Becoming a VR Customer

Vocational Rehabilitation helps individuals with disabilities find meaningful employment.

If you are a person with a disability looking to find, maintain or advance in a career, Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) may be able to help you. VR is a division of Florida’s Department of Education whose mission is to assist people with disabilities, ages 14 and older, in securing competitive, integrated employment.

Who is eligible for VR services?

Eligibility is determined on a person-by-person basis by a VR counselor. To be eligible for VR services, you must have a physical and/or mental disability which causes a significant barrier to employment and need VR services to get, keep or advance in a job or career. If you receive Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) for your disability and plan to become employed, you are presumed eligible for VR services.
What kinds of services can VR provide?

- Assistive Technology and Devices
- Career Counseling and Guidance
- Job Coaching & Placement
- Job-Site Assessment and Accommodations
- Medical and Psychological Assessment
- On-the-Job Training
- Pre-Employment Transition Services
- Supported and Customized Employment Services
- Time-Limited Medical and/or Psychological Treatment
- Training and Education after High School
- Vocational Evaluation and Planning

What does it cost to participate?

VR counselors discuss financial participation with customers during their first visit. Many VR services are free but some services require a participant to share some of the service cost.

How can I apply?

Contact your local VR office to submit a referral form. You can find your local office at RehabWorks.org.

Steps in the Rehabilitation Process

01 Referral to VR
You can be referred for VR services by anyone- including yourself! Once you have completed a referral for services, VR will contact you.
02 Application for VR services
Once you have decided that VR is right for you, VR staff will help you complete an application for services.

03 Eligibility decision
Your counselor will learn more about how your disability affects your ability to work and decide if you meet the eligibility requirements.

04 Possible wait list
VR prioritizes assistance based on the significance of disability so some eligible customers may have to wait for services.

05 Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE)
Your IPE is like a road map to employment. It includes your job goal and the services you need to reach that goal.

06 Participation in services
After signing your IPE, it’s time to participate in the services that will prepare you for work.

07 Job Placement
Your VR counselor will work with vendors to find available jobs that match your goal and provide the support you need to be successful.

08 Case Closure
After you have worked for at least 90 days, you and your counselor will discuss next steps before closing your case with VR.
The Florida Department of Education, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) is an equal opportunity employer. It is against the law for VR 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. VR program receives 78.7 percent of its funding through a grant from the U.S. Department of Education. For the 2021 Federal fiscal year, the total amount of grant funds awarded were $176,521,122. The remaining 21.3 percent of the costs ($47,775,094) were funded by Florida State Appropriations. Revised October 2022.