Rehabilitation Services and Employment – It's What We Do



Who We Are

DRS is comprised of five program divisions which operate dozens of programs that help Oklahomans lead more independent and productive lives.



Vocational Rehabilitation



Visual Services



Disability Determination Services



Oklahoma School for the Blind



Jazz Band



Oklahoma School for the Deaf





























Key Club



Why Contact Vocational Rehabilitation or Visual Services?

- VR and VS provide services to:
 - Persons with disabilities who may have ability to pursue employment
 - Those who, due to the severity of their disability, may benefit from rehabilitation services in terms of increased participation in home or community activities

Preparing for the Initial Interview

- Complete the application to the best of ability
- Bring the signed medical release form with physicians listed, or
- Bring medical documentation of disability
- For Transition: IEP and educational evaluation
- For Adults: work and educational history

What to Expect at the Initial Interview

- Discuss social history
- Gather employment history
- Discuss employment goal
- Discuss outlook for that employment goal O*NET
- Discuss barriers to employment

Who is Eligible?



- All individuals with a documented disability
 - Who have a desire to work, and
 - Who will benefit from the services we provide

From Application to eligibility, time frame is 60 days.

1. Analysis of Impediments



2. Analysis of Skills, Abilities, and Knowledge



3. Resources Available



4. Justification of Goal and Services



5. Financial Status Determination



Priority Group Assignments Priority Group 1.

Eligible individuals with the most significant barrier to employment. A most significant barrier is one that includes a mental or physical disability resulting in serious limitations in three or more functional capacities and can be expected to require multiple services over an extended period of time

Priority Group Assignments Priority Group 2.

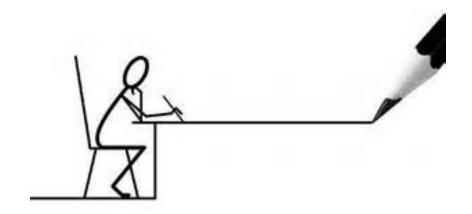
Eligible individuals with significant barriers resulting in serious limitations in at least one, but not more than two, functional capacities and can be expected to require multiple services over an extended period of time.

Priority Group Assignments Priority Group 3.

Eligible individuals with disabilities not meeting the definition of individual with a significant barrier.

Individualized Plan of Employment

- Completed within 60-90 days of eligibility determination
- Services may begin after the IPE is signed by the job seeker and approved by DRS



What's in a Plan?

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Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services

Individualized Plan for Employment

 Participant
 Participant ID
 103688

 Caseload
 VR-429
 Case ID
 124199

1. General Information

Plan Number 4

Signature/Start Date 04/29/2015

Primary Staff at Start

Expected Plan End Date 12/2018

Employment Goal Registered Nurse

Reason for Selecting my Employment Goal

I explored options and feel this is a good choice.

It matches my interests, abilities and strengths.

The job outlook for this type of work is good.

2. Planned Services

Description Estimated Start Date Estimated End Date

1 Counseling and Guidance 07/2013 12/2018

Vocational counseling and guidance provided by VR counselor.

My Chosen Provider DRS

Comparable Benefits

No items selected

Outcome Date

Description Estimated Start Date Estimated End Date

2 College/University Training, Direct Tuition 08/2013 School 05/2017

Tuition, fees, and books paid first by Pell or other free grant monies. DRS may assist after all comparable benefits and any income surplus has been exhausted.

My Chosen Provider Seminole State College/East Central University

Comparable Benefits

Goal Development

- Job seeker is a full contributor
- Based on information which includes medical, vocational and psychological evaluations
- Consistent with the comprehensive assessment
- Consistent with the job seeker's informed choice

Counselor's Role in Plan Development

- Counselors serve as facilitators of plan development in the following ways:
 - Explain rehabilitation and the VR process
 - Understand and facilitate informed choice
 - Provide information regarding rehabilitation resources and current labor market trends

Job Seeker's Role in Plan Development

This is a collaboration or team effort between job seeker and/or job seeker's family and counselor. This includes:

- The selection of the employment outcome
- VR services and service providers
- Service and employment settings and methods for procuring services

Employment Success!



DRS considers an individual to be successfully employed when they have been on the job for 90 days or more.

Post-employment Services

- Offered to Successfully Rehabilitated Individuals
 - To retain employment
 - To regain employment
 - To advance in employment only when the nature of the individual's impediment to employment makes advancement the most appropriate postemployment outcome consistent with strengths, resources, abilities...
- Any VR services, but not comprehensive VR effort

How to Contact DRS

Go to okdrs.gov for local listings, or

• Call 1-800-487-4042