

FACTS ABOUT ACCES-VR FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

(Office of Adult Career and Continuing Education Services ACCES-VR)

HOW DO I KNOW IF I'M ELIGIBLE FOR ACCES-VR SERVICES?

To be eligible for services from ACCES-VR a student needs to have:

- A documented significant disability (physical, mental, emotional, learning) that limits their ability to work
- An ability to benefit from services
- A reasonable chance of becoming employed through services provided by ACCES-VR
- Eligibility determination is not dependent on family income

WHAT IS THE APPLICATION PROCESS?

- Contact the transition liaison at their school
- The transition liaison will provide the student with an ACCES-VR application packet
- The student completes the ACCES-VR application packet and returns it to the transition liaison. For student applicants under the age of 18, the application and release forms must be signed by the student and a parent or a legal guardian
- The transition liaison will then schedule a meeting to include themselves, the student, their family, ACCES-VR liaison, and any other agency involved with providing services to the student

WHAT TYPE OF INFORMATION WILL BE PROVIDED TO ACCES-VR FROM THE SCHOOL LIAISON?

- Copy of the most recent IEP
- Copy of the transition plan
- Documentation of disability (e.g. most recent psychological assessment, audiogram, medical reports, mental health reports, substance abuse reports)
- Transcript of courses and grades
- Academic achievement testing
- PSAT/SAT/ACT scores if available
- Level I, II, and III vocational assessment
- Work experience or work study progress reports
- Any additional information that may be helpful in determining eligibility

HOW ARE SERVICES THROUGH ACCES-VR DETERMINED AND DELIVERED?

Once a student is determined eligible for ACCES-VR, s/he will work with a Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor to develop an Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE). This plan outlines the employment goal, steps to achieve it and necessary services and supports that will be arranged through ACCES-VR.

WHAT SERVICES CAN A STUDENT RECEIVE FROM ACCES-VR?

- A vocational assessment to help identify abilities, aptitudes and interests
- Vocational counseling and guidance and referral services
- Vocational skills training which may include Work Adjustment Training, Supported Employment, Job Coaching, Work Try-Out, On The Job Training, Post Secondary Education Programs and Career Skills Training
- Assessment & training for independent travel

- Books, tools, & clothing required for training or employment
- Support services such as interpreter services
- Job Placement Services
- Assistive technology assessment & implementation

ADDITIONAL FACTS:

- ACCES-VR is funded by state and federal tax dollars. Some of the above ACCES-VR services are dependent on financial need.
- INFORMATION PROVIDED TO ACCES-VR IS CONFIDENTIAL
- ACCES-VR is an eligibility based program.
- More information about getting ready for adult life can be found at this website:
<http://www.acces.nysed.gov/vr/>

This website tells about planning careers, college, assistive technology, living on your own and other concerns that young adults in transition may experience.