

Virginia DARS Transition Services

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VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT FOR AGING
AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES



[How VR Works](#)

[VA DARS Publications](#)

DARS Transition-Aged Population

(62.47%)

Data as of 3/10/2021

ADULTS

37.53%

STUDENTS

36.77%

YOUTH OOS*

25.71%

- Total Clients: 17,339
 - Adults: 6,506
 - Students: 6,375
 - Youth (not in school): 4,458



DARS Mission

To improve the employment, quality of life, security, and independence of older Virginians with disabilities, and their families



DRS Vision Statement

The Division of Rehabilitative Services provides opportunities for people with disabilities to pursue career pathways, skills development and financial independence through employment.



VR CONTINUUM OF SERVICES

Pre-ETS Services

- Earliest set of services for **potentially eligible** or **eligible students with disabilities**
- Short term in nature to help identify career interests
- Specific set of five required activities provided directly to students with disabilities under pre-employment transition services
- States must reserve a minimum of 15 percent of Federal allotment to provide Pre-employment transition services

Transition Services

- Available for **eligible students & youth** with disabilities through an IPE
- Help further develop and pursue career interests through post-secondary education, vocational training, job search, placement, retention, follow-up and follow-along services

Employment Related

- Typically provided once **eligible students & youth with disabilities** have further identified, developed, and pursued career interests, offered through transition services, and are pursuing specific employment outcomes through an IPE
- Assist in preparing for, securing, retaining, advancing in or regaining an employment outcome

Pre-Employment Transition Services

- [DARS Pre-ETS Video \(YouTube\)](#)



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[Rehab Act of 1973 as amended by WIOA](#)

Target Population

- **Pre-employment transition services are provided statewide to all who meet the definition of a “student with a disability” who may need such services and are either:**
 - ✓ Potentially eligible for vocational rehabilitation services (i.e., all students with disabilities, including those who have not applied or been determined eligible for vocational rehabilitation services), or
 - ✓ Eligible for vocational rehabilitation services



The 5 Pre-ETS

Supports SWDs to...

1. Job Exploration Counseling (JEC)

Learn about career pathways, in-demand industries and occupations, the labor market and their career interests

2. Work-based Learning (WBL)

Further explore the world of work and various occupations and career pathways and have opportunities to practice and improve workplace skills

3. Counseling on Postsecondary Education/Training Options (CPSET)

Develop awareness of the range of postsecondary educational and occupational training opportunities and understand and take a career pathways approach to employment

4. Workplace Readiness Training (WRT)

Develop independent living skills and employers commonly seek from most employees

5. Instruction in Self-Advocacy (ISA)

Develop communication, decision-making; and self-determination skills

Job Exploration Counseling Service Examples

- Interest inventories
- Labor market exploration
- Education in career pathways and in-demand industries and occupations
- Career speakers



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virtualjobshadow®
interactive career exploration



Work-based Learning Service Examples

- Informational interviews
- Workplace tours
- Job shadowing
- Employer mentoring activities
- Volunteering
- Internships
- Paid or unpaid community work experiences



Counseling on Postsecondary Education and Training Programs Service Examples

- Provide information and guidance on the variety of postsecondary education and training opportunities
- Support understanding of academic accommodations and services
- Promote use of executive functioning skills
- Connect to postsecondary education/training resources/services/websites
- Identify financial aid options; help complete financial aid applications
- Educate about admission requirements



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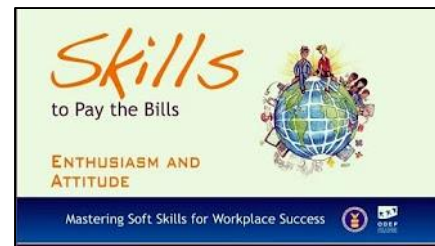


Workplace Readiness Training Service Examples

- Training in soft skills:
 - Effective and professional communication
 - Decision making and conflict resolution
 - Teamwork
- Training in job-seeking skills
- Training in independent living skills, such as:
 - Good hygiene and appropriate dress;
 - Financial literacy;
 - Time management;
 - Using transportation;
 - Appropriate behavior



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Instruction in Self-Advocacy Service Examples

- Teach students how to:
 - Take responsibility to plan their lives and pursue their interests
 - Become self-aware
 - Disclose their disability
 - Request accommodations
 - Effectively expressing wants and needs
 - Accept feedback
 - Understand their rights and responsibilities
 - Become self-determined
 - Set goals
 - Problem solve



Examples of Services Available to Potentially Eligible (PE) Students with Disabilities

(Not an exhaustive list)

- Interest inventories
- Review of labor market information
- Exploration of career pathways
- Informational interviews
- Job shadowing
- Work site tours
- Postsecondary education/training campus tours
- Education in the financial aid process
- Development of soft skills, such as: time management, organization and planning, problem solving, appropriate and effective communication, etc...
- Development of independent living skills
- Financial literacy training
- Teaching how to request accommodations
- Teaching rights and responsibilities
- Teaching employer expectations
- Development of self-advocacy skills
- Education about transportation options and general travel training
- Career Pathways for Individuals with Disabilities academies
- WWRC Pre-ETS Career Day

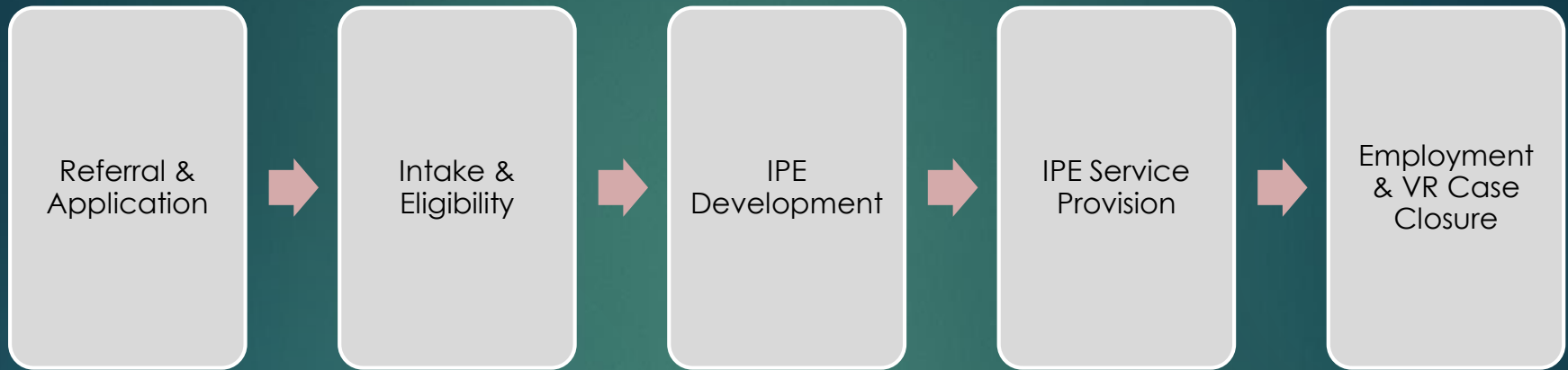
Examples of Services Available to Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Students with Disabilities*

(Not an exhaustive list)

- All Pre-ETS
- WWRC PERT
- Project SEARCH
- Start on Success
- WWRC PREP
- Development of the Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE)
- Vocational evaluation
- Situational assessments
- Individualized assistive technology assessments and services
- Vocational training
- Postsecondary education
- Job development for IPE goal
- Job placement assistance for IPE goal
- Supported Employment services (including job coaching)
- On-the-job training for IPE goal
- Time-limited transportation assistance



VR Flow Chart



**Competitive Integrated
Employment**



Transition Services

- Transition services are the next set of services on the continuum of VR services available to **eligible** students and youth with disabilities to provide further development and pursuit of career interests with:
 - Postsecondary education
 - Vocational Training
 - Job-seeking and job-keeping services



Employment-Related Services

- Employment-related services are the next and final phase in the continuum of VR services for eligible students and youth with disabilities.
- Typically provided once **eligible** students and youth have further developed their career interests through transition services and are now pursuing a specific employment outcome.
 - In-House Job Placement Services
 - Supported Employment
 - Customized Employment



How to Apply

Call or e-mail the [local DARS office](#) nearest you for an appointment. Or you may call toll-free in the U.S. 1-800-552-5019 (TTY 1-800-464-9950).

- DARS will assign a counselor who will schedule the initial intake appointment.





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