

What is OVR?

The Office of Vocational Rehabilitation is a state agency that helps eligible students with disabilities prepare for training, get, and keep a job.

Who Should Apply To OVR?

If you are:

- A student who has a physical, emotional, or learning problem
- Need help with training, getting, or keeping a job, and
- You want to work.

Then you should apply for services.

What Can OVR Do?

OVR will provide diagnostic services, if needed, to determine your eligibility. OVR may provide career counseling, diagnostic medical and vocational evaluations, medical services, vocational training which includes job coaching, job training, certificates, associate or college level training, and job placement.

Other support services are available when you are ready to work.

What Are Your Responsibilities?

You are in charge of your rehabilitation program. To make it work, you must talk to OVR honestly about your needs and feelings, help yourself, and work with your OVR counselor.

You must get actively involved in setting your goals and work hard to achieve them.

You must also:

- Keep all appointments
- Ask questions if you do not understand.

What Are OVR's Responsibilities?

OVR understands how disabilities can cause problems with school and work.

OVR will help you:

- Understand your strengths
- Decide on a job that builds on your strengths
- By giving you information, choices, and support
- Secure the services you need to prepare for, get, and keep a job.

How Much Will This Cost?

It does not cost you anything to apply for services. There is no charge for diagnostic services, vocational evaluation, counseling, or job placement assistance.

If you are eligible, your counselor will ask you to bring in proof about your income and expenses. Depending upon your income, you may have to contribute to the cost of additional OVR services.

Confidentiality

OVR collects personal information about you. This information will be confidential, and not released without your written permission from you or your parents.

IF YOU WANT TO GO TO SCHOOL, OR IF YOU WANT TO GET A JOB, CONTACT YOUR SCHOOL'S GUIDANCE COUNSELOR OR THE OVR OFFICE

AT:

814-871-4551

1-800-541-0721

1-888-217-1710 TTY

Disabilities

Following is a partial list which may be used as a guideline for students interested in OVR.

Allergies (severe)
Amputations
Arthritis
Attention Deficit Disorder
Back and Spinal Defects
Cerebral Palsy
Diabetes
Deafness
Hearing Impairments
Disfigurements
Drug/Alcohol Problems
Emotional Problems
Epilepsy
Heart Disorders
Learning Disabilities
Lung Disorders
Mental Retardation
Multiple Sclerosis
Muscular Dystrophy
Orthopedic Defects
Paraplegia-Hemiplegia
Quadriplegia
Speech Impairments
Stomach/Bowel Disorders
Tourette Syndrome
Others

STUDENT INFORMATION HANDBOOK

OFFICE OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

ERIE OFFICE

3200 Lovell Place
Erie, PA 16503
814-871-4551
1-800-541-0721
1-888-217-1710 TTY

Counties Served

Erie • Crawford • Clarion
Forest • Mercer
Warren • Venango



pennsylvania

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR & INDUSTRY

OFFICE OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

This guide will explain vocational rehabilitation - how it works, and how you can make it work for you.

Keep this brochure handy so that you can refer to it any time. Your rehabilitation counselor will also explain vocational rehabilitation services and answer any questions that you or anyone in your family may have.