Hello and welcome to the introduction to the webcast series on the opportunities for collaboration between the Vocational Rehabilitation or VR program and the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act or WIOA Youth programs.

The United States Department of Labor’s Employment and Training Administration (ETA), in partnership with the United States Department of Education’s Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA), with support from the Workforce Innovation Technical Assistance Center (WINTAC), have partnered to develop a webcast series detailing how VR agencies and the WIOA Youth programs can work together to serve students and youth with disabilities. This webcast series highlights collaboration opportunities between VR program services, including pre-employment transition services and the WIOA Youth program.

This technical assistance series will contain four webcasts in total designed to explore opportunities for collaboration between these two programs. The first two are shorter webcasts with one providing a general overview of the VR program and its services available to students and youth with disabilities, and the other providing a general overview of the WIOA Youth program. The purpose of these two separate, but complimentary webcasts is to allow staff and service providers of the two programs the option to listen to either or both webcasts, depending on the level of understanding and familiarity with the respective programs.

These overview webcasts were created with the intention of providing foundational information about each of the VR and WIOA youth programs to create a common understanding among staff and service providers about populations served by both programs, the services provided, and the outcomes to be achieved and measured.

Following these brief overview webcasts, additional webcasts will focus on how these two programs can leverage and complement resources to serve students and youth with disabilities and highlight effective and collaborative practices across the VR and WIOA youth program.
This series was created as a follow-up to the jointly developed technical assistance document entitled: Collaboration Opportunities: WIOA YOUTH AND VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION PROGRAMS. This joint document provides a high-level overview of the programs in order to improve coordination of workforce preparation activities and employment services between the two programs, and was released in partnership by RSA and ETA. It includes strategies and resources to help increase collaboration between State and local agencies and program providers to more effectively serve youth with disabilities.

To view the collaboration brief, visit the Youth Connections Community of Practice at: https://youth.workforcegps.org/resources/2019/08/13/16/46/~link.aspx?_id=EF76C6ED7D344E32A8517C943C5ADC87&z=z.

**SLIDE 5**

Thank you for listening to this series. We hope you find it useful in achieving your goal of better serving youth with disabilities.