

HOW THE SYSTEM WORKS

FEDERAL FUNDING

Rehabilitation Services Administration
[RSA]

STATE AGENCIES

- Adult Career and Continuing Education Services-Vocational Rehabilitation (ACCES-VR)
- NYS Commission for the Blind (NYSCB)
- Office of Mental Health (OMH)
- Office for Persons With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD)
- NYS - Department of Labor (DOL)

See Pgs. 2-4 for descriptions of State Agencies

PRIVATE FOR PROFIT

Assessment Professionals
Professionals in Private Practice
Private Rehabilitation agencies

PRIVATE NOT-FOR-PROFIT

Community Rehabilitation Programs (CRP)
Example: Supported Employment Programs

OTHER PROVIDERS

Schools
Churches
Community Centers
Independent Living Centers

REHABILITATION SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (RSA)

The Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) oversees [grant programs](#) that help individuals with physical or mental disabilities to obtain employment and live more independently through the provision of such supports as counseling, medical and psychological services, job training and other individualized services.

RSA's major Title I formula grant program provides funds to state vocational rehabilitation (VR) agencies to provide employment-related services for individuals with disabilities, giving priority to individuals who are significantly disabled.

<http://rsa.ed.gov/>

Adult Career and Continuing Education Services – Vocational Rehabilitation

(ACCES-VR) [Formerly VESID]

Adult Career and Continuing Education Services-Vocational Rehabilitation (ACCES-VR) offers access to a full range of services that may be needed by persons with disabilities through their lives. Through its administration of vocational rehabilitation and independent living programs, VR coordinates policy and services relating to:

- [transition services](#) for students with disabilities from school to adult services;
- [vocational rehabilitation](#) services for individuals with disabilities, ages 16 and older;
- [independent living services](#) for people with disabilities of all ages; and
- [business services](#) for hiring a qualified diverse workforce

<http://www.acces.nysed.gov/vr/>

http://www.acces.nysed.gov/announcement_from_deputy_commissioner_smith.pdf

New York State Commission for the Blind (NYSCB) [formerly CBVH]

If blindness or a severe visual impairment has substantially limited your employment prospects, you may be eligible to benefit from the CBVH Vocational Rehabilitation Program.

The Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Program offers guidance and counseling to assist people who are legally blind find or retain employment. Vocational counselors work with the person to develop an Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE). The IPE acts as a road map to guide the individual toward their employment goals. Goals vary, and include preparing for and finding a job, continuing at a current workplace or maintaining a household independently.

In addition to counseling and guidance, services offered through the VR Program may include access to the following:

- Assessments to determine service needs
 - [Deafblind Services](#)
 - Maintenance, transportation, interpreter services and reader services
 - Vocational assessment
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- Vocational training
- Job training
- [Orientation and Mobility \(O&M\)](#)
- Rehabilitation Teaching

Rehabilitation teaching is instruction which focuses on learning skills to maximize the consumer's activities of independent living. This instruction teaches skills such as Braille, various methods of meal preparation, home management activities and other daily living tasks. The goal of this instruction is to prepare the consumer for school, work or managing their household responsibilities.

- [Low vision exams and devices](#)
- Braille instruction
- [Assistive technology](#)
- [Low-Tech Solutions to Accommodate Employees who are Legally Blind](#)

Purchase of the above services may be funded by CBVH in some cases.

Office of Mental Health (OMH)

New York State has a large, multi-faceted mental health system that serves more than 500,000 individuals each year. The Office of Mental Health (OMH) operates psychiatric centers across the State, and also regulates, certifies and oversees more than 2,500 programs, which are operated by local governments and nonprofit agencies. These programs include various inpatient and outpatient programs, emergency and community supports, employment, and residential/family care programs.

OMH funds extended service slots for individuals in SE programs who are in the OMH system.

<http://www.omh.state.ny.us/>

Personalized Recovery Oriented Services (PROS) is a comprehensive recovery oriented program for individuals with severe and persistent mental illness. The goal of the program is to integrate treatment, support, and rehabilitation in a manner that facilitates the individual's recovery. Goals for individuals in the program are to: improve functioning, reduce inpatient utilization, reduce emergency services, reduce contact with the criminal justice system, increase employment, attain higher levels of education, and secure preferred housing.

<http://www.omh.state.ny.us/omhweb/pros/>

Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) [formerly OMRDD]

The Office for People With Developmental Disabilities is a state agency providing a variety of services to people of all ages who have a Developmental Disability. Services include

residential, respite, day habilitation, Medicaid service coordination, Supported Employment and more.

OPWDD funds Enhanced Supported Employment (E-SEMP) and Extended Service slots for individuals in SE programs who are in the OPWDD system.

<http://www.opwdd.ny.gov/>

New York State Department of Labor (NYS-DOL)

The New York State Department of Labor fosters economic growth by supporting a highly skilled workforce. Our One Stop Career Center system connects businesses and workers. This web site provides information to businesses and workers to help them access and better understand our workforce development system. It also presents information, technical assistance, resources and funding opportunities to help local workforce investment area staff, one-stop partners and other workforce professionals build a better workforce development system.

<http://www.labor.ny.gov/home>
