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What is DVR

- The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) provides individualized services to people with disabilities who want to work
- Services include but are not limited to:
 - Vocational counseling
 - Skills development
 - Temporary work experiences
 - Supported employment
 - Education necessary to achieve career goals

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DVR Application and Referral

- High school students should apply for DVR two years before exiting high school
- The DVR referral form can be found at:
https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dvr/referral_request.htm
- For applicants under age 18, or those over age 18 who are not their own guardian, the individual's legal guardian must sign all documents

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DVR Eligibility

- Documented medical or psychological disability that presents a barrier to employment
- SVRI Eligibility Service: <https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dvr/policy-guidance/eligibility/svri-consumer-info.pdf>
- A DVR Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor makes final eligibility determination
- Orientation/initial meeting



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Categories in OOS

- **Category 1:** Most Significant Disability – limitations in four or more functional areas
- **Category 2:** Significant Disability – limitations in one, two, or three functional areas
- **Category 3:** Has a disability that does not seriously limit one or more functional areas


<https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dvr/policy-guidance/eligibility/oos-category-description.pdf>


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IPE Development

- An **IPE** is an Individualized Plan for Employment – not to be confused with an Individualized Education Plan (**IEP**)!
- DVR helps consumers to develop a plan to find a job, keep a job, or get a better job.
- Student job goals are not required to be specific – time to explore options.
- Students = Ages 14 to 21 in high school or an educational training program.


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Pre-Employment Transition Services

Pre-ETS include:

- 1. Job Exploration Counseling
- 2. Work Based Learning
- 3. Counseling on Opportunities for Enrollment in Comprehensive Transition or Post-Secondary Educational Programs
- 4. Work Place Readiness Training
- 5. Instruction on Self-Advocacy, which includes Peer Mentoring



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DVR Supported/Customized Employment

- Contracted Job Development service for in-depth job development in the community
- Based on the student's interests and abilities
- On-the-job supports provided by a job coach or natural supports based on the individual's needs
- Job must pay at least minimum wage and must meet the going rate for that job



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DVR Case Closure

- DVR will close a case successfully once an individual has maintained community integrated employment for at least 90 days
- For consumers in Supported or Customized Employment, this 90-day timeframe begins once the transition to Long Term Support (LTS) has occurred
- DVR may provide post-employment services
- DVR consumers can reapply for services at any time




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Transition Legislation

WIOA Title IV is Vocational Rehabilitation

- Reauthorizes the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
- Strong focus on transition/students
- Spending requirements for specific transition services
 - Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS)
 - Potentially Eligible
- Section 511/Part 397 – Limitations on use of sub-minimum wage



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Helpful DVR Guidance

Wisconsin Transition Action Guide


- Supports the DVR/DHS/DPI Interagency Agreement and outlines roles and responsibilities of Stakeholders
- Employment Planning Consultation
 - DVR information, Labor Market Information (LMI), Employment Training information
 - Can be done outside of an application to DVR
 - Attending IEP meetings for students not yet eligible or who have not applied


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Attending IEP Meetings

- Explaining DVR program
- Offering input on post-school employment goal and needed services
- Sharing information on employment/training
- Providing Labor Market Information and community resources
 - Job Center of Wisconsin, ILC, DRC, etc.
- Disability information
 - Assistive technology, accommodations, etc.


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When do we get involved?

Two Years before High School Completion

- Earlier if necessary ~ Consult
- WIOA: Age range 14-21
- School IEP transition planning starts at age 14
- Academic and career planning for all students in 6th grade



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DVR and School Collaboration

How can DVR and Schools collaborate?

- Work Experiences (School and DVR)
- Job Coaching for School Work Experiences
- Self Advocacy and Skills to Pay the Bills
- Summer Work Experiences



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WIOA School Resources

- Have You Heard About WIOA
<https://www.witig.org/wioa-have-you-heard-about-wioa.html>
- PTP (Postsecondary Transition Plan) Information
<https://dpi.wi.gov/sped/about/state-performance-plan/indicators/13-transition>
- Wisconsin Communities on Transition
<https://www.witig.org/ccot-resources.html>
- Wisconsin PROMISE Resource Guide
<https://promisewi.com/transition-guide/>
- WINTAC resources on provider virtual services
<http://www.wintac.org/>




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General Resources

- Job Accommodation Network (JAN)
 - <https://askjan.org/>
- Great Lakes ADA Center
 - <http://www.adagreatlakes.org/>
 - Toll Free: 800-949-4232 (Voice and TTY)
- DVR Referrals
 - <https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dvr/referral/>
- Job Center of Wisconsin
 - <https://jobcenterofwisconsin.com>


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Questions?

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