

## Transition Services Overview

Transition services involve a coordinated set of activities to promote movement from school to post-school activities. Those involved in the transition process include VR counselors and school staff who provide assistance and service to overcome vocational obstacles that confront students with disabilities. These services are provided through vocational rehabilitation intervention for the student's successful transition from school-to-work.

There are 19 rehabilitation counselors in Nevada who are assigned to provide transition assistance for students either full-time or part-time. Counselors and support staff are assigned to specific high schools and alternative schools.

VR also provides evaluation services. Staff work closely with students and coordinate or provide assessments to find the best job match for the student's demonstrated work-related skills and abilities.

Counselors assigned to transition services make regular campus visits to conduct orientations with newly referred students and current clients.

School district occupational and transition specialists, teachers, parents, counselors, and Nevada PEP may refer students to the VR counselors assigned to designated high schools.

Students meet with a VR counselor for orientation, and completion of a vocational rehabilitation application. When the application is completed an intake interview is conducted that leads to certification of eligibility for services.

## Other Helpful Information

### What can I do as a parent?

Participation by parents, a guardian or family member is very important. Until the child is 18 years old, parents or legal guardians must sign a Parental Consent Form for their child to participate in VR services. You know your son or daughter best. Go to his or her first meeting with the VR counselor. Stay in touch with the VR counselor to make sure planning for post-high school activities is consistent with the plans you and your child have made with the school.

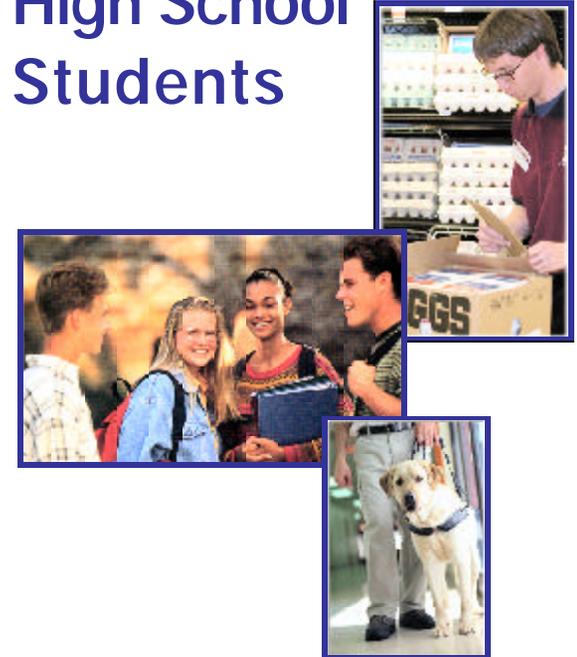
### Will I have to pay for services for my child?

After eligibility is determined, the student's family resources are considered before VR agrees to pay all or a portion of the costs for services. Clients who have adequate financial support may be asked to share in the cost of equipment or services. Students receiving Social Security Insurance (SSI) or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) are exempt from cost sharing. Your VR counselor will discuss financial planning as part of developing the student's Individualized Plan of Employment.

Vocational Rehabilitation is an Equal Employment Opportunity program/service.

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request.

## Vocational Rehabilitation Services for High School Students



State of Nevada  
Department of Employment,  
Training & Rehabilitation  
Rehabilitation Division  
**Vocational Rehabilitation**



...a proud partner in the Nevada JobConnect system

**Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) is a state and federally funded program designed to help eligible people with disabilities become employed.**

**Who is eligible for VR services?**

You may be eligible if you receive special education services or other assistance because you have a disability. Eligibility for VR can be determined within 60 days if you have a mental or physical impairment that prevents you from obtaining or keeping a job. VR will work with you regarding eligibility, and the types of services that would help you to become employed. If you are eligible, you and your VR counselor will work together to develop a career plan, called an Individualized Plan of Employment (IPE). It defines the VR services you need to achieve employment.

**Who is a Vocational Rehabilitation counselor –and what do they do?**

A VR counselor is a certified professional trained to assist individuals with disabilities. The counselor provides counseling and guidance designed to help identify your work-related strengths and limitations, reasonable and realistic employment opportunities, and services that can lead to employment and economic self-sufficiency.

**What services does Vocational Rehabilitation provide?**

- Assessments to determine job-related skills and abilities
- Recommendations regarding how your school program can help you develop job skills
- Career counseling and guidance

- Assistance with college or trade school education
- Assistive devices
- Guidance on job-related financial aid, transportation and work-related benefits
- On-the-job training
- Job placement services
- Post-employment services

**Are vocational rehabilitation services only for students in special education?**

No. VR counselors can work with all students in high school who have a disability. If you are not a special education student, ask your school counselor about VR and its services.

**But I don't want people to know I have a disability!**

Information about you, including the fact that VR is helping you, is kept strictly confidential. Information is only shared when you and your parents give permission to your VR counselor to do so.

**Who will make the decisions about my VR program... my parents, my counselor, the school or me?**

VR programs must provide applicants and individuals eligible for services with the opportunity to exercise informed choice throughout the process (e.g., employment goals, VR services, service providers, settings, methods for procuring services). It's best to have everyone work together on the plan.

**When should I get VR services?**

We recommend that students be referred to the VR program while in their last two years of high school, preferably at the beginning of their junior year.

**How do I obtain Vocational Rehabilitation services?**

You may apply directly to VR or ask your teacher, guidance counselor, special education services staff or school nurse to help you contact a VR counselor. Appointments can be arranged in a convenient location, such as your school.

By your junior year, you or your parents should call to make an appointment with a VR counselor at your nearest Nevada JobConnect office or Vocational Rehabilitation headquarters.

- ◆ Carson City (775) 684-0400
- ◆ Elko (775) 753-1931
- ◆ Ely (775) 289-1675
- ◆ Fallon (775) 423-6568
- ◆ Reno-Sparks (775) 688-1480
- ◆ Southern Nevada (702) 486-5230
- ◆ Winnemucca (775) 623-6544

If you experience difficulty understanding or working with the VR system, the Client Assistance Program (CAP) can explain available services, investigate your concerns, and assist you if you want to appeal decisions made in the VR process. To contact CAP call: 1-800-633-9879