



Vocational Rehabilitation



Vocational Rehabilitation programs help people with disabilities train for and find work.

Q: What is Vocational Rehabilitation?

Funded by the U.S. Department of Education and administered by every state, vocational rehabilitation programs offer people with disabilities an array of employment-related services, including career counseling, on-the-job training, education and job placement.

Q: Who is eligible for Vocational Rehabilitation?

People who receive Social Security Disability Insurance or Supplemental Security Income

are generally eligible for Vocational Rehabilitation. To find out if you are eligible, contact your local Vocational Rehabilitation program. State listings and contact information are available on the Job Accommodation Network website at <https://askjan.org/concerns/State-Vocational-Rehabilitation-Agencies.cfm>.

Q: What services might be offered through Vocational Rehabilitation?

Vocational rehabilitation services vary by state, but may include:

- Career counseling
- Resume preparation and interview coaching
- Job search and placement assistance
- Technical skills training
- Assistive technology evaluation and referrals
- Benefits counseling
- Medical assessment and services
- Mental health counseling to support job retention
- Hearing aid purchases
- Vehicle and home modification grants
- Long term follow-up and support services

Q: Do Vocational Rehabilitation programs pay for assistive technology or vehicle modification services?

In many cases, yes. If assistive technology or vehicle modifications are deemed necessary to support an individual's employment goals or success, then state programs will often provide financial assistance.

Q: Are young people with disabilities eligible for Vocational Rehabilitation programs?

Yes. In many states, students with disabilities can use Vocational Rehabilitation services to plan for life after high school. Vocational rehabilitation counselors work with families, schools and community partners to help students gain knowledge and experience that supports future employment and independent living.

Q: Are there veteran-specific Vocational Rehabilitation programs?

Yes. The Veteran Readiness and Employment (VR&E) program, sometimes called Chapter 31, provides education, training and job placement for veterans with service-related disabilities.

VR&E employment coordinators can help eligible individuals start their own business, retrain for different careers or access supports to return to their former jobs. Independent living and home adaptation grants may also be available.

For more information about VR&E services, visit the VA website at <https://www.benefits.va.gov/vocrehab/>.

Q: What is the American Indian Vocational Rehabilitation Services?

The American Indian Vocational Rehabilitation Services (AIVRS) program, established under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, provides grants to governing bodies of Indian Tribes to develop training and work placement initiatives for people with disabilities living on or near federal or state reservations. The goal of AIVRS, like state-run Vocational Rehabilitation programs, is to help people with disabilities prepare for and find employment that will increase opportunities for economic self-sufficiency.

To search programs by state, visit the AIVRS Technical Assistance website at <https://aivrttac.org/aivrs-projects/>.

Q: Is there anyone who can help if I'm not receiving the Vocational Rehabilitation services I need?

Contact the National Disability Rights Network (NDRN) if you believe you're not getting the services you need, or you and your job counselor disagree about your goals. NDRN Client Assistance Programs, available in every state, advocate for people seeking rehabilitation services, including Vocational Rehabilitation. To find your local office, visit the NDRN website at <https://www.ndrn.org/about/ndrn-member-agencies/>.

Sources: Social Security Administration, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, National Disability Rights Network, Institute for Community Inclusion.

Need to talk to someone?

Our Information Specialists are available to answer your questions.

Call toll-free 1-800-539-7309 Mon-Fri, 7 am-8 pm EST.

Or schedule a call or ask a question online at

<https://www.ChristopherReeve.org/Ask>.

Resources for Vocational Rehabilitation:

Institute for Community Inclusion: Getting the Most from the Public Vocational Rehabilitation System

https://scholarworks.umb.edu/ici_toolsforinclusion/5/

This 2004 report provides a still-current overview of how Vocational Rehabilitation programs work.

Job Accommodation Network: State Vocational Rehabilitation Agencies

https://askjan.org/concerns/State-Vocational-Rehabilitation-Agencies.cfm?csSearch=17785764_1

This page lists contact information for every state's vocational rehabilitation office.

National Disability Rights Network

<https://www.ndrn.org/about/ndrn-member-agencies/>

This page provides a list of NDRN offices in every state.

Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Council: State Vocational Rehabilitation Programs

<https://parehabilitationcouncil.org/resources/national-and-state-rehabilitation-councils/>

This page provides links to state rehabilitation advisory councils.

Social Security Administration: Overview of the Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Program

<https://secure.ssa.gov/poms.nsf/lnx/0426520001>

This page offers an overview of the Vocational Rehabilitation program.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Veteran Readiness and Employment

<https://www.va.gov/careers-employment/vocational-rehabilitation/>

VR&E helps veterans living with service-connected disabilities prepare for, find, and maintain employment. This page describes the services provided and eligibility requirements for the program.

Vocational Rehabilitation Programs by State:

Alabama

Department of Rehabilitation Services

<https://www.rehab.alabama.gov/services/vr/vr>

Phone: 334-293-7500, 800-441-7607 (Toll-free)

Alaska

Department of Labor and Workforce Development

<http://www.labor.state.ak.us/dvr/home.htm>

Phone: 907-465-2814

Arizona

Arizona Vocational Rehabilitation

<https://des.az.gov/services/employment/arizona-rehabilitation-services>

Phone: 602-542-3332

Arkansas

Arkansas Rehabilitation Services Administration

<https://dws.arkansas.gov/ar-rehabilitation-services/>

Phone: 501-296-1600

California

Department of Rehabilitation

<https://www.dor.ca.gov/Home/EmploymentServices>

Phone: 916-324-1313, 800-952-5544 (Toll-Free)

Colorado

Colorado Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

<https://www.colorado.gov/dvr>

Phone: 303-318-8271

Connecticut

Connecticut Aging and Disability Services

<https://portal.ct.gov/AgingAndDisability>

Phone: 860-424-5055

Delaware

Delaware Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

<https://labor.delaware.gov/divisions/dvr//>

Phone: 302-761-8275

District of Columbia

District of Columbia Department on Disability Services

<https://dds.dc.gov/>

Phone: 202-730-1700

Email: dds@dc.gov

Florida

Florida Vocational Rehabilitation

<http://www.rehabworks.org/>

Phone: 850-245-3399, 800-451-4327 (Toll-Free)

Georgia

Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency

<https://qvra.georgia.gov/>

Phone: 404-232-1998; 844-367-4872

Hawaii

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

<http://humanservices.hawaii.gov/vr/>

Phone: 808-586-9729

Idaho

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

<https://vr.idaho.gov/>

Phone: 208-334-3390

Illinois

Illinois Department of Human Services, Office of Rehabilitation Services

<https://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=29764>

Phone: 800-843-6154

Email: DHS.ORS@illinois.gov

Indiana

Indiana Bureau of Disability Services

<http://www.in.gov/fssa/2328.htm>

Phone: 800-457-8283

Iowa

Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services

<http://www.ivrs.iowa.gov/>

Phone: 515-281-4211, 800-532-1486 (Toll-Free)

Kansas

Kansas Rehabilitation Services

<https://www.dcf.ks.gov/services/RS/Pages/Employment-Services.aspx>

Phone: 785-368-7471, 866-213-9079 (Toll-Free)

Kentucky

Kentucky Office of Vocational Rehabilitation

<https://kcc.ky.gov/Vocational-Rehabilitation/Pages/Kentucky-Office-of-Vocational-Rehabilitation.aspx>

Phone: 800-372-7172

Email: wfd.vocrehab@ky.org

Louisiana

Louisiana Workforce Commission

http://www.laworks.net/workforcedev/lrs/lrs_rehabilitation.asp

Phone: 225-342-3111, 800-259-5154 (Toll-Free)

Maine

Maine Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

<http://www.maine.gov/rehab/dvr/>

Phone: 800-760-1573

Maryland

Maryland Department of Education, Division of Rehabilitation Services

<http://www.dors.state.md.us>

Phone: 410-554-9442, 888-554-0334 (Toll-Free)

Email: dors@maryland.gov

Massachusetts

Massachusetts Career Programs and Services

<http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/consumer/disability-services/vocational-rehab/>

Phone: 617-204-3600; 800-245-6543

Michigan

Michigan Rehabilitation Services

<https://www.michigan.gov/leo/bureaus-agencies/mrs>

Phone: 800-605-6722

Email: LEO-MRS-CustomerAssistance@michigan.gov

Minnesota

Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development

<https://mn.gov/deed/job-seekers/disabilities/>

Phone: 651-259-7366, 800-328-9095 (Toll-Free)

Email: DEED.CustomerService@state.mn.us

Mississippi

Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services

<https://www.mdrs.ms.gov/>

Phone: 800-443-1000

Missouri

Missouri Vocational Rehabilitation

<https://dese.mo.gov/adult-learning-rehabilitation-services/vocational-rehabilitation>

Phone: 573-751-4212

Montana

Montana Vocational Rehabilitation

<http://dphhs.mt.gov/detd/vocrehab>

Phone: 406-444-1710, 877-296-1197 (Toll-Free)

Email: vrinfo@mt.gov

Nebraska

Nebraska Vocational Rehabilitation

<http://vr.nebraska.gov/>

Phone: 402-471-3644, 877- 637-3422 (Toll-Free)

Nevada

Nevada Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation

<https://vrnevada.nv.gov/>

Phone: 702-486-5230 (Southern Nevada)

775-823-8100 (Northern Nevada)

New Hampshire

New Hampshire Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation

<https://www.education.nh.gov/vr>

Phone: 603-271-3471, 800-299-1647 (Toll-Free)

Email: Lisa.Hatz@doe.nh.gov

New Jersey

New Jersey Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services

<https://nj.gov/labor/career-services/>

Phone: 609-292-5987

Email: dvradmin@dol.state.nj.us

New Mexico

New Mexico Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

www.dvr.state.nm.us

Phone: 505-841-5600; 800-432-5868 (Toll-Free)

New York

New York ACCES-VR

<http://www.acces.nysed.gov/vr/>

Phone: 518-474-3852; 800-222-5627 (Toll-Free)

North Carolina

North Carolina Employment and Independence for People with Disabilities

<https://www.ncdhhs.gov/eipd>

Phone: 919-855-3500, 800-689-9090 (Toll-Free)

North Dakota

North Dakota Vocational Rehabilitation

<https://www.nd.gov/dhs/dvr/>

Phone: 701-328-8950, 800-755-2745 (Toll-Free)

Email: dhsvr@nd.gov

Ohio

Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities

<https://ood.ohio.gov/home>

Phone: 614-438-1242, 800-282-4536 (Toll-Free)

Oklahoma

Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services

<https://www.okdrs.gov/guide/drs-vr>

Phone: 405-951-3400, 800-845-8476 (Toll-Free)

Email: info@okdrs.gov

Oregon

State of Oregon Vocational Rehabilitation

<https://www.oregon.gov/odhs/vr/pages/default.aspx>

Phone: 503-945-5880, 877-277-0513 (Toll-Free)

Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania Office of Vocational Rehabilitation

<https://www.pa.gov/services/dli/apply-for-vocational-rehabilitation-services.html>

Phone: 800-442-6351 (Toll-Free)

Email: ovrfeedback@pa.gov

Puerto Rico

Puerto Rico Administration of Vocational Rehabilitation

<https://www.arv.pr.gov/>

Phone: 787-729-0160

Email: comunicaciones@vra.gobierno.pr

Rhode Island

Rhode Island Office of Rehabilitation Services

<http://www.ors.ri.gov/VR.html>

Phone: 401-421-7005, 401-421-7016 (TTY)

South Carolina

South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department

<http://www.scvrd.net/>

Phone: 803-896-6500, 800-832-7526 (Toll-Free)

Email: thescvrd@gmail.com

South Dakota

South Dakota Division of Rehabilitation Services

<https://dhs.sd.gov/en/rehabilitation-services>

Phone: 605-773-3195

Email: InfoRS@state.sd.us

Tennessee

Tennessee Vocational Rehabilitation

<http://www.tennessee.gov/humanservices/topic/vocational-rehabilitation>

Phone: 615-313-4891, 800-270-1349 (Toll-Free)

Texas

Texas Workforce Commission

<https://www.twc.texas.gov/jobseekers/vocational-rehabilitation-services>

Phone: 800-628-5115 (Toll-Free)

Email: customers@twc.state.tx.us

Utah

Utah Workforce Services Rehabilitation

<https://jobs.utah.gov/usor/vr/index.html>

Phone: [866-454-8397](tel:866-454-8397) (Toll-Free)

Vermont

Vermont Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

<http://vocrehab.vermont.gov/>

Phone: 866-879-6757 (Toll-Free)

Virginia

Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services

<http://www.vadars.org>

Phone: 804-662-7000, 800-552-5019 (Toll-Free)

Email: dars@dars.virginia.gov

Washington

Washington Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

<http://www.dshs.wa.gov/dvr/>

Phone: 360-397-0002

West Virginia

West Virginia Division of Rehabilitation Services

<http://www.wvdrs.org/>

Phone: 304-356-2060, 800-642-8207 (Toll-Free)

Wisconsin

Wisconsin Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

<https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dvr/>

Phone: 608-266-3131, 800-442-3477 (Toll-Free)

Email: dvr@dwd.wisconsin.gov

Wyoming

Wyoming Vocational Rehabilitation

<https://dws.wyo.gov/dws-division/vocational-rehabilitation/>

Phone 307-777-8960

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