



What Is Vocational Rehabilitation?

MRC's Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Program helps individuals with disabilities to get and keep a job.

MRC's Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Program helps individuals with disabilities to get and keep a job. VR helps people with physical, psychiatric and/or learning disabilities face the modern workplace. This may include identifying job goals based on your interests and skills, help to explore college and vocational training and help to keep a job. Vocational rehabilitation services can often reduce or remove barriers to employment. Priority is given to individuals who have the most severe disabilities in areas such as communication, mobility, work tolerance and work skills. The VR Program is funded by the federal government while being administered through state government.

Am I eligible for VR?

You may be eligible for VR services if you have a physical or mental impairment that is a large barrier to employment. You must want to work, be eligible to work and need VR services to train, find or keep a job.

VR Services

Following is a list of many (but not all) of the VR services MRC provides. Many services are subject to financial eligibility. Since every person has different goals and needs, you may need only some of these services:

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- Interest and Aptitude Testing
- Job Placement Assistance
- Diagnostic Evaluations
- College or Vocational Training
- Assistive and/or Rehabilitation Technology
- School to Work
- Employer Consultation
- Communication Access Services (ASL Interpreters, Oral Transliterators, Communication Access Real-time Translation (CART))

The VR Process

Getting Started

MRC VR staff will outline available services when you attend a group orientation or schedule an individual appointment. To ask about an orientation at the VR office nearest you, click on the offices link below. If you are interested in getting services, a VR counselor will arrange to meet with you. At the first meeting, you and your VR counselor will discuss your employment interests and job related goals.

Eligibility for VR Services

Eligibility Information is gathered from:

- Current schools
- Physicians
- Therapists
- Hospital and other medical records
- Self report
- Social Security Administration
- Psychological or Neurological Evaluation

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Your Individual Plan for Employment (IPE) is developed by you and your counselor. After gathering information, you and your counselor decide on a realistic, time limited vocational plan and map it out on paper.

Job Searching

To be successful you will need to be an active participant in looking for a job. Following are examples of resources available during your job search:

- Resume Preparation
- Job Seeking Skills Training
- Electronic Job Hunting
- Interview Skills Training
- Job Leads
- Job Placement Help
- Hiring Events
- Local Business Partnerships
- On the job training and evaluations

Post-Employment Services

MRC's VR Program will provide you with support, advocacy and follow-up services for at least 90 days after you get a job. You may be eligible to receive post-employment services 90 days after you get a job and your case is closed.

Additional Resources

VR offices and locations <https://www.mass.gov/vocational-rehabilitation/locations>

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