

ND PROTECTION & ADVOCACY PROJECT

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION (VR) FACT SHEET AVAILABLE SERVICES

What are VR Services?

- Any services to assist in preparing for, securing, retaining, advancing, or regaining an employment outcome.
- All necessary services to equip the individual for employment.
- Severity of disability or cost of services can have no bearing on the scope of services the eligible individual receives.
- Available services are incredibly broad and varied.

Required Service Options

- Assessment(s) to determine eligibility and needs
- Counseling, guidance, and job placement services
- Referrals to the services of WIA providers, if appropriate
- Vocational and other training, including higher education and the purchase of tools, materials, and books
- Diagnosis and treatment of physical or mental impairments to reduce or eliminate impediments to employment, to the extent that support is not available from other sources
- Maintenance for additional costs incurred during rehabilitation
- Personal assistance services while receiving VR services
- Transportation including adequate training in use of public transportation vehicles and systems, provided in connection with the provision of any other service described in this section and needed by the individual to achieve an employment outcome
- Transportation may include vehicle purchase
- Interpreter services for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing
- Readers, rehabilitation teaching, and orientation/mobility services for individuals who are blind or have vision loss
- Occupational licenses, tools, equipment, initial stocks and supplies
- Technical assistance for those who are pursuing telecommuting, self-employment, or small business operation
- Rehabilitation or assistive technology including vehicular modification, telecommunications, sensory, and other technological aids and devices
- Transition services for students with disabilities to facilitate the achievement of the employment outcome identified in the IPE
- Supported employment
- Services to the family to assist an individual with a disability to achieve an employment outcome

- Other goods or services necessary to achieve employment outcome
- Post-employment services to help retain, regain, or advance in employment
- Not intended to be complex or comprehensive

VR Services Policies

- States must develop policies concerning provision of VR services
- Must ensure services are provided based on each person's individual needs
- May not place any arbitrary limits on the nature and scope of VR services to be provided to achieve an employment outcome
- May have reasonable time periods to provide services, but time periods may not be so short as to effectively deny a service and must permit exceptions so individual needs can be addressed
- Payment rates must not be so low as to effectively deny a necessary service and may not be absolute

Advanced Training

- WIOA and the Rehabilitation Act encourages individuals who are interested and able "to pursue advanced training in science, technology, engineering, or mathematics...including computer science, medicine, law or business"
- Suggested careers are "not limited to" the above options

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:
1-800-472-2670
(701) 328-2950
ND RELAY 711 TTY
www.ndpanda.org
panda_intake@nd.gov



If you need this handout in an alternative format, please contact the Protection & Advocacy Project.