Individuals with Hearing Loss

Vocational Rehabilitation helps individuals with disabilities find meaningful employment.

Vocational Rehabilitation (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. Through its services to individuals who are deaf, late-deafened, hard of hearing, or deafblind, VR upholds the philosophy that employment is possible for anyone when the right supports are in place.

For individuals with hearing loss, VR can assist eligible individuals with accommodations that enable you to communicate confidently during appointments with your VR counselor, during job interviews and while working. The goal is for you to be able to find and keep a job or select a career that will lead to enhanced independence.
Services available include:

- Sign language interpreters and/or assistive listening devices for job searches and interviews.
- A job coach to help you with a resume and job applications.
- Basic sign language classes for your coworkers.
- Training for employers on how to communicate with you.

Vocational Rehabilitation Partners

VR may refer you to a partner agency for additional services, such as the Agency for Persons with Disabilities, Career Source Florida, Division of Blind Services and local centers of independent living.

How to Apply

Call 850-245-3399 or Toll Free 800-431-4327. Tell the operator the name of the county where you live. You will be transferred to the nearest VR office. You may use Video Relay or Florida Relay 711. Call 850-245-3399 or Toll Free 800-431-4327. Tell the operator the name of the county where you live. You will be transferred to the nearest VR office. You may use Video Relay or Florida Relay 711.

Go online to Rehabworks.org to find the VR referral form and the VR Office Directory.
Online Resources

Association of Late-Deafened Adults
www.alda.org

Described and Captioned Media Program
www.dcmp.org

Florida Association of the Deaf
www.fadcentral.org

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

Florida Telecommunications Relay Inc.
www.ftri.org

Hearing Loss Association of America
www.hearingloss.org

Helen Keller National Center
www.hellenkeller.org

National Association of the Deaf
www.nad.org
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.