Services Available from DVR

DVR offers a variety of services to help you prepare for, get, and keep a job. The services you use depend on your individual needs and circumstances. DVR can provide you with the information necessary to assist you in deciding which services you need to reach your job goal. These include:

Assessment services to measure your strengths, capabilities, work skills, and interests and assist you in selecting a job goal and the DVR support services you need to reach that goal.

Benefit planning services to help you understand how working could impact disability cash or medical benefits (e.g. Supplemental Security Income or Social Security Disability Insurance) that you receive.

Counseling and guidance services provided throughout the rehabilitation process to help you make good decisions about how to reach your goal.

Independent living services to help you understand disability challenges that prevent you from working. These include, but are not limited to:

- Training in self-care
- Money management
- Using public transportation

Assistive technology services to help you remove communication and/or physical barriers that may stop you from getting and keeping the job you want. These may include such devices as hearing aids, visual aids, or special computer software. You can explore with your counselor how technology might help you reach your employment goal.

Training or education to help you build skills and meet job qualifications.

Job placement services to help you carry out your job search, including:

- Assistance completing job applications
- Developing a resume
- Practicing interview skills, and identifying job leads

Mission

Transforming lives by assisting individuals with disabilities to fully participate in their communities through meaningful employment.

Vision

Dedicated professionals leading the field of vocational rehabilitation, delivering exceptional experiences to every customer, every time.

Values

- **Transparency** through clear, honest communication with customers, staff, and partners
- Acting with **Integrity**, upholding the ethics and values of our profession
- Promoting a culture of **Empowerment** for customers and staff
- Advancing rehabilitation practices through **Innovation**
- **Collaboration** with customers, staff, and partners that produces results
- Committed to **Diversity**, **Equity**, and **Inclusion** in all its forms to achieve excellence

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Providing DVR Services Since 1933

State and Federal funds are used to deliver DVR services. The VR program receives approximately 78 percent in Federal funds and 22 percent in State funds. For detailed information on the dollar amount of Federal funds for the program, please visit https://rsa.ed.gov/programs.cfm?pc=basic-vr&sub=awards.

DSHS 22-827 (Rev. 1/20)

Employ Your Abilities

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

Washington State Department of Social & Health Services

Transforming lives

Is DVR right for you?

About DVR

DVR is a statewide resource assisting people with disabilities to prepare for, secure, maintain, advance in, or regain employment. DVR partners with organizations and businesses to develop employment opportunities.

Who DVR serves

People who seek meaningful, secure employment but whose disabilities may result in one or more barriers to achieving an employment goal.

DVR can help you go to work

DVR staff will help you get the information you need to make a good decision about:

- What type of job you want
- Steps needed to reach your job goal

With support from DVR, you will:

- Design and carry out a step-by-step plan to reach your employment goal

The Rehabilitation Process

Application

- DVR will provide you with information about vocational rehabilitation services.
- You must complete an application with DVR before services can begin.
- Your application will be reviewed by a DVR counselor to determine if you are eligible for DVR services.

Eligibility

You are eligible for DVR services if you:

- Have a physical, mental, or sensory disability that results in a barrier to employment;
- You require vocational rehabilitation services to get or keep a job; and
- You are capable of working as a result of receiving DVR services.

Your DVR counseling team collects records to document your identity, disability, and work status. If no records about your disability exist, you may need to complete medical examinations or tests to verify or support eligibility.

Waiting List

If DVR cannot serve every eligible individual because of funding limitations, it must establish a waiting list for services. By law, DVR must prioritize services to individuals with the most significant disabilities.

Individuals will be selected from the waiting list based on the significance of their disability and the date they applied for services. A DVR counselor will determine the significance of disability and priority category and notify you of this determination as part of the eligibility process.

Vocational Assessment

You and your DVR counselor explore types of jobs that match your vocational assessment. You will review:

- Your strengths, abilities and interests;
- Your work history and skills; and
- Information about local job-market trends.

Or you may complete:

- Interests and/or aptitude tests; or
- Job tryouts.

Plan for Employment

Your DVR counselor offers ongoing counseling and guidance to support you in the development of your Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE). This includes:

- Selecting a job goal;
- Outlining what steps and services you need to reach your job goal; and
- Working on the activities outlined in your plan. These may include:
  - Training and education
  - Conducting a job search
  - Researching job-related resources and referrals
  - Job-search training
  - Resume and interview techniques
  - Job-placement assistance
  - Support in keeping a job

Successfully Employed

- After you get a job, DVR will maintain contact with you for at least 90 days to ensure the job is a good match.
- After 90 days, if you are doing well on the job and no other services are needed, you and your DVR counselor will decide when to close your case.

Post Employment

- If you need help after your case has been closed and you are successfully employed, DVR can open your case again and provide assistance to help you keep your job..
- If you lose your job, DVR can assist you with applying for DVR services again and can help you find a similar job.