

What is Vocational Rehabilitation?

Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) is a federal-state program that works with people who have physical or mental disabilities to prepare for, gain or retain employment. VR is committed to helping people with disabilities find meaningful careers.

Who May be Eligible for VR Services?

You may be eligible for VR services if you have a goal to become employed and meet the following criteria:

- Your physical or mental disability interferes with your ability to become employed.
- VR's help is necessary for you to prepare for, gain or retain employment.

If you receive Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) for your disability, you are presumed eligible for VR services if you intend to become employed.

What is Financial Participation?

VR will look at the income of eligible individuals to determine if they will be required to share in the cost of vocational rehabilitation services. Some individuals or services may be exempt, and a person will not be required to pay toward the cost of these services.

What is Order of Selection?

Under order of selection, all eligible individuals are placed on a prioritized waiting list based on the significance of their disability. Federal law requires that individuals with the most significant disabilities be served first.

Examples of VR Services:

- Medical and Psychological Assessment
- Vocational Evaluation and Planning
- Career Counseling and Guidance
- Training and Education After High School
- Job-Site Assessment & Accommodations
- Job Placement
- Job Coaching
- On-the-Job Training
- Supported Employment
- Hearing Aids/Assistive Technology
- Time-Limited Medical and/or Psychological Treatment

How can VR help an Individual with Hearing Loss?

VR has counselors who are specially trained to understand the needs and abilities of people who are Deaf or hard of hearing. For a listing of VR offices that serve individuals with hearing loss, please contact the VR headquarters office at (850) 245-3399 (Voice and TTY) or (800) 451-4327 (Voice and TTY), or visit the VR website at www.Rehabworks.org.



Hard of Hearing Services

Individuals who are hard of hearing or who experience hearing loss over time have unique needs in both adjusting to their hearing loss and in maintaining their jobs. VR counselors are trained to assist individuals who are hard of hearing by providing services to address hearing loss issues in the workplace, as well as guidance and counseling on how to cope with their hearing loss.



Deaf Services

VR has offices throughout the state to meet the unique needs of individuals who are Deaf, including designated offices with counselors who use American Sign Language (ASL). Other counselors may use the support of VR staff interpreters or hire community interpreters if their office is without one on staff. In addition, VR can provide interpreting services for job interviews and may provide basic sign language classes to new employers and co-workers or training on how to communicate with those who are Deaf.

**For More Information,
Contact:**

2002 Old Saint Augustine Road, Bldg. A
Tallahassee, Florida 32301-4862
(850) 245-3399 (Voice and TTY)
(800) 451-4327 (Voice and TTY)
www.Rehabworks.org
www.FLJobConnections.com



An equal opportunity employer/program. It is against the law for the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) of the Florida Department of Education, 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. All voice telephone numbers on this document may be reached by persons using TTY/TDD equipment or via the Florida Relay Service at 711.

The Department of Education Division of Vocational Rehabilitation is a proud partner in Florida's Next Generation Strategic Plan for education.

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Deaf and Hard of Hearing Resources

The Florida Coordinating Council for
the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
www.fccdhh.org

Florida Telecommunications Relay Inc.
www.ftri.org

Florida Association of the Deaf
www.fadcentral.org

Florida Registry of Interpreters
for the Deaf
www.fridcentral.com

Florida Independent Living Program
www.rehabworks.org/IL

Florida School for the Deaf
and the Blind
www.fsdb.k12.fl.us

Deaf Service Center Association
www.fldsca.org

Hearing Loss Association of America
www.hearingloss.org

Association of Late-Deafened Adults
www.alda.org

Helen Keller National Center
www.hknc.org

Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf
www.rid.org

National Association of Deaf
www.nad.org



Vocational Rehabilitation
FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Helping People with Hearing Loss