





VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES

WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS



Providing a variety of services to help you achieve employment success.

Texas Workforce Solutions comprises the Texas Workforce Commission, 28 local workforce development boards and our service-providing partners. Together we provide workforce education, training and support services, including vocational rehabilitation assistance for the people of Texas.

Texas Workforce Solutions-Vocational Rehabilitation Services (TWS-VRS) provides a variety of services that assist eligible people with disabilities in preparing for, obtaining, retaining or advancing in competitive integrated employment.

Who is eligible for services?

A person is eligible for vocational rehabilitation (VR) services if he or she meets all of the following requirements:

- Has a physical or mental disability that results in substantial barriers to preparing for, obtaining, engaging in, retaining or advancing in employment.
- Requires VR services to prepare for, obtain, engage in, retain or advance in employment.
- Is able to benefit from services, as determined by the ability to obtain, retain or advance in competitive integrated employment upon completion of VR services.

How are services provided?

Each person who is eligible for VR services is involved in selecting an employment goal, identifying services needed to reach this goal and selecting the providers he or she will work with while participating in services. This process is referred to as informed choice.

TWS-VRS serves people with a variety of disabilities including, but not limited to:

- · Blindness and visual impairments
- Hearing impairments, including deafness and hearing loss
- · Mental and behavioral health conditions
- Physical disabilities, such as birth defects, back injuries or spinal cord injuries
- · Traumatic brain injuries and seizure disorders
- Intellectual and developmental disabilities
- Other physical or mental conditions that impact a person's ability to obtain, retain or advance in competitive integrated employment

Services

VR services are individualized to meet the needs of each participant. Services support the development of knowledge, skills, abilities, resources and behaviors needed to reach the employment goal.

Services that may be provided include:

 Referral to community support systems, such as peer support and advocacy organizations.



- Vocational counseling and guidance, including exploring employment options and postsecondary education programs with high school students who have disabilities.
- Required assessments to determine eligibility and VR needs.
- Interpreter services for people who are deaf and hard of hearing.
- Assessment of assistive technology needs.
- Assistive devices such as hearing aids, prosthetics, braces and wheelchairs to improve functioning on the job.
- Assistive technology and training, including training to use hearing aids, Braille, low-vision aids and other types of technology to improve communication, access to information and performance of job functions.



Working together to help you reach your employment goals.

- Orientation and mobility training for participants who are blind.
- · Speech, physical and occupational therapies.
- Outpatient psychiatric and psychological services.
- Personal assistance services.
- Medical treatment to reduce or remove barriers to employment.
- Work-based learning experiences for high school students with disabilities, such as job shadowing, volunteer work, internships and summer employment.
- Training in behaviors that are expected by employers in a work environment.
- Job coaches and support for customized employment, self-employment and supported employment.
- · College, technical and on-the-job training.
- Return-to-work, job retention, job development and job placement assistance.
- Instruction in self-advocacy.

VR is a partnership to help you reach your employment goals. When you are ready to begin exploring your options, we are ready to help you!

If you or someone you know is interested in VR services, visit our website at www.twc.texas.gov, call 800-628-5115, or visit your local office to begin the application process.

If you need more information or assistance about the legal rights of people with disabilities contact:

Client Assistance Program Intake line: 800-252-9108

Intake line: 800-252-9108

Disability Rights Texas (DRTx)

2222 W. Braker Lane, Austin, Texas 78758 Phone: 512-454-4816 Fax: 512-323-0902

Videophone: 866-362-2851

Your TWS-VRS Office

To locate your Texas Workforce Solutions-Vocational Rehabilitation Services (TWS-VRS) office, visit: www.twc.texas.gov/find-locations





Texas Workforce Solutions-Vocational Rehabilitation Services 101 East 15th Street Austin, Texas 78778-0001 800-628-5115

Equal Opportunity Employer/Program

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request
to individuals with disabilities.

Relay Texas: 800-735-2989 (TTY) and 711 (Voice)

The Texas Workforce Commission accepts calls made through any relay service provider.

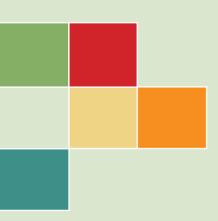
Copies of this publication (09/2019) have been distributed in compliance with the State Depository Law and are available for public use through the Texas State Publication Depository Program at the Texas State Library and other state depository libraries.

For purposes of the VR program, the Federal VR grant paid 78.7 percent of the total costs of the program. In Federal fiscal year (FFY) 2019, the VR agency received \$221,936,258 in Federal VR funds. Funds appropriated by the State paid 21.3 percent of the total costs (\$60,066,611) under the VR program.

For purposes of the Supported Employment program, Federal funds paid 90 percent of the total costs. In FFY 2019, the VR agency received \$1,446,266 in Federal Supported Employment funds. State appropriated funds paid 10 percent (\$80,348) of the total costs under the Supported Employment program.

For purposes of the OIB program, Federal funds paid 90 percent of the total costs incurred under the program. In FFY 2019, the agency received \$2,159,283 in Federal grant funds for this program. Funds appropriated by the State paid 10 percent (\$239,920) of the total costs incurred under the OIB program.

WWW.TWC.TEXAS.GOV



01855 (0919) Inv. No. 686010