# NEW JERSEY DIVISION OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES (DVRS)







#### What is DVRS

DVRS stands for the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services within the New Jersey Department of Labor & Workforce Development

DVRS helps individuals with disabilities prepare for, obtain, and maintain competitive employment

More recently, DVR has started going into the high schools and informing students of Pre- Employment Services that can be offered while they are in school, up until the age of 24 years old.





The mission of the New Jersey Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services is to enable eligible individuals with disabilities to achieve an employment outcome consistent with their strengths, priorities, needs, abilities, and capabilities.



## Who should be referred to DVRS?

- □Students that are 14 years of age or older, who have expressed a desire to work in competitive employment or need additional support and guidance to transition out of high school.
- ☐ Students who have a significant disability (physical, cognitive, and/or mental impairment) as documented in an IEP, 504 Plan, and/or other evaluations or medical records



### 5 Services offered for Pre-Employment

-these can last up until the age of 24-

- ☐ Job Exploration Counseling
- Post- Secondary Educational Counseling
- Workplace Readiness Training
- ☐ Job Sampling in the Community
- □ Self-Advocacy Training

All 5 of these are good for someone with limited vocational experience or are unsure of their goals/interests.



# Job Exploration Counseling

- Students will work individually with a skills trainer to take interest inventories and determine interests, aptitudes and abilities.
- Once these are determined, the student and skills trainer will focus on what type of jobs could be a good fit for them.



# Post-Secondary Education Counseling

If there is an interest in furthering your education,
working with a skills trainer to sort out your career
goals could be beneficial. Together, you can research
what schools offer the programs you are interested in.
They can also discuss the difference between
vocational schools, trades, community college and
4-year schools to see what may be the best for your
field of interest and major.



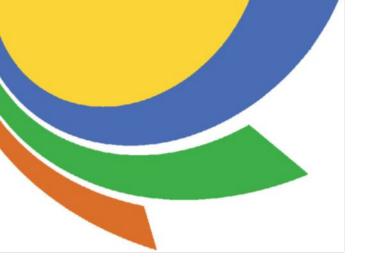
## Workplace Readiness Training

- Working together to learn and improve on general work skills and social skills needed to be successful in the workforce.
  - Workplace etiquette
  - Resume writing
  - Interview prep
  - How to dress for an interview and job
  - Time management
  - Co-worker relations
  - Reading a schedule



# Job Sampling in the Community

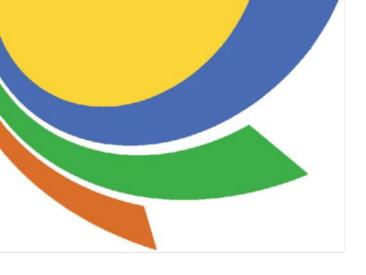
- This gives students the opportunity to sample different sites and jobs in the community. These are real life work settings that will give students exposure to various types of jobs.
- This helps determine strengths, weaknesses, interests, etc.



## Self-Advocacy Training

 Students will learn how to communicate in the workplace and ask for accommodations, speak up for themselves when needed.

General social skills will also be worked on.



## **Paid Internship**

- **Student Internship Program** A DVRS Funded Program Serving Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth & Ocean Counties.
- 3 Weeks of Pre-Work Training- (\$300 worth of Gift Cards Upon Completion)
- 150 Hours of Paid Work at \$18 per Hour on an Approved Worksite (Minimum of 10 hours per Week)
- 3 Weeks of Post-Work Training- (\$300 worth of Gift Cards Upon Completion)
- Flexible Work Schedule Around School Hours, Participants must be an in-school youth ages 16-21, have reliable transportation & must be able to safely and independently work within the community.



### **Skills Trainers**

- DVR has various agencies/vendors that we work with to provide these services. Each student will get a skills trainer to work with them on an individual basis.
- They typically meet 1:1 weekly or bi-weekly depending on the schedule of the student. Skills trainers do often go into the school to meet with students if their class schedule allows for it. Can also meet after school hours.
- This is no cost to the school or family; DVR provides the PE services in full.



#### How to get started..

Step 1

#### \* REFERRAL:

- School staff typically make the referral this fosters the collaboration between the school and DVRS and streamlines the process of obtaining needed school documentation
- Parents/guardians can ask the school to make a referral or do it themselves



#### How to get started..

#### • Step 2

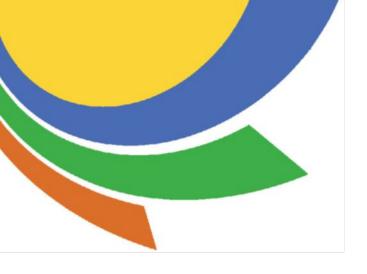
#### \*APPLICATION:

- •Once the referral form is received, the DVR counselor and student will have a short meeting (if they have not already) to discuss what the goals are and what may be the best services for them to start with.
- •When that has been done, the counselor will need the most recent IEP and testing. A referral for the specific services will be mailed over to the vendor and a skills trainer will be assigned and they will reach out with a start date.



## IEP Meetings with the high school

- Counselors can attend students IEP meetings throughout high school to discuss Pre-Employent services or Job Coaching services. If school staff, student or parent are unsure if services would be appropriate, we can always discuss that.
- A student does not need to have already been referred or have an open case with DVR for counselor to attend IEP meetings. As long as the student has an IEP or 504, we can attend meetings as needed.



#### **Adult Services**

- DVR services do not end after HS graduation. We also offer adult services that can include the following:
  - Vocational / Career counseling and guidance
  - Job placement services
  - Help to pay for vocational or college training required for a specific job – family must be under financial guidelines
  - Supported Employment / Job coaching
  - Counseling on Social Security benefits
  - \* All of these can be further discussed at a meeting closer to graduation.

#### NJ DVRS OFFICE LOCATIONS & CONTACT INFORMATION

CENTRAL	CENTRAL CENTRAL	CENTRAL
ELIZABETH (Union)	NEPTUNE (Monmouth)	NEW BRUNSWICK (Middlesex)
921 Elizabeth Ave., 3rd Floor	60 Taylor Avenue	550 Jersey Avenue
Elizabeth, NJ 07201	Neptune, NJ 07753-4844	New Brunswick, NJ 08901
908-965-3940/PHONE	732-775-1799/PHONE	732-937-6300/PHONE
908-965-2976/FAX	732-775-1666/FAX	732-937-6358/FAX
908-242-3563/VP	732-606-4961/VP	732-393-8056/VP
DVR.Elizabeth@dol.ni.gov	DVR.Neptune@dol.ni.gov	DVR.NewBrunswick@dol.ni.gov
ENTRAL	CENTRAL	CENTRAL
OMERVILLE (Somerset, Hunterdon)	TOMS RIVER (Ocean)	TRENTON (Mercer)
'5 Veterans Memorial Drive East	1027 Hooper Ave., Bldg. 6,	Labor Station Plaza
uite 101	3rd Floor, Suite 1	28 Yard Avenue, P.O. Box 959
Somerville, NJ 08876-2952	Toms River, NJ 08753-2225	Trenton, NJ 08625-0959
908-704-3030/PHONE	732-505-2310?PHONE	609-292-2940/PHONE
008-704-3476/FAX	732-505-2317/FAX	609-984-3553/FAX
732-393-8056/VP	732-606-4961/VP	609-498-7011/VP
DVR.Somerville@dolni.gov	DVR.TomsRiver@dol.ni.gov	DVR.Trenton@dol.ni.gov
NORTH	NORTH	NORTH
	The state of the s	
HACKENSACK (Bergen)	JERSEY CITY (Hudson)	NEWARK (Essex)
50 State Street, 2nd Floor	438 Summit Avenue, 6th Floor	990 Broad Street, 2nd Floor
Hackensack, NJ 07601-5471	Jersey City, NJ 07306-3187	Newark, NJ 07102
201-996-8970/PHONE	201-217-7180/PHONE	973-648-3494/PHONE
201-996-8880/FAX	201-217-7287/FAX	973-648-3902/FAX
DVR.Hackensack@dolnj.gov	201-616-0447/VP	862-772-7166/VP
STATE OF STA	DVR.JerseyCity@dol.nj.gov	DVR.Newark@dol.nj.gov
NORTH	NORTH	NORTH
PATERSON (Passaic)	PHILLIPSBURG (Sussex, Warren)	RANDOLPH (Morris)
200 Memorial Drive, 1st Floor	445 Marshall Street	13 Emery Avenue, 2nd Floor
Paterson, NJ 07505	Phillipsburg, NJ 08865	Randolph, NJ 07869
973-742-9226 (Option 3) or 973-340-3400/PHONE	908-329-9190 (Option 2)/PHONE	862-397-5600 (Option 4)/PHONE
973-279-5895/FAX	908-454-8334/FAX	973-895-6420/FAX
973-968-6556/VP	908-645-0616/VP	973-607-2034/VP
DVR.Paterson@dol.nj.gov	DVR.Phillipsburg@dol.nj.gov	DVR.Randolph@dol.nj.gov
SOUTH	SOUTH	SOUTH
BRIDGETON (Cumberland, Salemp)	CHERRY HILL (Camden)	PLEASANTVILLE (Atlantic)
40 E. Broad Street, Suite 204	101 Woodcrest Road, Suite 127	2 South Main St., 1# Fl., Suite 2
Bridgeton, NJ 08302-2881	Cherry Hill, NJ 08003-3620	Pleasantville, NJ 08232
356-453-3888/PHONE	856-549-0600/PHONE	609-813-3933/PHONE
856-453-3909/FAX	856-795-4782/FAX	609-813-3959/FAX
356-497-0075/VP	856-831-7599/VP	608-813-3958/TTY
DVR.Bridgeton@dol.nj.gov	DVR.Camden@dolnj.gov	609-224-1218/VP
		DVR.Pleasantville@dol.nj.gov
NOUTH	SOUTH	SOUTH
RIO GRANDE (Cape May)	SEWELL (Gloucester)	WESTAMPTON (Burlington)
3801 Rt. 9 South, Unit 3	1480 Tanyard Rd, Suite A	795 Woodlane Road, 2nd Floor
	Sewell, NJ 08080	Westampton, NJ 08060
Rio Grande, NJ 08242	Serreit, ity cooce	
	856-384-3730/PHONE	609-518-3948/PHONE
509-224-2010/PHONE	856-384-3730/PHONE	
Rio Grande, NJ 08242 609-224-2010/PHONE 609-224-2047/FAX 609-224-1218/VP		609-518-3948/PHONE 609-518-3956/FAX DVR.Westampton@dol.ni.gov