

Topic: CRS Authorizations for 2026, CRS Rebid Services, and CRS Contract Amendments

Type: Vendor Guidance

Effective Date: 10/30/2025

Overview

This document provides guidance on the process for requesting 2026 CRS authorizations and the use of Draft Authorizations for existing CRS vendors awarded new services through the CRS Rebid and existing CRS vendors awaiting contract amendment.

2026 Authorizations

Effective immediately, ACCES-VR staff will begin issuing 2026 CRS authorizations to existing CRS vendors who hold an executed contract with ACCES-VR. 2026 authorizations will reflect a 3.2 percent cost-of-living-allowance rate increase. **As a reminder, services cannot be provided without authorization with corresponding service dates in place.** Authorization service dates are to reflect the dates a customer is expected to receive and complete the service. Reference: [2026 CRS Rate Chart](#)

2025 Authorization Review

All open 2025 authorizations must be reviewed prior to issuing 2026 authorizations for the same service. ACCES-VR staff and vendors are required to review all open 2025 authorizations. Vendor service records should document communication with ACCES-VR staff regarding the status of open 2025 authorizations. Communication between ACCES-VR and CRS vendors will facilitate the billing or cancelling of 2025 authorizations and generate 2026 authorizations for services the vendor will provide in 2026.

2025 Billing Deadlines

CRS billing is due within 10 or 30 days from completion of service as outlined in the CRS Program Guide. **The FINAL DEADLINE for any outstanding 2025 billing is February 14, 2026.** Vendors are encouraged to reach out to ACCES-VR for assistance prior to February 14, 2026. Please contact the local ACCES-VR office with any questions regarding authorizations and payments; contact VRsupport@nysed.gov for any technical difficulties utilizing the Vendor Portal.

Draft Authorizations

Draft authorizations to an existing CRS vendor for services awarded to that vendor through CRS Rebid or amendment for additional contract value will only be considered if ACCES-VR determines that the services cannot be provided by another vendor. ACCES-VR staff will then submit a request to generate a draft authorization to a vendor to Central Office; approval will be dependent upon the status of the vendor's contract amendment. Once approved a draft is generated; vendors have the option to accept the draft through the portal and provide the service "at risk." Payment for services provided under a draft authorization is not possible until the contract amendment has been fully executed, and the draft authorization is "issued" in Aware.

Authorizations to new CRS vendors

Authorizations to new vendors awarded contracts through CRS Rebid who have not previously had a contract for CRS services cannot be drafted or issued until those contracts are fully executed.