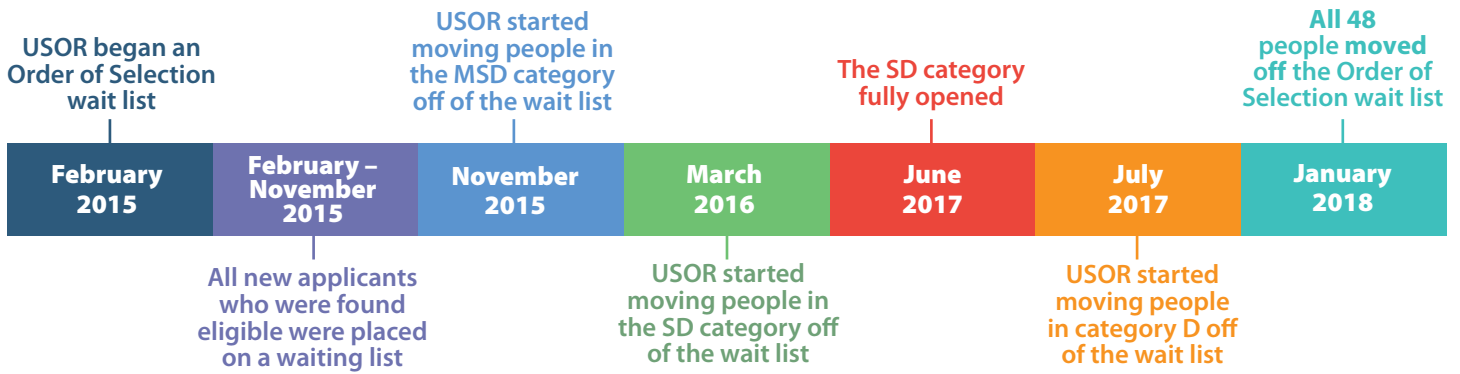| Most Significantly Disabled (MSD)	Significantly Disabled (SD)	Disabled (D)
Individuals who have three or more serious functional limitations, require multiple services (defined as three or more), and will require services over an extended period of time (six months or longer).	Individuals who have two serious functional limitations, require multiple services, and require services over an extended period of time.	Individuals who do not meet the criteria for MSD or SD classification (because they have fewer serious functional limitations, need fewer services, and/or need services only for a short time).

Federal regulation requires that individuals classified as MSD be served first, followed by SD, and then D, as funding allows. Individuals are placed on a waiting list until such time that the agency has resources to serve them; and individuals are removed from the waiting list according to disability classification. All individuals classified as MSD must be served before any individual who is classified as SD, and so forth. Individuals are moved off the waiting list within their disability classification according to the order in which they applied. The federal Rehabilitation Services Administration calls this system of service prioritization based on classification of disability significance and creation of waiting lists an Order of Selection (OOS).
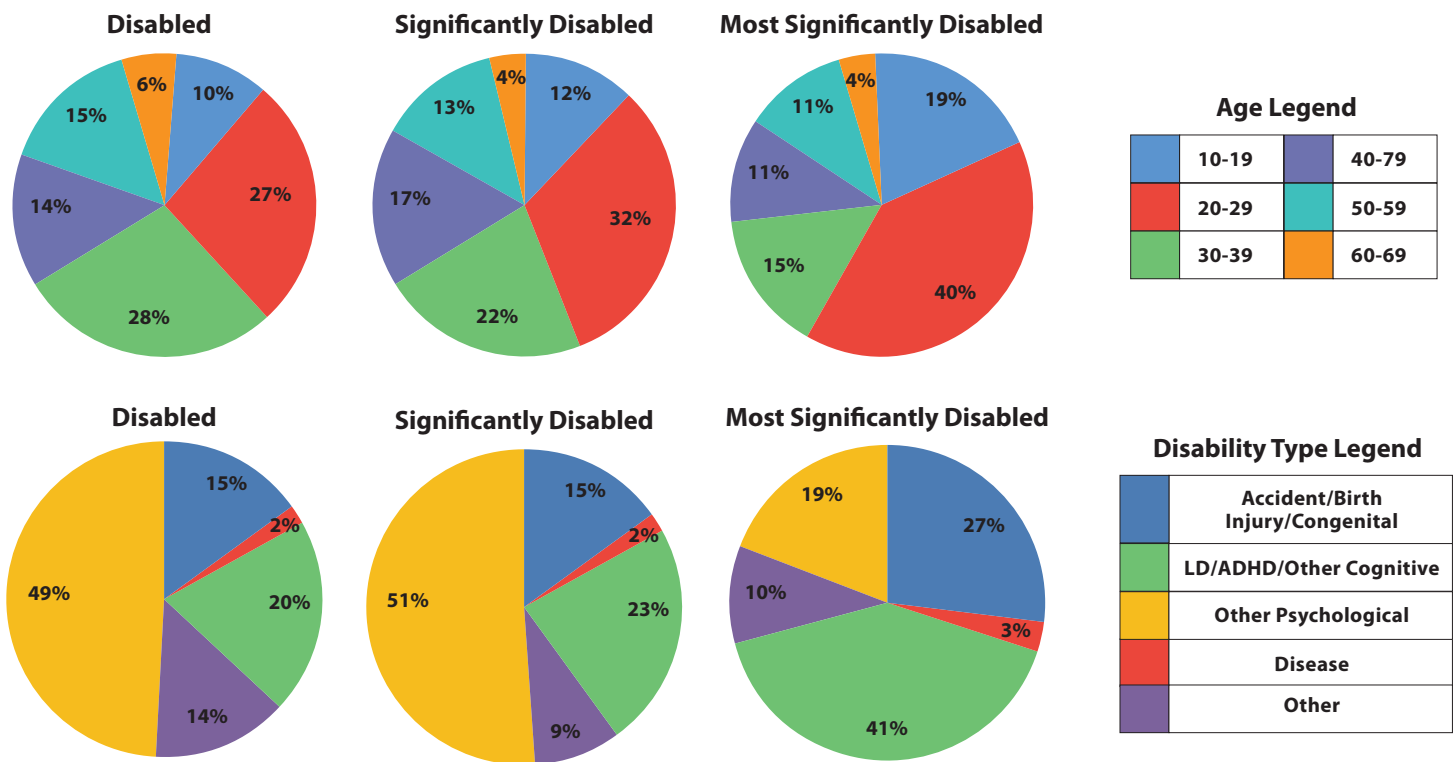
ORDER OF SELECTION WAIT LIST TIMELINE

February 2015	February – November 2015	November 2015	March 2016	June 2017	July 2017	January 2018

USOR began an Order of Selection wait list (February 2015)

USOR started moving people in the MSD category off of the wait list (November 2015)

The SD category fully opened (June 2017)

All 48 people moved off the Order of Selection wait list (January 2018)

All new applicants who were found eligible were placed on a waiting list (February – November 2015)

USOR started moving people in the SD category off of the wait list (March 2016)

USOR started moving people in category D off of the wait list (July 2017)

USOR closely monitors the waiting list and the rate of VR program expenditures with an eye toward fully opening Category D as soon as possible.

DISABILITY BY CLASSIFICATION BY AGE CATEGORY

The accompanying charts show how each disability classification category is currently divided in terms of client age and how disability types are represented across disability classification categories.

Disabled
- 10% 10-19
- 27% 20-29
- 28% 30-39
- 14% 40-79
- 15% 50-59
- 6% 60-69

Significantly Disabled
- 12% 10-19
- 32% 20-29
- 22% 30-39
- 17% 40-79
- 13% 50-59
- 4% 60-69

Most Significantly Disabled
- 19% 10-19
- 40% 20-29
- 15% 30-39
- 11% 40-79
- 11% 50-59
- 4% 60-69

Age Legend

10-19	40-79
20-29	50-59
30-39	60-69

Disabled
- 15% Accident/Birth Injury/Congenital
- 2% Disease
- 20% LD/ADHD/Other Cognitive
- 14% Other
- 49% Other Psychological

Significantly Disabled
- 15% Accident/Birth Injury/Congenital
- 2% Disease
- 23% LD/ADHD/Other Cognitive
- 9% Other
- 51% Other Psychological

Most Significantly Disabled
- 27% Accident/Birth Injury/Congenital
- 3% Disease
- 41% LD/ADHD/Other Cognitive
- 10% Other
- 19% Other Psychological

Disability Type Legend

| Accident/Birth Injury/Congenital |
| LD/ADHD/Other Cognitive |
| Other Psychological |
| Disease |
| Other |

USOR ORDER OF SELECTION WAIT LIST STATUS AS OF JANUARY 29, 2018

ORDER OF SELECTION CATEGORY	WAIT LIST STATUS	INDIVIDUALS ON THE WAIT LIST
Individuals with Most Significant Disabilities (MSD)	Open	0
Individuals with Significant Disabilities (SD)	Open	0
Individuals with Disabilities (D)	Partially Open	0