



ACCES-VR BASICS

WHAT IS ACCES-VR?

Adult Career and Continuing Education Services - Vocational Rehabilitation (“ACCES-VR,” formally VESID) is a New York State agency which helps individuals with disabilities to choose, train for, find, and keep suitable employment. There are 15 ACCES-VR district offices around the state, and several satellite offices to meet the needs of New Yorkers with disabilities.

WHO CAN ACCES-VR HELP?

ACCES-VR can work for most people with all types of disabilities, but there is an exception. ACCES-VR does not work with people who are legally blind. These individuals work with the New York State Commission for the Blind (“NYSCB,” formerly CBVH). To learn more, go to <http://www.ocfs.state.ny.us/main/cb/> or call 1-866-871-3000 or for TTY 1-866-871-6000.

HOW DOES IT HELP?

Remember ACCES-VR is about services NEEDED to reach employment. If you need something from ACCES-VR to prepare for, obtain, or maintain employment, it must be documented by a medical or treatment provider. ACCES-VR’s role in your employment search is to help you choose, plan for, and coordinate required services to reach your employment goal. No single service is guaranteed to a person, and all services are determined on a case-by-case basis.

HOW IS ELIGIBILITY DETERMINED?

To be found eligible for ACCES-VR services, you must show:

- You have a disability that can be medically documented.
- Your doctor or treatment provider can document this for you.
- Your disability presents a significant impediment to employment. ACCES-VR determines eligibility on a case-by-case basis.
- You can benefit from vocational rehabilitation services.
- Vocational rehabilitation services are required for you to achieve employment.

NOTE: If you are able to do what you have always done, despite the barriers of your disability, you may not be eligible for certain ACCES-VR services.

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