STAR Program Training
For School Districts
STAR Program Training for School Districts

• STAR Program Introduction
• New VR Role
• School District Roles and Responsibilities
• Navigation through the STAR Program Portal
• Making STAR Program Referrals through the STAR Web Form
Pre-Employment Transition Services

Provide:
• Soft skills
• Appropriate behaviors
• Hands-on work experiences

Leading to:
• Career pathways
• Skills for the 21st Century workforce

Under WIOA, VR is able to serve Youth with disabilities:
• Without requiring an application
• Without requiring eligibility
Pre-Employment Transition Services

• **Career Exploration Counseling** – which includes skills, abilities, aptitudes, interest assessments, and postsecondary options

• **Work Readiness Training** – which is a 20 hour course that focuses on employability and work-readiness skills

• **Community-Based Work Experiences** – which include hands-on training for employability skills

• **Self-Advocacy Training** – which is a product-driven 2-part course that teaches students how to speak up for themselves and make decisions about their own lives.
# Pre-Employment Transition Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Career Exploration Counseling</th>
<th>Work Readiness Training</th>
<th>Community-Based Work Experiences</th>
<th>Self-Advocacy Training</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Providing insight through:</td>
<td>Teaches students to:</td>
<td>Allows students to:</td>
<td>Focusses on:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aptitude Assessments</td>
<td>Write a resume</td>
<td>Apply and practice soft and social skills</td>
<td>Self-awareness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest Assessments</td>
<td>Interview properly</td>
<td>Gain an idea of work</td>
<td>Understanding your rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comprehensive Vocational Evaluation</td>
<td>Search and apply for jobs online</td>
<td>Develop work skills</td>
<td>Setting goals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On-the-Job Evaluation</td>
<td>Find and complete job applications</td>
<td>Build relationships</td>
<td>Requesting reasonable accommodations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discovery I</td>
<td>Manage employers contacts</td>
<td>Identify work accommodations</td>
<td>Becoming career ready</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discovery II</td>
<td>Handle conflict</td>
<td>Acquire job references</td>
<td>Developing an action plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postsecondary options</td>
<td>Navigate public transportation</td>
<td></td>
<td>Learning to advocate for yourself</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Review employee benefits, if needed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
STAR Program Participation Requirements

- Ages **15 through 21**
- In **high school** or
- Pursuing a **postsecondary education or training** (trade school, college, university)
- Must have an **IEP** or **504 Plan**
- Not a current VR applicant or customer
Youth Services Are Available Until A STAR Participant:

- Is no longer interested in receiving STAR Services
- Exits secondary and is not pursuing postsecondary education
- Exits postsecondary education or training program
- Applies to VR for additional services
The STAR Participant

Self-Directed
• Postsecondary education or training
• Supported employment
• Time-limited treatment

Requiring Supports
• Job placement assistance
• Employment related Assistive technology and devices
• Transportation
STAR Program Page

RehabWorks.org

STAR Program

Under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), Pre-Employment Transition Services must be offered to students with disabilities without requiring them to apply for, or be determined eligible for, these services.

WIOA established VR as the primary agency for preparing youth with disabilities for employment while the youth are still in high school or attending post-secondary school (trade, college, or university). VR will deliver specific Pre-Employment Transition Services including:

- Career Exploration Counseling
- Work Readiness Training
- Community-Based Work Experiences
- Self-Advocacy

The students are not traditional VR customers, but have been referred to VR by school districts for limited (pre-employment) services.

Building Careers for Transition Students

This brochure includes information about traditional VR and the STAR Program, so you can select the program that’s right for you. Both offer pre-employment transition services that will prepare you for your new career.

Building Careers for Transition Students (PDF)
Building Careers for Transition Students (RTF)
Construyendo Carreras Para Alumnos de Transición (PDF)
Construyendo Carreras Para Alumnos de Transición (RTF)

STAR Referral Portal
Coming Soon!
The STAR Users: New VR Role and Responsibilities

VR Youth Tech

• Request services in STAR
• Liaison between VR and School
• Meet regularly with School District Representatives
  • Referral Consultation
  • Technical Assistance
STAR Portal
Introduction
Star.RehabWorks.org
STAR Portal Introduction
Star.RehabWorks.org
The STAR Users: School District Roles and Responsibilities

• Points of Contact (POC)
• School District Representatives (SDR)
The District Point of Contact

Points of Contact - “technical” liaisons between the schools and VR

• Create and troubleshoot user accounts for School District Representatives
The School District Representative

- **School District Representatives** - refer students within their schools for STAR services
- Identifies students with implemented IEPs and 504 Plans
- Provides STAR Program information to students and parents/guardians
  - Brochure
  - Website
  - Contact information for local office or Sheila Ward
- Obtains signatures on Parent Permission to Make an Agency Referral
- Enter and submit STAR Services Web Form (Referral) for each student

*If you are unsure if STAR is the right program for a particular student, contact your local office prior to submitting the STAR Referral.*
The Point of Contact Dashboard on STAR Web Portal

- How many users currently have registered in your district?
- Create a NEW user account.
- Edit or delete an existing user.
Registering New School District Representatives (User Accounts)
Editing School District Representatives (User Accounts)
The STAR (Referral) Web Form for School District Representatives
The STAR (Referral) Web Form for School District Representatives
The Student Tab of the STAR (Referral) Web Form
The School Tab of the STAR (Referral) Web Form
The Accommodations Tab of the STAR (Referral) Web Form
The Services Tab of the STAR (Referral) Web Form

This referral is only a request for the services you may select below. Please select at least one from the following services that may be available.

- **Career Exploration Counseling:** Includes skills, abilities, aptitudes, interest assessments, and postsecondary counseling.
- **Work Readiness Training:** A 20-hour course that focuses on employability and work-readiness skills.
- **Community Based Work Experiences:** Includes hands-on training for employability skills.
- **Self-Advocacy:** A two-part course that teaches students how to speak up for themselves and make decisions about their own lives.
The Confirmations Tab of the STAR (Referral) Web Form
The “Action” buttons of the STAR (Referral) Web Form
The STAR (Referral) Web Form User Guide
User Registration
Star.RehabWorks.org
The STAR Referral Process

• Revisit the VR Referral Process
• Incorporate STAR Referrals
• Meet regularly to provide progress updates

VR and School District VR Referral Process

This document is designed to assist both parties in understanding what is happening through the process.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Responsibility</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Communicate updated staff names and contact information.</td>
<td>VR Staff and School District Point Person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schedule a meeting in each district to include school district staff, school point person and VR to review process and to discuss calendar of events happening where VR should be present.</td>
<td>VR Staff and School District Point Person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identify students with disabilities (who have IEP or 504 Plan) or suspected disability who may need services and connect them with VR at the age of 15 and beyond.</td>
<td>School Point Person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact the student and parent getting permission to refer student to VR. Obtain a written release and waiver from the parent (or age of majority student) authorizing the school district to connect the student with the appropriate agency and share documents.</td>
<td>School point Person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Documents must include required signatures.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact VR Staff to provide IEP meeting dates or months that IEP meetings will occur.</td>
<td>School District Point Person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schedule time each month for VR staff to have access to office space to meet with school transition team, students and families. Send written parent/student notice/invite.</td>
<td>School District Point Person and VR Staff</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Thank You!

For STAR Program Assistance
Sheila Ward, M.ED.
800-451-4327
VRTransitionYouth@vr.fldoe.org