

# Office of Vocational Rehabilitation - Transition Services

OVR provides support and services to high school students (ages 14-21) to aid in their shift from high school to the employment world.

<b>OVR Services include:</b>	
<b>Diagnostic</b>	Medical, psychological, educational and audiological exams/tests used to better understand your disability, strengths and needs for services.
<b>Vocational Evaluations/paid work experiences</b>	These can include aptitude, interest, general ability, academic exams, work tolerance, job shadowing and “hands-on” paid job experiences used to understand your vocational potential. These jobs/internships can be seasonal, summer, weekend, etc. and can include 1:1 on-the-job support if needed.
<b>Counseling &amp; Work Place Readiness Training</b>	Vocational counseling to help you better understand your potential, abilities, develop self-advocacy skills, set realistic vocational goals and develop successful work habits. Group services are available to improve work place readiness skills, which may be needed/beneficial prior to more “hands-on” work experiences.
<b>Training</b>	Education to prepare you for a job including, but not limited to, basic academic, work readiness training, vocational/technical, college and on-the-job training.
<b>Restoration</b>	Medical services and equipment, such as physical and occupational therapy, wheelchairs, driving lessons and automobile hand controls/vehicle modifications can be provided to enable you to pursue and achieve employment.
<b>Placement Assistance</b>	Counselor, job-seeking programs, job clubs, and job development used to increase your ability to get a job.
<b>Assistive Technology</b>	Assistive technology includes a wide range of devices and services that can empower persons with disabilities to maximize employment, independence and integration into society.
<b>Early Reach Coordinator</b>	Begin the OVR process with students, families & schools at 14 years old. Our ERC can assist younger students with disabilities/families with resource referral and preparation for future OVR services briefly described above.

OVR is an eligibility program, which is determined by the significance of the disability/impairment. However, all OVR services can provided to any student covered by an IEP or 504 plan, medical conditions, addiction issues, mental health concerns, etc.

For more information and/or connect with a Transition Counselor call 1-800-634-2060

# Changes related to Section 511 of WIOA

## Effective 7/22/2016

- Beginning 7/22/2016, School Districts/LEAs can no longer contract transition work with facilities that pay employees (eg: students) sub-minimum wage.
  - For example: facility based pre-vocational/sheltered workshop settings
- All students enrolled in secondary education must now receive transition services under IDEA and be referred to OVR for pre-employment transition services (PETS) before waiver dollars can be used for a sub-minimum wage employment site, **following graduation.**
- All out of school youth (under the age of 24) must be referred to OVR, apply for services and either be determined ineligible or eligible, receive services for an extended period of time with no success and case closed **before** waiver dollars can be used for a facility that pays subminimum wage.
- If a youth is found ineligible for OVR services & subminimum wage employment/pre-voc facility is determined to be the best service option/placement, OVR will continue to follow that individual. What does this look like?
  - OVR will provide career counseling & service options to individuals and/or groups.
  - First year in sub-minimum wage employment: done every 6 months
  - Following 4 years: done annually
  - After 5 years, OVR will discontinue this service if there are no changes in ability level and/or no interest in possible OVR services/competitive integrated employment.
  - Individuals can apply for OVR services at any time.

Please contact OVR with any questions or to discuss any individual circumstances  
1-800-634-2060

**Are you a secondary school seeking increased opportunities to provide transition services to your students? The Pennsylvania Office of Vocational Rehabilitation is available to help!**

The Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) will be offering many new and innovative pre-employment and transition services for students with disabilities across Pennsylvania. These new transition services are required as part of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). Pre-employment transition services include group and individualized services to help students gain an increased understanding of their options after leaving high school.

OVR pre-employment transition services will be provided by a combination of OVR staff, community rehabilitation providers, and other agencies. These services will help schools better plan for the transition of students with disabilities into post-secondary training or competitive integrated employment.

**Group Services**

**Independent Living Skills Training**

Independent living skills training will be provided in a group format to assist students with disabilities in developing the skills needed to live independently.

**Self-Advocacy Training**

Self-advocacy training will be provided in a group format to teach students with disabilities disability awareness, advocating during an IEP process, understanding the transition process, and advocating for themselves in post-secondary education, employment, and when receiving social services.

**Workplace Readiness Training**

Workplace readiness training will provide students with knowledge needed to find and maintain competitive integrated employment. Curriculums may include soft skills training, interview skills, job readiness, job-seeking skills, HR practices, and other skills needed to become "workplace ready."



**Individualized Services**

**Job Shadowing**

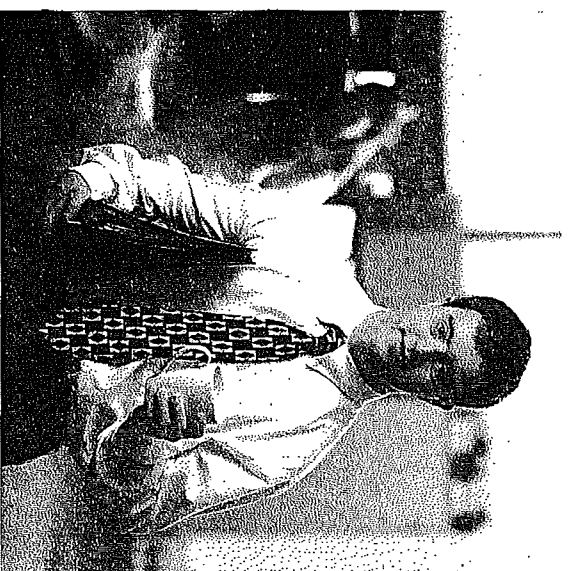
Job shadowing will provide students with disabilities a one to five day job shadowing experience in an occupation of interest within the community. Students will be provided an opportunity to shadow employees and obtain an overview of the knowledge, tasks, and abilities needed to work in a particular field.

**Work-Based Learning Experiences**

Students will participate in work-based learning experiences, which may include in-school or after school opportunities in the community. Students will be provided options for work experiences that teach skills needed to obtain competitive integrated employment or transition to post-secondary training.

**Group and Individual Counseling**

Job exploration counseling and counseling on opportunities for enrollment in comprehensive transition or post-secondary educational programs.



STUDENT INFORMATION					
*FIRST NAME		MI	*LAST NAME		*DATE OF BIRTH
*GRADE	*COUNTY OF RESIDENCE	*SCHOOL DISTRICT OF RESIDENCE		*EDUCATIONAL DISABILITY PROGRAMMING (select one) <input type="checkbox"/> IEP <input type="checkbox"/> 504 Plan <input type="checkbox"/> None	
*ETHNICITY <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic/Latino <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Hispanic/Latino <input type="checkbox"/> Do not wish to disclose		*RACE <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaskan Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> Black/African American <input type="checkbox"/> Hawaiian Native/Other Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Do not wish to disclose		*GENDER <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Do not wish to self-identify	
*MAILING ADDRESS			*CITY	*STATE PA	*ZIP CODE
PHONE NUMBER	PHONE TYPE <input type="checkbox"/> Voice <input type="checkbox"/> TDD <input type="checkbox"/> Fax <input type="checkbox"/> Cell <input type="checkbox"/> Msg.			E-MAIL ADDRESS	

**RELEASE INFORMATION**

I authorize \_\_\_\_\_ to release my information to the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) for the purpose of my participation in Pre-Employment Transition Services, in accordance with the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act (WIOA) and its governing regulations.

In order to facilitate the provision of these services I hereby authorize you to release the following information/records to OVR:

THE SPECIFIC INFORMATION TO BE DISCLOSED IS:

- Full name, address, phone number, date of birth
- School district name and location
- Education programming status (IEP, 504 Plan)

I release the above entity that disclosed this information from any legal responsibility or liability for disclosure of the information to the extent that the information was used for its stated purposes.

**If student is under the age of 18, a parent or guardian signature is required.**

This authorization or a true and accurate copy of this authorization shall be considered valid until withdrawn in writing by my personal representative or me.

- If necessary to accommodate my needs, an alternative format of this authorization has been provided to me.

\_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_  
**Student Signature**      **Date**

\_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_  
**Parent/Guardian Name (Print)**      **Parent/Guardian Signature**      **Date**

- A verbal consent requires two (2) witness signatures. I witness that parent/student (or responsible person) is unable to provide a signature at this time, but understands the nature of the release and freely gives his/her consent.

\_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_  
**Witness 1 Signature**      **Date**      **Witness 2 Signature**      **Date**