



State Board of Education

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January 27, 2023

Hello,

This letter is intended to provide you and your family with information on services available through the Florida Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR). VR is a State agency assisting individuals with disabilities to obtain and maintain employment. VR works to connect with students 14 and older receiving IEP/504 plan services to offer services that will empower students to explore career options and gain work skills. Services VR can provide are self-advocacy skills, job readiness skills (interviewing skills, resume writing, etc.), exploring post-secondary options, work-based learning experiences and additional services based upon the student's unique needs.

Any student 14 and older receiving IEP/504 plan services is eligible to receive services from VR. By accessing VR services early, students have ample time to participate in these services prior to graduation. VR Counselors are connected with your student's school and work with school staff to share information about VR services in order for referrals to be sent to VR; which is one way the process gets started. Students and families can also contact VR directly to initiate services. VR services can take place while your student is enrolled in high school and may continue after high school as they transition to their next chapter. Our goal is to stay connected with students until they obtain gainful employment.

We have attached a flyer about our service offerings and would welcome additional contact from you and your family to answer any questions you might have or to complete a referral form to move forward with services.

Please contact our office at 813-233-3600 to be directed to the VR Counselor covering your high school or to speak with the Supervisor, Jennifer McKenzie.

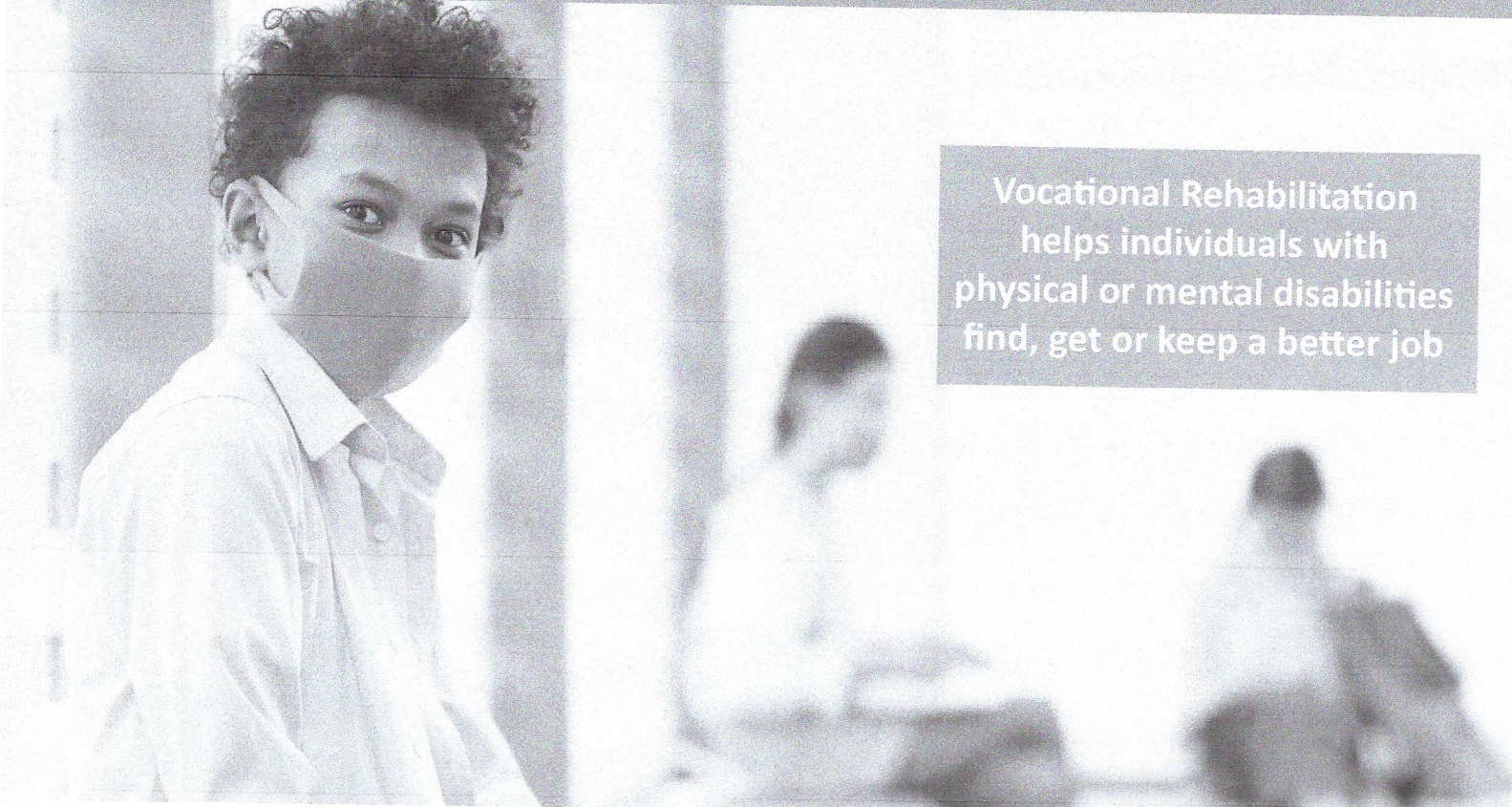
We look forward to hearing from you soon!

Sincerely,

Jennifer McKenzie
Vocational Rehabilitation Supervisor

Brent McNeal
Director, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

Pre-Employment Transition Services



Vocational Rehabilitation
helps individuals with
physical or mental disabilities
find, get or keep a better job

The Florida Department of Education, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) works together with students, families, schools and community agencies and organizations to provide services that promote successful transitions from school to work and into adult life.

What is Pre-Employment Transition Services?

Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) offer students with disabilities an early start at career exploration and preparation for adult life.

Beginning at age 14, students with disabilities can connect with VR for Pre-ETS. VR works with students, their families, their schools and community partners to enrich transition planning and support students with gaining knowledge and experiences necessary so they may make informed decisions about their future.

Under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act (WIOA), every student (ages 14-21) with a disability has the opportunity to participate in Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS). This includes:

- Job-exploration counseling
- Work readiness training
- Work-based learning experience
- Postsecondary educational counseling, and
- Self-advocacy training and peer mentoring

Students with disabilities may participate in Pre-ETS without having to apply to VR or be determined eligible for services. The focus is to develop work skills, practice social skills and acquire a network of community supports while the student is still in high school.

Who Can Participate in Pre-Employment Transition Services?

Students with disabilities ages 14-21 who are currently enrolled in school.

What are the Pre-Employment Transition Services?

Pre-ETS include job exploration, workplace-readiness training, work-based learning experiences, training on self-advocacy (e.g., youth peer mentoring) and postsecondary educational counseling.

Pre-Employment Transition Services



Job Exploration

Explores career path options that are best suited to your skills, abilities, aptitudes and interests.



Workplace-Readiness Training

Focuses on employability and related skills that prepare you to work. Resume writing, mock interviews, and searching and applying for jobs are part of this training.



Work-based Learning Experiences

Provides practical exposure to different careers and hands-on training for employability skills. These experiences focus on practicing social skills and building relationships.



Self-Advocacy Training and Peer Mentoring

Teaches you how to talk about your needs and make decisions about your own life to become more independent.



Postsecondary Educational Counseling

Provides information about continuing education options, school choice, accessing financial aid, etc.

How Does a Student Access Pre-Employment Transition Services?

Students can contact a VR office or request a referral from their school.

Contact Vocational Rehabilitation



850-245-3399
800-451-4327



VRTransitionYouth@
vr.fldoe.org



www.RehabWorks.org



Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
Transition Youth Services
4070 Esplanade Way, 2nd Floor
Tallahassee, FL 32399-7016

The Florida Department of Education, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) is an equal opportunity employer. It is against the law for VR as a recipient of Federal financial assistance to discriminate against any individual in the United States on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, political affiliation or belief. The application process used by VR to determine eligibility for services, any subsequent services and the entire VR process are subject to these non-discrimination requirements. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. VR program receives 78.7 percent of its funding through a grant from the U.S. Department of Education. For the 2020 Federal fiscal year, the total amount of grant funds awarded were \$153,000,001. The remaining 21.3 percent of the costs (\$41,409,148) were funded by Florida State Appropriations. Revised October 2020.

Desarrollando Carreras Una Persona a la Vez

A black and white photograph showing a woman standing and smiling while assisting a man in a wheelchair. The man is sitting at a desk, looking at a computer monitor. The woman is leaning over his shoulder, pointing at the screen. The background shows a modern office or training facility with large windows and other people working.

La División de Rehabilitación Vocacional (RV) del Departamento de Educación de Florida ayuda a las personas elegibles con discapacidades físicas o mentales a encontrar, obtener o mantener un mejor trabajo.

Servicios de Rehabilitación Vocacional

RV ofrece una variedad de servicios que ayudarán a las personas con discapacidad física o mental a encontrar carreras significativas.

Ejemplos de servicios de RV:

- Evaluación y Preparación Vocacional
- Asesoramiento y Orientación Profesional
- Entrenamiento Laboral
- Colocación Laboral
- Capacitación en el trabajo
- Entrenamiento y Educación después de la escuela secundaria
- Evaluación y Acomodaciones en el lugar de trabajo
- Empleo Apoyado y Personalizado
- Tecnología y Dispositivos de Asistencia
- Evaluación Médica y Psicológica
- Tratamiento Médico y/o Psicológico por tiempo limitado

¿Quién es elegible para los servicios de Rehabilitación Vocacional?

Puede ser elegible para los servicios de RV si su objetivo es ser empleado y:

- Tiene una discapacidad física o mental.
- Su discapacidad resulta en un obstáculo significativo para el empleo.
- Necesita servicios de RV para obtener o mantener un trabajo.

Si recibe Seguro Social por Incapacidad (SSDI, por sus siglas en inglés) o Seguridad de Ingreso Suplementario (SSI, por sus siglas en inglés) por su discapacidad y piensa trabajar, se presume que es elegible para los servicios de RV.



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
fldoe.org

VR
Vocational
Rehabilitation

Servicios y Programas de Rehabilitación Vocacional



Servicios de transición previa al empleo

Ayuda a los estudiantes con discapacidades a prepararse para una carrera, continuar su educación o encontrar empleo después de la secundaria. Los estudiantes tienen la oportunidad de participar en orientación profesional, capacitación en preparación para trabajar y experiencias de trabajo integrado mientras están matriculados en la escuela.



Servicios generales de empleo

Los servicios generales de empleo ayudan a una persona con una discapacidad a prepararse para, obtener, mantener o recuperar un empleo consistente con sus fortalezas, capacidades e intereses (por ejemplo, orientación y asesoramiento, capacitación, servicios de colocación).



Servicios de empleo apoyado

Ayuda a los jóvenes o adultos con las discapacidades más significativas a encontrar, obtener o mantener un mejor trabajo. Los servicios son individualizados y consistentes con las fortalezas, habilidades, intereses únicos y la elección informada del individuo. Hay una variedad de servicios de apoyo disponibles (por ejemplo, entrenamiento de trabajo, capacitación de adquisición de habilidades).



Boleto para trabajar

El programa de la Administración de Seguro Social (SSA) está disponible para los floridanos de entre 18 y 64 años que califican para los beneficios del seguro social y desean trabajar. Los boletos son emitidos por la SSA y pueden llevarse a cualquier red de empleo participante de la red tal como RV. Estos participantes ofrecen trabajos y servicios de rehabilitación para ayudar a los titulares de boletos a encontrar, obtener o mantener un mejor trabajo y mejorar su independencia mientras mantienen su Medicare o Medicaid. Este programa es gratuito y voluntario.



Sordo, Discapacidad Auditiva y Sordociego

RV proporciona servicios a personas elegibles con pérdida auditiva, incluida incluyendo a las personas sordas, con problemas de audición o sordociegos. RV ofrece asistencia, apoyo y capacitación en habilidades para el individuo. RV también ofrece consultas a los empleadores para ayudar a las personas encontrar, obtener o mantener un mejor trabajo.

¿Cómo solicitar?

- Contacte una oficina local de Rehabilitación Vocacional por teléfono, correo electrónico o en persona.
- Visite Rehabworks.org en <http://www.rehabworks.org/docs/VRreferral.rtf>. Complete el referido y envíelo a su oficina local.
- Encuentre su oficina local en http://www.rehabworks.org/office_directory.shtml.
- Envíe por correo electrónico o fax su referido a su oficina local.

Contacto de Rehabilitación Vocacional



850-245-3399
800-451-4327



VREmploymentPrograms@
vr.fldoe.org



www.RehabWorks.org



Florida Department of Education
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
Employment Programs
325 W. Gaines St., Suite 1144
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0400

La División de Rehabilitación Vocacional (RV) del Departamento de Educación de Florida es un empleador que ofrece igualdad de oportunidades. Es contra la ley que RV como beneficiario de asistencia federal discrimine contra cualquier persona en los Estados Unidos por motivos de raza, color, religión, sexo, origen nacional, edad, discapacidad, afiliación política o creencia. El proceso de solicitud utilizado por RV para determinar la elegibilidad para servicios, los servicios posteriores y el proceso entero de RV son sujetos a estos requisitos de no discriminación. Las ayudas y servicios auxiliares están disponibles a pedido a las personas con discapacidades. El programa RV recibe 78.7 por ciento de su financiamiento a través de una subvención del Departamento de Educación de los EE. UU. Para el año fiscal federal 2021 el monto total de los fondos de la subvención otorgados fue de \$176,836,896. El restante 21.3 por ciento de los costos (\$47,860,557) fueron financiados por las Apropriaciones del estado de Florida. Revisado en octubre de 2021.