

Vocational Rehabilitation and Pre-Employment Transition Services

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Vocational Rehabilitation (VR)



- VR and local school districts share responsibility for preparing students with disabilities for transition from high school:
 - ❑ School districts primarily responsible for services while the student is still in school
 - ❑ VR assists with planning and preparing for when a student graduates or exits the school system

- To be eligible an individual must:
 - ❑ Have a physical or mental impairment that constitutes a substantial impediment to employment.
 - ❑ Require vocational rehabilitation services to prepare for, secure, retain, advance in or regain employment.
 - ❑ There is no age limit except that the individual must be of employable age. Cases are typically opened during the final senior year.

- A VR Counselor is assigned to every public high school in Missouri.
- As a part of the 2020 Strategic Plan, every public high school was contacted between August and December 2019 to ensure a partnering relationship exists.



Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS)

What are Pre-ETS?

Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) in collaboration with local education agencies (LEAs) will provide or arrange for the provision of Pre-Employment Transition Services for students with disabilities who are in need of such services and are:

- ❑ Eligible or *potentially eligible* for VR services,
 - ❑ 16-21 years of age (or younger if determined appropriate by the IEP team);
and
 - ❑ Currently enrolled in an educational program.
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- Services are designed to be an early start at job exploration and to assist students with disabilities in making the transition from secondary to post-secondary education/training and competitive, integrated employment.

Five Pre-ETS Activities:

- Job Exploration Counseling
- Work-Based Learning Experiences
- Counseling for Post-Secondary Education
- Workplace Readiness Training
- Instruction in Self Advocacy/Peer Mentoring

Pre-ETS may be delivered on behalf of VR by the following:

- University of Missouri College of Education Pre-Employment Transition Specialists (43 Statewide)
- Community Rehabilitation Providers (Summer Work Experience Program)
- Centers for Independent Living (Summer Pre-ETS Program)
- Governor's Council on Disability Missouri Youth Leadership Forum (Summer)
- Peer Mentoring Pilot project with justice and foster care involved youth (Springfield and Kansas City)
- Leadership Development Program for Deaf and Hard of Hearing (Summer)
- Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor (Statewide)

- Students age 16-21 with an IEP in Missouri Public Schools (2018) – 20,697
- Students served by VR in Federal Fiscal Year 2019 – 4,921
- Students receiving Pre-ETS in 2018/2019 school year – 5,065
- Students receiving Pre-ETS in 2019/2020 school year to date – 4,981 in 543 school buildings (public and private)
 - ❑ 14,340 contacts made, 30,490 services provided





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